

# What is an Oval?

An **oval** is a shape that resembles an elongated circle. It is often described as an egg-like shape that is wider in one direction and narrower in the other. To put it simply, it's like if you took a circle and gently stretched it, making it longer in one direction while keeping the roundness.

## Characteristics of Ovals

- **Curved Edges:** Ovals have smooth, continuous curves with no sharp corners.
- **Symmetry:** Most ovals are symmetrical, which means they look the same on both sides if you were to draw a line down the center.
- **Dimensions:** Ovals have two key measurements called the *major axis* (the longest width of the oval) and the *minor axis* (the shortest width).

## Examples of Ovals in Real Life

Ovals can be found all around us! Here are a few examples:

- The shape of an egg
- The track of an oval racetrack
- The outline of a football
- The shape of some garden ponds

## Conclusion

In summary, an oval is a unique shape that is smooth and symmetrical, different from a perfect circle but closely related. Understanding ovals can help you identify and appreciate various shapes in art, nature, and sports!