

THE PRO'S OPINION

MAKE YOUR TAPES WORK HARDER

Peter Karlsson, construction worker



IMPROVE ACCURACY

Tilt the curved blade as close as possible to the surface you are measuring.



MARKING OUT CIRCLES

Pivot the hook slot on a nail or screw inserted into the work-piece and hold a pencil at the length of the radius required.

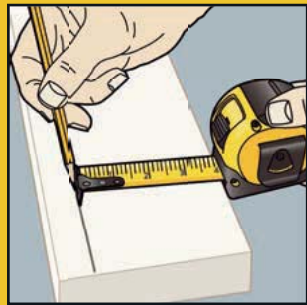


MINIMISE MEASUREMENT ERROR

When fitting one component to another, such as a door into a frame, minimise the risk of error by making a pencil mark on the back of the tape blade to indicate the actual dimension, then transfer it to the door. The pencil mark can easily be removed with a damp cloth.

PENCIL GAUGING

Use the small notch in the end hook for 'pencil gauging' parallel lines down the length of the material, using your finger or the mouth of the rule case to maintain a fixed distance from the edge.

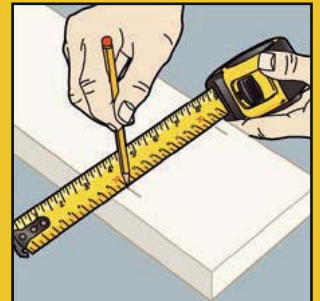


SETTING OUT JOISTS

Simply use the conveniently diamond marked 40cm/16" centres.

IMPROVE ACCURACY

If the end hook interferes with accuracy by holding the blade off the surface, try laying the tape flat on the work and make your measurement from a convenient 'zero' point such as 10cm, so a measurement of 10cm would appear as 20cm on the tape.

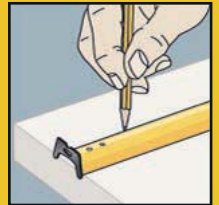


AVOID TAPE DAMAGE

Control the rate of rewind and ensure that the tape doesn't kink.

STRAIGHT LINES

You can draw a straight line simply by turning the blade over



TIP FOR ELECTRICIANS

The blade of a Stanley tape can make an excellent, makeshift 'Fish Tape' for drawing cables through cavities.

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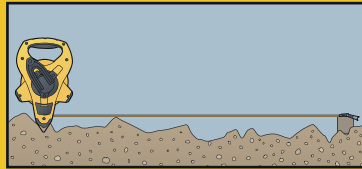
MAKE YOUR LONG TAPES WORK HARDER

Peter Karlsson, construction worker



LOCK THE BLADE & APPLY TENSION

This reduces measurement inaccuracies due to blade droop when measuring across open spaces and uneven surfaces. Use the hardened ground spike on the open framed tape to achieve more tension. The principal benefit of the open frame is that debris carried by the tape does not affect the functioning of the tape mechanism.

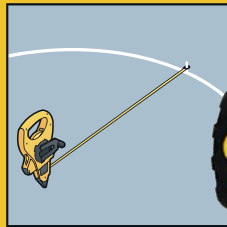


DON'T LEAVE EXPOSED TO THE SUN

Both steel and fibreglass tapes should be kept away from excessive heat from the sun to reduce the risk of expansion and stretch.

MARKING OUT CIRCLES

All end hooks have the facility to mark out large radii as needed in marking out sport pitches.



AVOID TAPE DAMAGE

Take care when rewinding to prevent damage to the blade. The rapid rewind of the FatMax and PowerWinder tapes is very useful but needs to be slowed down as you near the last few metres. Avoid twists and kinks in the blade, particularly steel, as this could result in breakage. Wipe the blade clean as you rewind, particularly with an enclosed case model.



Brand	EEC Accuracy	Blade Material	Blade Width	Rewind Ratio	End Hook	End Loop
FatMax (closed)	II	Stainless Steel	9.5mm	5:1	✓	✓
Stanley (closed)	II	Steel	9.5mm	1:1	✓	✓
Stanley (open)	II	Steel	12.7mm	1:1	X	✓
Stanley (closed)	III	Fibreglass	12.7mm	1:1	✓	X
Powerwinder (open)	II	Fibreglass	13mm	3:1	✓	✓
Stanley (open)	III	Fibreglass	12mm	1:1	X	✓

EUROPEAN PRECISION STANDARDS permissible tolerances					
CLASS	10m +/-	20m +/-	30m +/-	50m +/-	100m +/-
II	2.3	4.3	6.3	10.3	20.3
III	4.6	8.6	12.6	20.6	40.6