

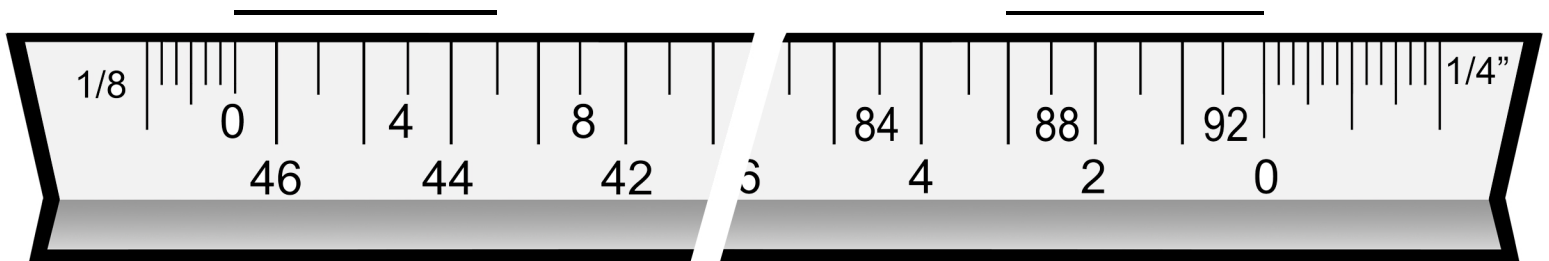
# READING THE ARCHITECT'S SCALE RULE - FEET

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THE ARCHITECT'S SCALE RULE IS A COMMON TOOL FOR CREATING AND INTERPRETING SCALE DRAWINGS. EACH SIDE OF THE RULER HAS TWO SCALES - ONE READ FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, AND ONE FROM RIGHT TO LEFT. THESE SCALES ARE LISTED AS FRACTIONS AT EITHER END OF THE SCALE RULE - FOR INSTANCE THE SCALE ON THE LEFT BELOW IS 1/8".

THE MEANING OF A SCALE IS THIS: THE NAME OF THAT SCALE EQUALS 1 FOOT IN THE REAL WORLD. (I.E. 1/8" SCALE - EACH 1/8" = 1'-0").

WHEN USING THE SCALE RULE, ALWAYS BEGIN AT THE ZERO AND READ TOWARDS THE OPPOSITE END OF THE RULER. FOR THE 1/8" SCALE, FOR INSTANCE, READ FROM THE ZERO FROM LEFT TO RIGHT. FOR THE 1/4" SCALE, READ FROM RIGHT TO LEFT.



EACH OF THE TICKS FOLLOWING THE ZERO REPRESENT A MEASUREMENT OF FEET.

NOTICE THE NUMBERS LISTED BENEATH SOME OF THE MARKS. THOSE THAT ALIGN WITH THE ZERO REPRESENT A NUMBER OF FEET IN THAT SCALE. FOR INSTANCE, IN THE 1/8" SCALE THE FOURTH TICK FOLLOWING THE ZERO IS MARKED AS 4. THIS REPRESENTS 4'-0". THEREFORE, EACH TICK IN THE 1/8" SCALE IS 1 FOOT.

THE 1/4" SCALE IS TWICE THE SIZE OF THE 1/8" SCALE, THEREFORE EACH TICK REPRESENTS 6 INCHES.

IN THE EXAMPLE ABOVE, THE LINE MEASURED IN THE 1/8" SCALE IS 6'-0" IN LENGTH. THE SAME LINE MEASURED IN THE 1/4" SCALE WOULD BE 3'-0".

QUESTION 1: WHAT DOES EACH TICK REPRESENT IN THE 1/8" SCALE?

QUESTION 2: WHAT DOES EACH TICK REPRESENT IN THE 1/4" SCALE?

