

Estimating Measurements

Leader



Develop an inner sense of scale and size.



You will need:

- A list of standard sizes of objects in your environment—windows, floor tiles, wall tiles, bricks, etc.
- Ruler



Do this:

- Establish the size of certain recurring standard objects in your area (indoors and outdoors).
- Use the ruler to verify.
- Next have students compare known object sizes with the objects you have not measured with the ruler.
- Check results.



Student _____



Do this:

Learn to take measurements without a ruler. Sometimes you need to know how far it is from “here to there” when you are not carrying your trusty measuring tape. Using every day “things” around you, you may be able to make a fairly accurate estimate. Try this:

- Kitchen flooring, whether it’s tile or sheet vinyl, usually comes in blocks or patterns of squares that are either 9" x 9" or 12" x 12".
- Count the number of tiles or patterns across your kitchen lengthwise. Then count the number across the width.



But how do you tell if the tile or pattern is 9" square or 12" square?
 How long is your foot? If you wear a size 8 or above its probably close to 12".
 This page is $8\frac{1}{2}$ " wide x 11" long — will that help?
 What is the length and width of your kitchen?
 How many square feet are in your kitchen?

- Most oblong ceiling tiles are 2' x 1' - Square ceiling tile is usually 12" x 12".
 Bathroom wall tile is usually 4" square. (4" x 4")



How wide are the sidewalk squares in your neighborhood?
 How far is it from your front door to the curb?
 How long is your block?
 How many sidewalk squares long is a Ford Escort; a BMW325? Convert that to feet.
 How many of your foot lengths (steps) is a Hyundai? A stretch limo? Convert that to feet.

- A standard doorway is 80" tall.



How tall are you?
 How tall are the other members of your household?



WHAT I FOUND