



# It's not square!



**Aim:** To check if you were fully paying attention when you were taught how to manipulate the 3D equation of a line

## Steps

1. Write down the co-ordinates of a point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ , where  $x_1 \neq y_1 \neq z_1 \neq 0$ . Label it A.
2. Write down the co-ordinates of a different point  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$ , where  $x_2 \neq y_2 \neq z_2 \neq 0$ . Label it B.
3. Calculate  $|AB|$
4. Find the equation of the line  $(L_1)$  going through A and B
5. Find the equation of a perpendicular line  $(L_2)$  going through A
6. Find the equation of a perpendicular line  $(L_3)$  going through B
7. C is a point on  $L_2$  such that  $|AB| = |AC|$
8. D is a point on  $L_3$  such that  $|AB| = |BD|$
9. Calculate  $|CD|$
10. Find the equation of the line  $(L_4)$  going through C and D

## Reflection

- Review your answers to steps 9 and 10.
- Use your results to justify whether or not you have created a square.
- Which was the critical step in determining whether you would end up with a square?

## Extension

Would it be possible to construct the equations of the edges of an equilateral triangle in 3D space? What limitations might you have to make?