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TECHNICAL BULLETIN 168

**Method of Measuring the Finished Size of Mattresses,
Mattress Foundations, and Futons**

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METHOD OF MEASURING THE FINISHED SIZE OF MATTRESSES, MATTRESS FOUNDATIONS, AND FUTONS

SCOPE

Technical Information Bulletin Number 168 sets forth the method that must be used when measuring the finished size of mattresses, mattress foundations, and futons. Use this method to determine if a mattress, mattress foundation, or futon complies with the finished size stated on the official law label, hang tags, or advertising materials.

EQUIPMENT

1. Flat surface
2. Steel tape measure
3. Two 90° straightedges

PROCEDURE

All measurements are made with a steel tape to the nearest 1/16 inch.

TO MEASURE LENGTH – Applies to All Sizes

1. Lay out the mattress, foundation, or futon in a relaxed state, without tension, on a flat surface. Article is to be free of wrinkles or creases.
2. Place two 90° straightedges opposite each other on a point marked for measurement on the article.
3. Take three measurements, one each on the outer edges and one in the center of the article. Measure from straightedge to straightedge, using the tape measure in “push” mode. (**See Figures 1 and 2.**)
4. Average the three measurements and report as length of the mattress, foundation, or futon in inches.
5. When corners are rounded, take measurements at a point immediately below the curvature. (**See Figure 3.**)

TO MEASURE WIDTH – Applies to All Sizes

1. Lay out the mattress, foundation, or futon in a relaxed state, without tension, on a flat surface. Article is to be free of wrinkles or creases.
2. Place two 90° straightedges opposite each other on a point marked for measurement on the article.
3. Take three measurements, one each on the outer edges and one in the center of the article. Measurements are made using a 90° straightedge. **(See Figures 2 and 4.)**
4. Average the three measurements and report as the width of the mattress, foundation, or futon in inches.
5. When corners are rounded take measurements at a point immediately below the curvature. **(See Figure 3.)**

Figure 1: Mattress Length
(Measuring mattress length using 90° straightedges)

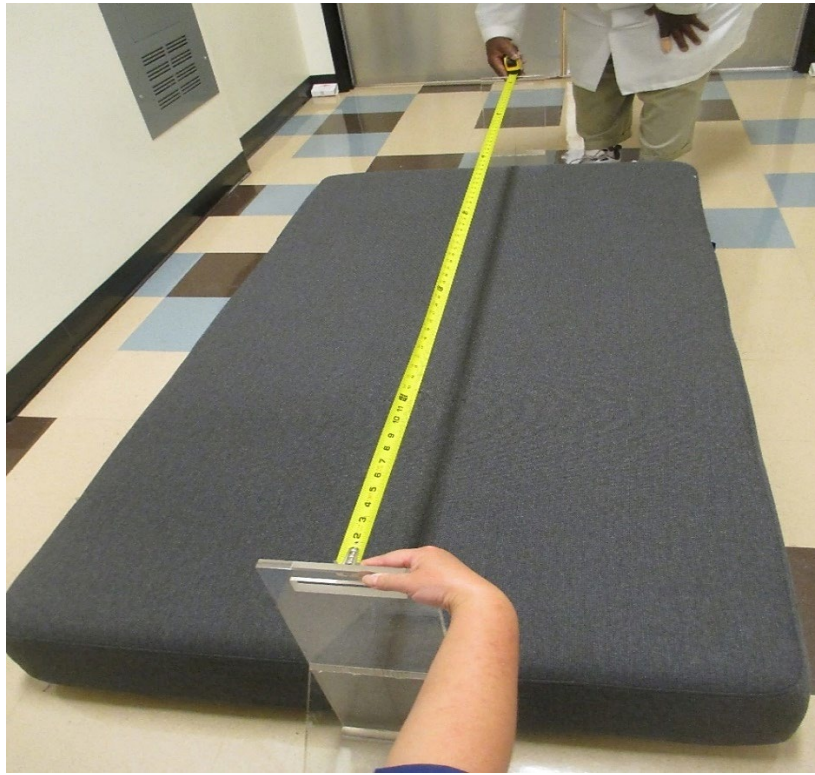


Figure 2: Tape Measure Close Up
(Contacting the 90° straightedge in “Push” Mode)



**Figure 3: Proper Method of Measurement When
Corners are Rounded**
(Lines at Measurement Locations)

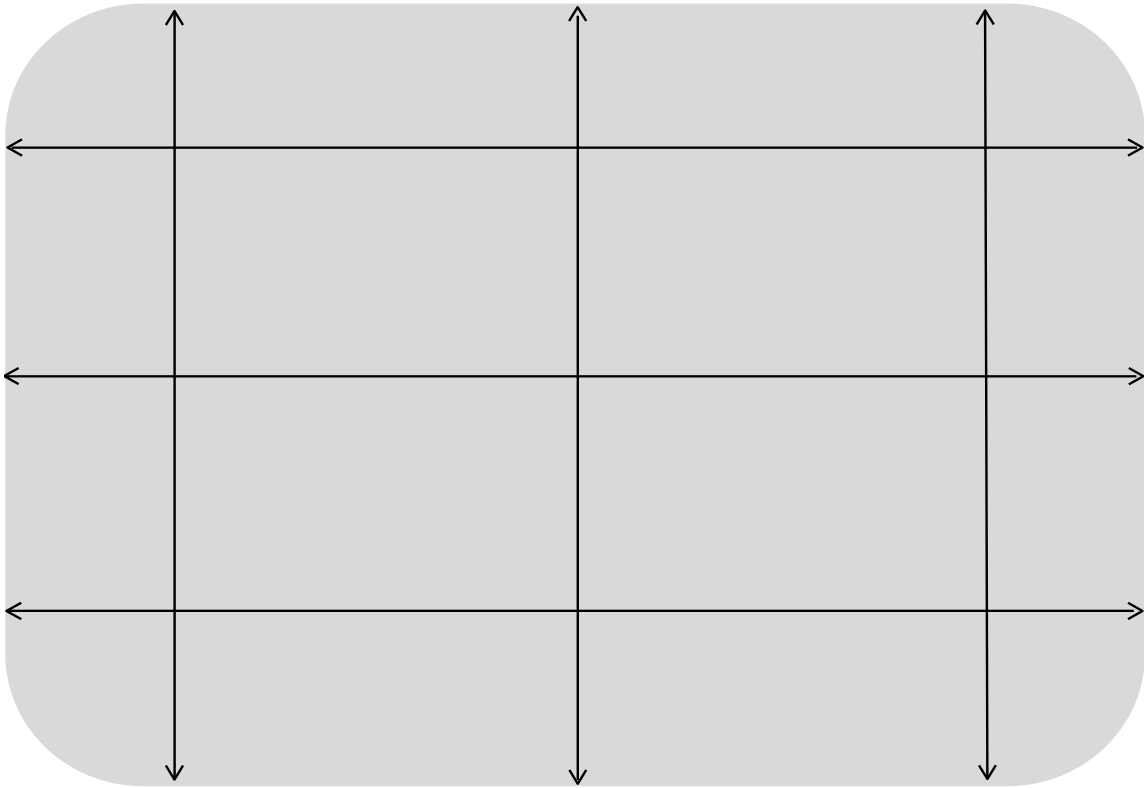


Figure 4: Mattress Width
(Measuring mattress width using 90° straightedges)