# READING THE ARCHITECT'S SCALE RULE - INCHES

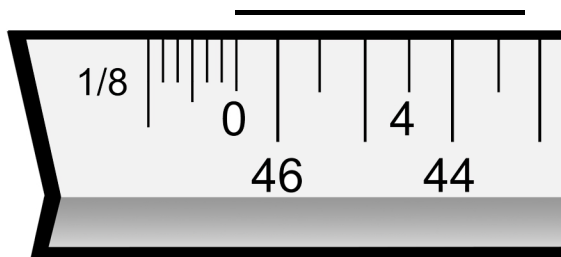
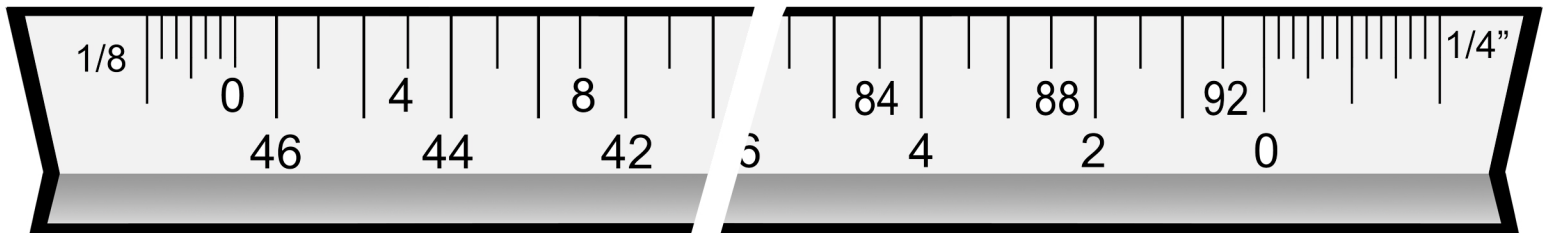
MANY LINES WILL NOT END PERFECTLY AT A WHOLE FOOT. IN THIS CASE ONE MUST USE THE SCALE RULE TO READ THE NUMBER OF INCHES, IN ADDITION TO FEET.

WHEN LOOKING AT THE SCALE RULE, THE SERIES OF SMALL TICKS OUTSIDE OF THE ZERO INDICATE EITHER INCHES OR FRACTIONS OF INCHES. NO MATTER THE SCALE, THE SMALL TICKS ADD UP TO EQUAL ONE FOOT - OR TWELVE INCHES.

LOOKING AT THE 1/8" SCALE, NOTICE THAT THERE ARE 6 SMALL TICKS. THESE TICKS CAN EVENLY BE DIVIDED INTO 12 TO TELL WHAT EACH TICK REPRESENTS. (6 INTO 12 = 2 INCHES).

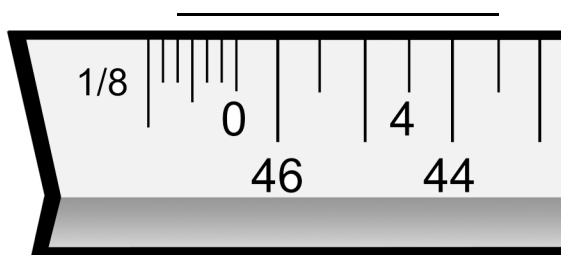
WHEN LOOKING AT THE 1/4" SCALE, NOTE THAT THERE ARE 12 TICKS IN THE INCHES SCALE.

QUESTION: WHAT DOES EACH TICK REPRESENT IN THE 1/4" SCALE?



IN THIS EXAMPLE, THE LINE ENDS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 6' AND 7'. IN THIS CASE, WE KNOW THAT THE LINE IS GREATER THAN 6' AND LESS THAN 7'.

IN THIS CASE, WRITE DOWN 6' AND DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF INCHES THAT FOLLOW.



TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF INCHES, SIMPLY SLIDE THE SCALE RULE SO THAT THE LINE ENDS AT THE 6' MARK AND THEN COUNT BACKWARDS THE NUMBER OF INCHES IN THE INCH SCALE.

FOR THIS EXAMPLE, THE LINE MEASURES 6'-8"