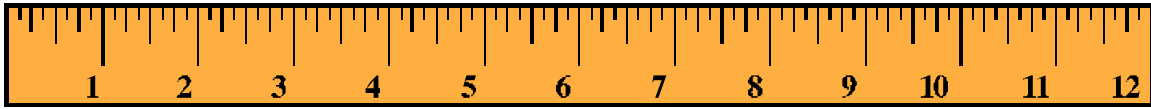


Measure it in Board Feet



A board foot (bd. ft.) is a unit of measure used for measuring trees and lumber. This unit is equal to one square and one inch thick; 144 cubic inches or 0.00236 cubic meter.

If this is confusing, the following formula provides an easy conversion from **lineal** feet to **board** feet.

To convert lineal to board feet:

1. Multiply the length of the board (in inches) by its average width.
2. Multiply this figure by the thickness of the rough-out board (4/4 = 1" rough, or about 13/16" when planed; 5/4 lumber = 1.25", or 1-1/16" after planning).
3. Divide this figure by 144 to obtain the final measurement in board feet.

Here is an example using 5/4" thick board 60" long and 4" wide:

$$\begin{aligned} 4" \times 60" &= 240 \text{ square inches} \\ 240 \times 5/4 \text{ (or } 1.25) &= 300 \\ 300 / 144 &= 2.08 \text{ board feet} \end{aligned}$$

A 4/4 board (1" thick rough, about 3/4" thick planed) of the same width and length would be calculated this way:

$$\begin{aligned} 4" \times 60" &= 240 \text{ square inches} \\ 240 \times 4/4 \text{ (or } 1.00) &= 240 \\ 240 / 144 &= 1.67 \text{ board feet} \end{aligned}$$

*A carpenter buys wood by the lineal foot;
a woodcarver buys wood by the board foot.*