

# DBH – Diameter at breast height

Trunk diameter at 4.5 feet (1.37 meters) above the ground



Example of measuring DBH **CORRECTLY**

Image: <http://www.urbantreegrowth.org>

## DBH categories (inches)

0 - 3

3 - 6

6 - 12

12 - 18

18 - 24

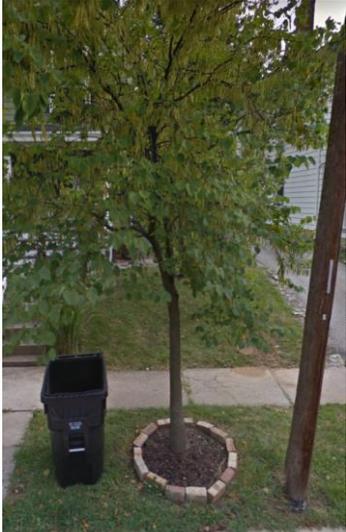
24 - 30

Over 30

Prepared by [Adam Berland](#),  
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# DBH estimation reference sheet (all measurements in inches)

Images: Google

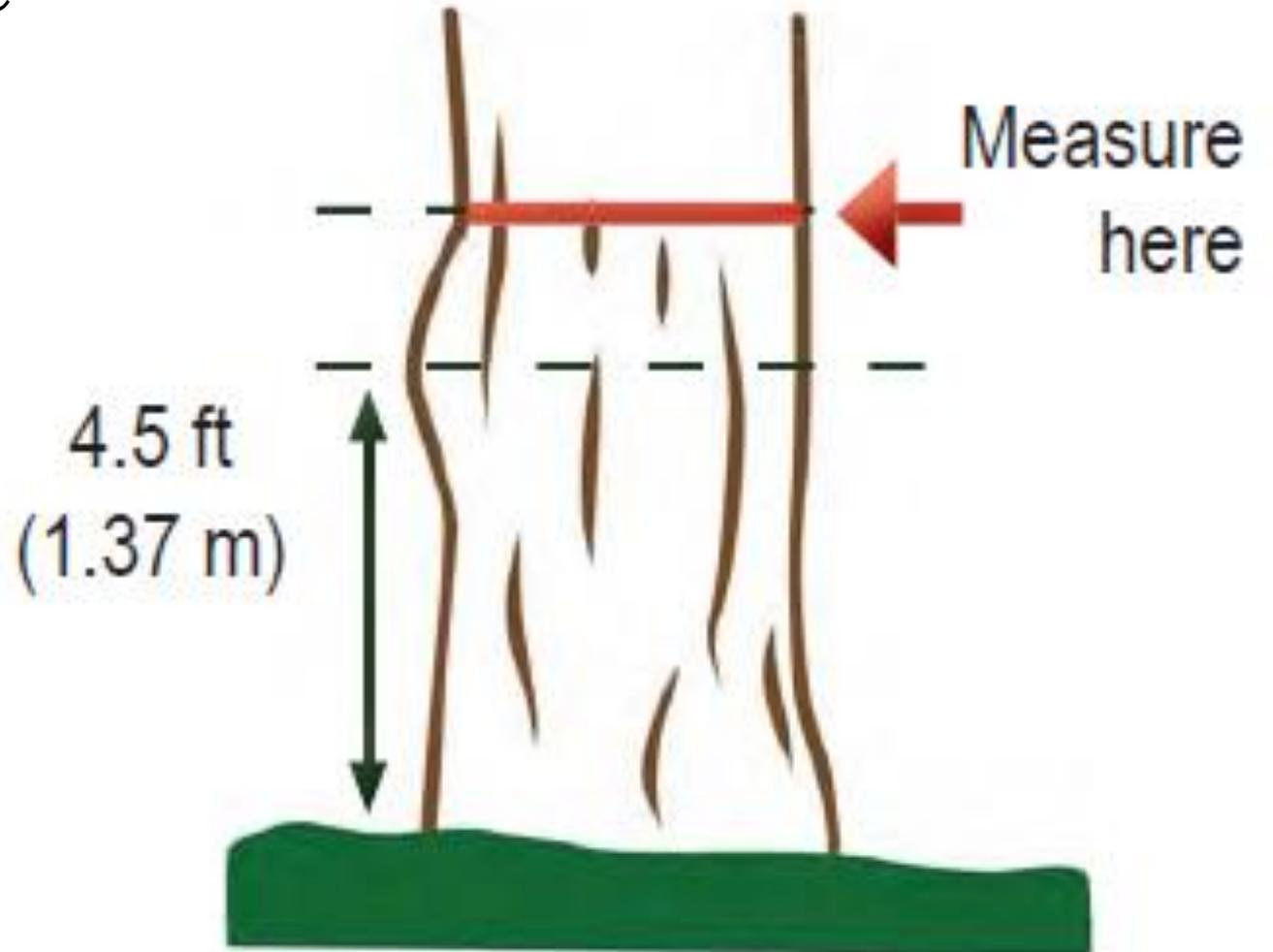
0-3	3-6	6-12	12-18	18-24	24-30	Over 30
						
<p>Red maple 2.2" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Eastern redbud 5.1" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Green ash 8.1" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Swamp white oak 15.2" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Silver maple 21.5" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Sugar maple 24.4" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Northern hackberry 30.1" <a href="#">Link</a></p>
						
<p>Callery pear 2.6" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>River birch 3.1" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>London planetree 11.3" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Sweetgum 14.6" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Callery pear 19.2" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>American elm 26.1" <a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>Northern red oak 39.1" <a href="#">Link</a></p>

# Use context from the scene to estimate DBH



# Trees with irregularities at breast height

Estimate DBH just above the irregularity where the trunk resumes its regular form



If the tree forks,  
estimate DBH below  
the fork at least 1 foot  
off the ground

If forking occurs lower  
than 1 foot, estimate  
DBH of the largest  
stem at breast height  
(4.5 feet high)

Image: Google

