Measurement in Construction

Measurement
: process of determining the quantitative size or amount of an item

Distance
: amount of two-dimensional space

Weight
: force of gravitational pull

Volume
: amount of three-dimensional space

Temperature
: amount of heat

U.S. Customary System of Measurement
: most commonly used system of measurement in the United States; defined and governed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

Modern Metric System of Measurement
: official system of measurement in most countries; also known as the International System of Units (SI); defined and governed by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM)

Accuracy
: how close the measurement in to the true value

Precision
: how reproducible the measurement is

Level
: horizontally straight

Plumb
: vertically straight

Tare
: process of subtracting the weight of an empty container so the container's contents can be accurately weighed (usually done with a scale's "tare" button)

Calibrate
: process of making fine adjustments to ensure a device is providing accurate measurements

STUDENT VOCABULARY HANDOUT

Measurement in Construction

Tolerance
: permissible deviation from a specified measurement

Drawing to Scale
: method of using ratios so elements of a drawing are in proportion to the item or setting the drawing depicts

Ratio
: comparison of numbers showing the relationship between two quantities or measurements

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