

Do you have the “ideal human form”?

Leonardo had a keen interest in proportion as seen in his sketch Vitruvian Man. He believed the workings of the human body to be an analogy for the workings of the universe. Many of his ideas were first written by the Roman architect Vitruvius.

Test these ideas

- A palm is the width of four fingers
- A foot is the width of four palms
- A cubit (An ancient unit of linear measure, originally equal to the length of the forearm from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow) is the width of six palms
- A mans height is four cubits
- A pace is ~~one~~ cubits
- The length of a man's outspread arms is equal to his height
- The distance from the hairline to the bottom of the chin is one-tenth of a mans height
- The distance from the top of the head to the bottom of the chin is one-eighth of a man's height
- The maximum width of the shoulders is a quarter of a mans height
- The distance from the elbow to the tip of the hand is one-fifth of a man's height
- The distance from the elbow to the armpit is one-eighth of a man's height
- The length of the hand is one-tenth of a man's height
- The distance from the bottom of the chin to the nose is one-third of the length of the head
- The distance from the hairline to the eyebrows is one-third of the length of the face
- The length of the ear is one-third of the length of the face