

# BOARD FOOT CHEAT SHEET

1 Board Foot = 144 Cubic Inches (rough sawn)

FYI: surfaced lumber reduces thickness, but board footage is always calculated from the original rough thickness



**4/4**  
& thin stock  
under 1"  
(also equals  
square footage)

	4"	5"	6"	7"	8"	9"	10"	11"	12"
48"	1.33	1.67	2.00	2.33	2.67	3.00	3.33	3.67	4.00
60"	1.67	2.08	2.50	2.92	3.33	3.75	4.17	4.58	5.00
72"	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.50	4.00	4.50	5.00	5.50	6.00
96"	2.67	3.33	4.00	4.67	5.33	6.00	6.67	7.33	8.00
120"	3.33	4.17	5.00	5.83	6.67	7.50	8.33	9.17	10.00
144"	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00

**5/4**

	4"	5"	6"	7"	8"	9"	10"	11"	12"
48"	1.67	2.08	2.50	2.92	3.33	3.75	4.17	4.58	5.00
60"	2.08	2.60	3.13	3.65	4.17	4.69	5.21	5.73	6.25
72"	2.50	3.13	3.75	4.38	5.00	5.63	6.25	6.88	7.50
96"	3.33	4.17	5.00	5.83	6.67	7.50	8.33	9.17	10.00
120"	4.17	5.21	6.25	7.29	8.33	9.38	10.42	11.46	12.50
144"	5.00	6.25	7.50	8.75	10.00	11.25	12.50	13.75	15.00

**6/4**

	4"	5"	6"	7"	8"	9"	10"	11"	12"
48"	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.50	4.00	4.50	5.00	5.50	6.00
60"	2.50	3.13	3.75	4.38	5.00	5.63	6.25	6.88	7.50
72"	3.00	3.75	4.50	5.25	6.00	6.75	7.50	8.25	9.00
96"	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
120"	5.00	6.25	7.50	8.75	10.00	11.25	12.50	13.75	15.00
144"	6.00	7.50	9.00	10.50	12.00	13.50	15.00	16.50	18.00

**8/4**

	4"	5"	6"	7"	8"	9"	10"	11"	12"
48"	2.67	3.33	4.00	4.67	5.33	6.00	6.67	7.33	8.00
60"	3.33	4.17	5.00	5.83	6.67	7.50	8.33	9.17	10.00
72"	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
96"	5.33	6.67	8.00	9.33	10.67	12.00	13.33	14.67	16.00
120"	6.67	8.33	10.00	11.67	13.33	15.00	16.67	18.33	20.00
144"	8.00	10.00	12.00	14.00	16.00	18.00	20.00	22.00	24.00

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## WHAT DOES 4/4, 6/4, 8/4 MEAN?

This fraction represents an approximation of the rough (RGH) sawn thickness of lumber.

	<u>Rough Sawn</u>	<u>Surfaced 2 Sides</u>
4/4	≈ 1"	13/16"
5/4	≈ 1-1/4"	1-1/16"
6/4	≈ 1-1/2"	1-5/16"

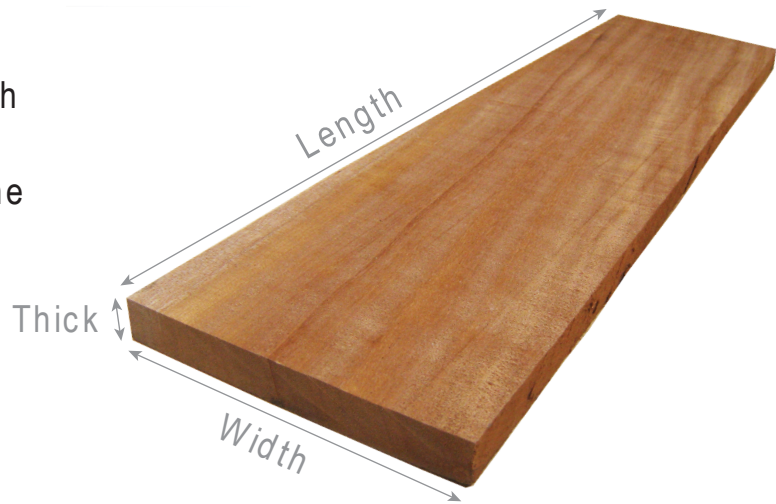


## HOW TO MEASURE LUMBER

Widths = nearest quarter of an inch  
Lengths = nearest whole inch  
Thickness = don't measure, use the rough thickness name

### Examples

4/4 x 6.75" x 98" = 4.59 Bd. Ft.



## WHY BOARD FEET?

Since hardwoods are sold in random widths and lengths, measuring the volume of wood is the fair way. Conversely, dimensioned lumber and wood is sold by the piece or by the lineal foot.

## WHY RANDOM WIDTHS AND LENGTHS?

Because it hasn't been processed into any particular size yet. Trees are round and irregular. To maximize the amount of useable wood that comes out of a log, sawmills cut logs into boards for the most yield. The result is a variety of widths and lengths. You do the cutting, gluing, shaping and crafting the parts for your project.

The process looks something like this:

**Trees > Logs > Raw Lumber > Manufactured Sizes > Final Project**