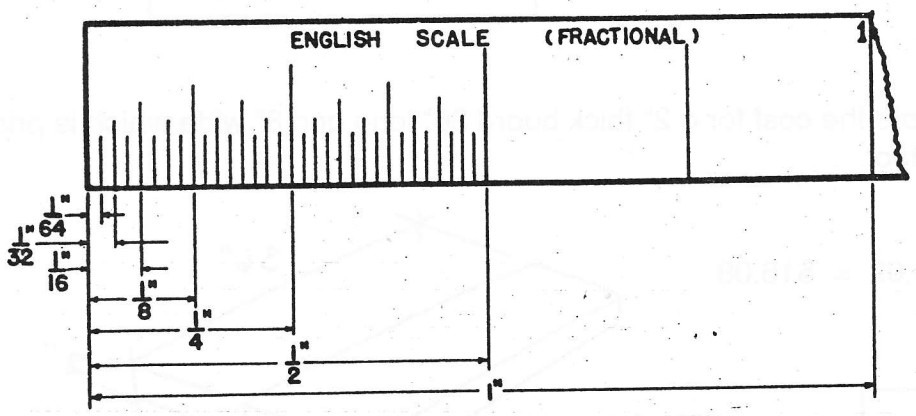
Although much of Canada has gone metric, wood if still sold using feet and inches.

Inches are based on the numeral two, the inch being first divided by two, this in turn divided by two, and so on until the smallest division is reached.



There are 12 inches in a foot. A foot is approximately the length of a man's foot.
Single quotation marks (') indicate feet. (15' is fifteen feet.)
Double quotation marks (") indicate inches. (6" is six inches.)
A standard sheet of plywood usually measures 4' wide and 8' long
Baltic Birch plywood which is imported from the Baltics has a sheet size of 5' by 5'.

Formula used to calculate the cost of lumber which is sold by the linear foot:

A) If measured in inches;

$$\frac{L}{12} \times P$$

Example: To calculate the cost of a 2" dowel 78"long which is priced at $1.50 per linear foot...

$$\frac{78}{12} \times \$1.50 = \$9.75$$

L = Length in inches
l = Length in feet
P = Price

Or B) If measured in feet;

$$l \times P$$

Example: To calculate the cost of an 8' two by four which is priced at $1.25 per linear foot....

$$8 \times \$1.25 = \$10.00$$

Remember:
There are 12 inches in a foot

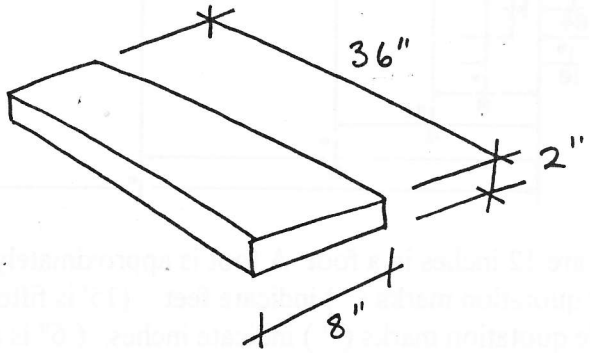
Formula used to calculate the cost of lumber which is sold by the board foot:

$$\frac{(L \times W \times T)}{144} \times P$$

L = Length in inches
W = Width in inches
T = Thickness in inches
P = Price

Example: To calculate the cost for a 2" thick board 36" long and 8" wide which is priced at $4.02 per board foot....

$$\frac{(36 \times 8 \times 2)}{144} \times 4.02 = \$16.08$$



Remember:
There are 144 cubic inches in a Board Foot

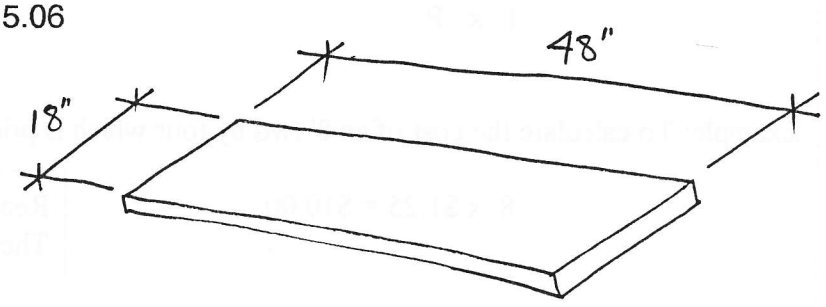
Formula used to calculate the cost of sheet material which is sold by the square foot:

$$\frac{(L \times W)}{144} \times P$$

L = Length in inches
W = Width in inches
P = Price

Example: To calculate the cost for a piece of 3/4" plywood 18" wide and 48" long which is priced at $2.51 per square foot.....

$$\frac{(48 \times 18)}{144} \times 2.51 = \$15.06$$



Remember:
There are 144 square inches in a Square Foot