

SOLUTION

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Given the areas of 2 squares, what is the area of the biggest square?

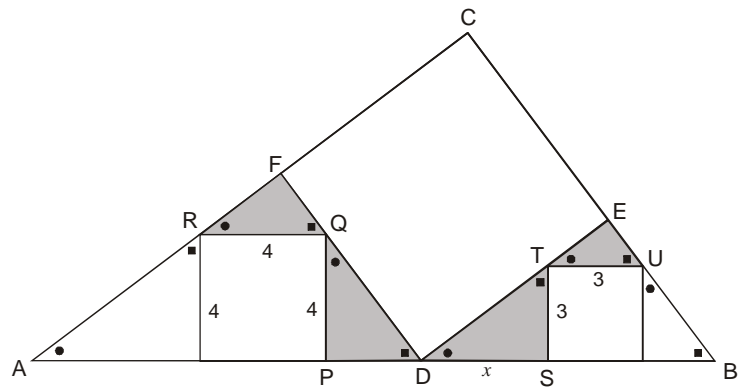
A) 54.76
B) 57.76
C) 60.84
D) 64
E) 67.24

First we give names:

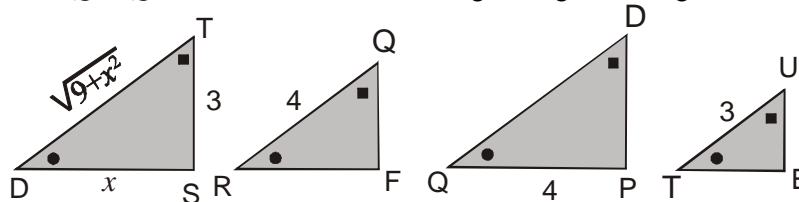
The big triangle is ABC with the right angle at C . The big square is $CEDF$, with D on AB , E on BC and F on AC . P , Q and R are vertices of the left 4×4 -square, with P on AD , Q on DF and R on AF .

S , T and U are vertices on the right 3×3 -square, with S on BD , T on DE and U on BE .

$SD = x$.



The triangles DST , FRQ , PQD and ETU are similar right-angled triangles:



- With Pythagoras: $TD = \sqrt{9+x^2}$
- $FQ = \frac{4}{\sqrt{9+x^2}} \cdot 3 = \frac{12}{\sqrt{9+x^2}}$
- $QD = \frac{4}{x} \cdot \sqrt{9+x^2}$
- $TE = \frac{3}{\sqrt{9+x^2}} \cdot x = \frac{3x}{\sqrt{9+x^2}}$

$$DE = DT + TE = \sqrt{9+x^2} + \frac{3x}{\sqrt{9+x^2}}$$

$$DF = QD + FQ = \frac{4}{x}\sqrt{9+x^2} + \frac{12}{\sqrt{9+x^2}} = \frac{4}{x} \cdot \left(\sqrt{9+x^2} + \frac{3x}{\sqrt{9+x^2}} \right) = \frac{4}{x} \cdot DE$$

But $CEDF$ is a square, so $DE = DF$.

This means $4/x = 1$, or $x = 4$.

$$DE = DF = DE = DF = \sqrt{9+4^2} + \frac{3 \cdot 4}{\sqrt{9+4^2}} = 5 + \frac{12}{5} = \frac{37}{5}$$

The area of the biggest square $CEDF$ is equal to $\left(\frac{37}{5}\right)^2 = \frac{1369}{25} = 54 \frac{19}{25} = 54,76$

- The answer is **A**