

The Measure Tool



Measure. The Measure tool lets you make linear and area measurements by drawing over or around the features you want to measure. Click anywhere in the view to add the first point. The Measure tool is simple to use and has many features.

- **Drawing.** A vertex is added to the line you are drawing at each location you click. The measurements are updated as you draw. Each measurement has three values: length, area, and perimeter. Length is the length of the line you draw, while the perimeter value adds in the length of the closing segment.

- **Automatic Closure.** Once there are three vertices, a temporary closing segment is also added in **yellow**. The closing segment automatically adjusts as additional vertices are added.

- **Finish Line.** When done drawing, double-click or right-click and choose Finish Line from the right mouse button menu. You can also single-click on the start of the line or click on New Measurement in the Measurement window. When a line is finished, the closing segment turns **green** and all vertices are shown in **cyan**.

- **Units.** The default is standard international units (meters, kilometers, hectares). You can change to English units (feet, miles, acres) if desired. If you change between unit systems, your new choice is effective for the current measurement and subsequent measurements; it does not change the values for previous measurements. You can still change earlier measurements by making them active and changing the units.

- **New Measurement.** Clicking on New Measurement finishes the previous measurement, clears that measurement from the view, and poises the tool to begin a new measurement. Additional measurements are added to the Measurement window until you close it. You can choose another tool and the Measurement window remains open. If you switch back to the Measure tool, new measurements are added to the already open Measurement window.

- **Clear.** The Clear button removes all measurements from the Measurement window. To remove a single measurement, click on the Remove Polyline/Polygon icon for that measurement.

- **Icons.** There are three icons with each measurement: Edit this element, Zoom to Measurement Area, and Remove Polyline / Polygon.

- The first icon (pencil at upper left of the measurement entry) lets you reshape the line/polygon for that measurement by clicking on and dragging existing vertices or adding new vertices and dragging, which updates the measurement values.

- The Zoom to Measurement Area icon (lower left) will zoom in so that the shape drawn for that measurement fills the view with a 10% margin of the surrounding area added.

- The Remove Polyline / Polygon icon (upper right) removes the measurement from the Measurement window and the shape you have drawn from the view.

- **Right Mouse Button Menu.** There are two additions at the top of the right mouse button menu when you are measuring over the view canvas: Cancel Point and End Line. Cancel Point removes the last vertex added to the line you are drawing.

