# How to read an Architectural Scale

Architect's scale ruler is designed for use in determining actual dimensions of distance on scaled drawing.

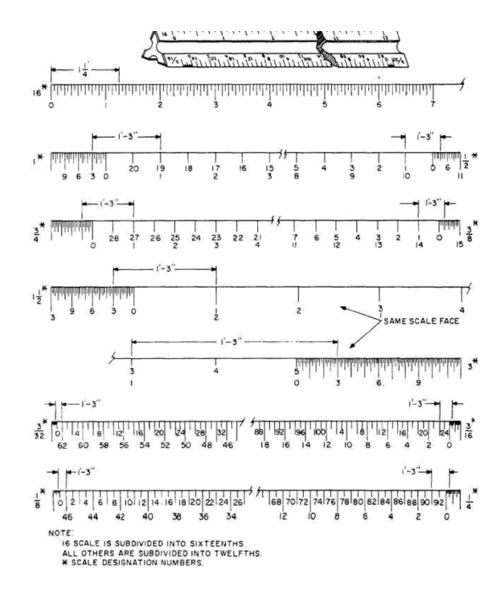
Architectural and construction drawings and blueprints are scaled to allow for large areas, structures, or items to conveniently fit on paper.



There are two scales on each edge.

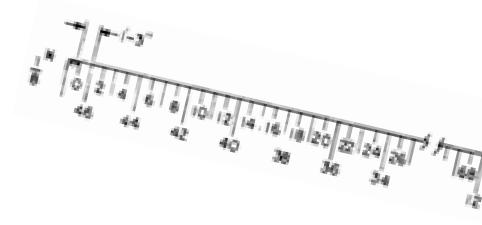
One scale reads left to right

Other reads right to left



- 1. Must know scale of drawing or item that is being measured.
- 2. Once scale of drawing has been determined, select correct scale on the ruler.

For example, 1/8 on ruler is a scale that converts 1/8 inch on drawing to 1 foot.



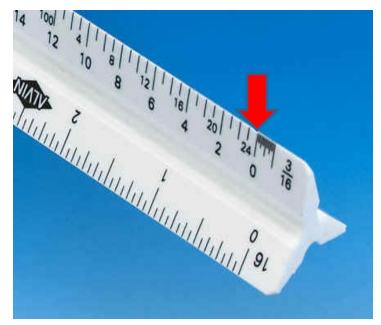
Line up zero mark on scale selected with beginning of item being measured

Determine at what point on scale the end of the item you wish to measure is.

Read number off the scale that is closest to the ending point of the item measured.

Mentally note this number and be sure to 'round down' even if you are close to the next number.

This number represents the whole feet of the item you are measuring.



Slide ruler so that the number you noted mentally lines up with the end of the item being measured.

Now go back to the zero end of the scale - fractional feet to be measured will be represented by distance of the start point of the object being measured to the zero point on the scale.

Take reading from this part of scale and add this number to the whole feet you mentally noted earlier.



