

Common SI and Imperial Area Referents

1. George has just arrived at his campsite and is trying to decide whether his tent will fit into the assigned site. Using only his camping gear, how can George decide if the spot is big enough?

He can lay the fly from the tent on the ground to see if there is enough ground space.

or

He can use a blanket to lay on the ground to see if there is enough space.

or

He can unroll his sleeping bag and place it on the ground to see if there is enough space.

2. The neighbour's dog keeps poking his head in the window. Curtains need to be installed to ensure privacy. Without a tape measure, what referents could be used to determine how much material to purchase for curtains?

Hint: Material is purchased in square yards or square metres.



Estimate that each of the smaller, standard window panels is about 1 yd^2 . As such, at least 6 yd^2 of material are needed.

or

Estimate that the small flat screen tv in the room is about 1 m^2 , and each window panel is about the size of a flat screen tv, so about 6 m^2 of material are needed.

or

Estimate that a fireplace is about 1 yd^2 , and each window is about the size of a fireplace, so about 6 yd^2 of material are needed.