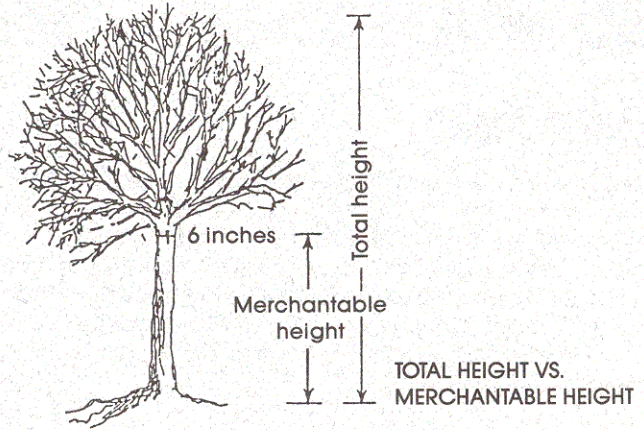




TREE MEASUREMENTS (IMPERIAL)

TOTAL HEIGHT vs. MERCHANTABLE HEIGHT

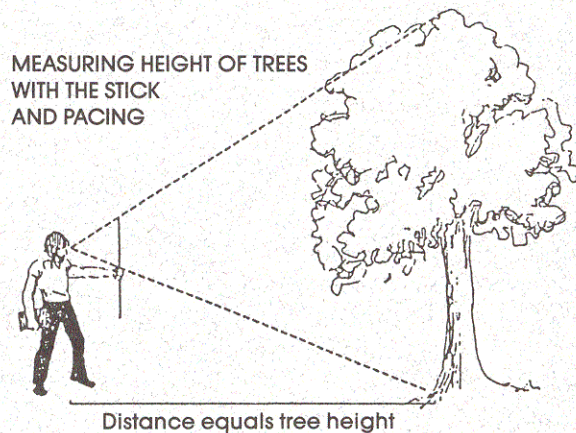
The point to which height of trees would be measured depends on the type of volume table to be used. Sometimes we want total height, which is the height of the tree from the ground line to the tip of the crown. Other tables are based on merchantable height, which may be the number of 16-foot logs from the height of the stump that will be left after cutting to a given diameter up the tree (e.g., 6 inches). The height of stumps should generally be less than a foot. Stumps higher than one foot indicate a waste of wood and careless cutting practices.



MEASURING HEIGHT OF TREES WITH THE STICK AND PACING

STICK AND PACING

Cut a small stick about four feet long. Hold the stick upright in your hand so that the length of the stick above your hand is equal to the distance from the stick to your eye (your reach). Back away from the tree on relatively level ground, or, if on a steep slope, on the same contour as the tree, until the lines of sight over your fist and the top of the stick meet the tree's base and top (or merchantable height), respectively. The horizontal distance to the tree, which can be determined quickly by pacing equals the height of the tree. This works because of similar triangles. That is, the length of the stick above your fist equals your reach so the tree's height equals the horizontal distance to the tree.



TREE PARTS SUITABLE FOR LOGS AND PULPWOOD

A tree may be thought of as a collection of logs and pulpwood bolts. Small trees with DBH's of about 4 to 10 inches are only suitable for pulpwood. Larger trees that are cut for sawtimber can also yield pulpwood from tops and other waste pieces.

