



HOW TO: Measure for Flooring



Tools & Materials

- Tape Measure
- Pen and Paper
- Calculator

Square Footage Calculation

- **Formula:** Length (ft) x Width (ft) = Square Footage (sq ft)
- **Example:** If your room measures 12 feet long and 10 feet wide, the calculation would be:
 $12 \text{ ft} \times 10 \text{ ft} = 120 \text{ sq ft}$.

Waste Factor

- During installation, there will be some cutting and waste. To account for this, consider adding a waste factor to your square footage.
 - 10% - square or rectangle rooms
 - 15-20% - complex layouts
- **Example:** With a room of 120 sq ft, a 10% buffer would add 12 sq ft ($120 \text{ sq ft} \times 10\% = 12 \text{ sq ft}$). In this case, you'd purchase flooring for approximately 132 sq ft ($120 \text{ sq ft} + 12 \text{ sq ft} = 132 \text{ sq ft}$).

Pro Tips

- If your room has any alcoves or odd angles, measure each section separately and draw a simple floor plan to keep track.
- For large, immovable objects like islands or vanities, measure and subtract their square footage from your total if you won't be flooring underneath them.
- Take multiple measurements in different spots for larger rooms to ensure accuracy.

Measuring a Rectangular Room

- 1)** Choose a wall and place the end of your tape measure flush against the baseboard.
- 2)** Extend the tape measure straight across the room to the opposite wall. Record this measurement in feet and inches.
- 3)** Repeat step 1, running the tape measure along a wall perpendicular to your first measurement.
- 4)** Take your length measurement and multiply it by your width measurement. The result will be the square footage of your room.
- 5)** Multiply your total square footage by 1.1 (100% + 10% waste) to get your final flooring material estimate.

Measuring an Irregular Room

- 1)** Divide the room into rectangular sections. Measure each section individually and add the areas together for the total square footage.
- 2)** If your room has permanent features like a fireplace or built-in cabinets, measure and subtract their square footage from the total room area.



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