

TrueMeasure Project Cheat Sheet

Coverage rules and material math for common home projects.

Concrete

Bags per cubic yard: 40 lb = 90 bags; 60 lb = 60 bags; 80 lb = 45 bags.

Volume: $L(\text{ft}) \times W(\text{ft}) \times \text{thickness}(\text{in}) / 12 / 27 = \text{cubic yards}$.

Cure: keep moist 7 days; full strength at about 28 days.

Mulch & topsoil

Volume: $L(\text{ft}) \times W(\text{ft}) \times \text{depth}(\text{in}) / 12 / 27 = \text{cubic yards}$.

3 in. deep over 100 ft² is about 1 cubic yard.

A 2 ft³ bag covers 8 ft² at 3 in. deep.

Paint

Coverage: about 350 ft² per gallon, per coat.

Primer: bare wood, new drywall, dark-to-light changes.

Plan on two finish coats for most rooms.

Thinset mortar

1/4 in. square notch: 80-100 ft² per 50-lb bag.

1/2 in. notch: 40-50 ft² per 50-lb bag.

Large tile: back-butter and check a pulled tile.

Drywall

Screws: about 32 per 4x8 sheet (16 in. on-center).

Sheets: wall + ceiling area / 32 ft² per sheet, +10% waste.

Grass seed

New lawn: 4-8 lb per 1,000 ft². **Overseed:** 2-4 lb.

Follow the rate printed on the seed label.

Footings (rule of thumb)

Dig below the local frost line.

Small projects: 12 in. deep, twice as wide as the wall - check local code.

Waste allowances

Concrete 10% - tile & flooring 10% - lumber 10-15% - sod 5%.

Paint: round up to the full gallon. Measure twice, order once.