

Book 8

Proposition 24

If two numbers have to one another the ratio which a square number (has) to a(nother) square number, and the first is square, then the second will also be square.



For let two numbers, A and B , have to one another the ratio which the square number C (has) to the square number D . And let A be square. I say that B is also square.

For since C and D are square, C and D are thus similar plane (numbers). Thus, one number falls (between) C and D in mean proportion [Prop. 8.18]. And as C is to D , (so) A (is) to B . Thus, one number also falls (between) A and B in mean proportion [Prop. 8.8]. And A is square. Thus, B is also square [Prop. 8.22]. (Which is) the very thing it was required to show.