



TREE MEASUREMENTS - USING A BILTMORE STICK

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To Measure Diameter

1. Diameter is measured at what is called Diameter Breast Height (DBH). This is 4.5 ft. (1.37 m) up the trunk from the ground. If the tree you are measuring is on a slope, diameter should be taken at 4.5 ft. (1.37 m) on the uphill side of the tree.
2. Hold the Biltmore stick against the tree at DBH, 25 in. (62.5 cm) from your eye. Make sure the edge of the stick that reads diameter is facing you.
3. Sight past the zero end of the stick and the edge of the tree.
4. Without moving your head, shift your eyes to other side of the tree and read the black diameter mark nearest to your line of sight.
5. Tree trunks usually are not round. If a trunk is very much out of round, you should measure both wide and narrow diameters and take the average of the two.

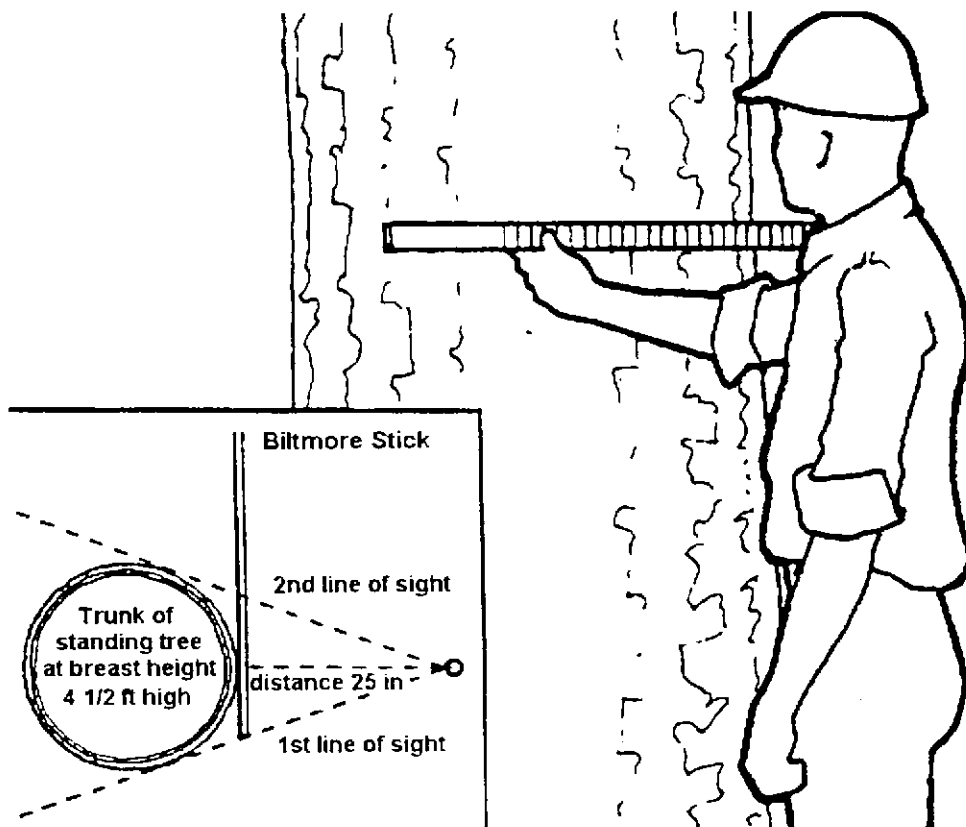


Figure 1. Using a Biltmore stick to find tree diameter.