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Raven Hill Discovery Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.

Mission: Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

Counting paces

It's always fun to measure your pace and see how accurately you can measure a distance by pacing something off. A pace is a regular walking step or stride. My pace is 30 inches. A roman pace measured 5 feet, which works out to about 2 steps. Counting either one or two steps as your pace is ok, as long as you do it the same all the time. Stretch out a measuring tape to about 5 feet and put the "0" end by a wall. Take a step and measure your pace—from the heel of one foot to the toe of the other. My pace is 30 inches. Find a room in the house or on the porch that is a specific length. Measure that length with a measuring tape. You might need someone to hold one end of the tape measure for you. Write that distance down. My porch is 213 inches with a regular tape measure and 212" with my laser measurer! Now walk the distance and count the number of steps or paces. Multiple the number of paces by the length of a single pace and see how it compares with the actual measurement using the measuring tape. I counted my porch as 7 paces. If I multiply that by 30 inches, I get 210 inches, which is a little less than my actual measurement, but pretty close. The more you practice pacing, the more accurate you get at it. If you have trouble keeping count, transfer pebbles from one pocket to another for each pace and count your pebbles!



1 Supplies



2 Use a measuring tape



3 Optional laser measure

	^(30") Paces	Meas Tape	Laser Meas
Porch	7 paces 210"	213"	212"

3 Chart of results