



# Da Vinci Proportions

I can plan an inquiry to test the accuracy of the Vitruvian Man.  
 I can record my results accurately.  
 I can explain what my results show.



Find out whether Leonardo da Vinci's ideas about the proportions of the human body were accurate.

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| The length of the outspread arms is equal to the height of a man. |  | The maximum width of the shoulders is one quarter of the height of a man. |  |
|---|--|---|--|

Complete this table with your measurements to find out.

| Height (cm) | Da Vinci proportion to check                    | Measurement                            | Calculations: Is da Vinci's proportion accurate or not?                             |
|-------------|---|--|---|
| _____       | Length of outspread arms is equal to height     | Length of outspread arms (cm)<br>_____ | See if this measurement is the same as your height.<br>_____                        |
| _____       | Width of shoulders is one quarter of the height | Width of shoulders (cm)<br>_____       | Multiply the width of your shoulders by 4 to see if it equals your height.<br>_____ |

What do your results show? Were da Vinci's ideas about the proportions of the human body accurate for you? If not, were they almost accurate?

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Find out whether Leonardo da Vinci's ideas about the proportions of the human body were accurate.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The length of the outspread arms is equal to the height of a man.                                     | The distance from the elbow to the armpit is one eighth of the height of a man.         |
| The length of a hand is one tenth of the height of a man.   | The distance from the elbow to the tip of the hand is one fifth of the height of a man. |
| The distance from the top of the head to the bottom of the chin is one eighth of the height of a man. | The maximum width of the shoulders is one quarter of the height of a man.               |

Complete this table with your measurements to find out.

| Height (cm) | Da Vinci proportion to check                                   | Measurement                                      | Calculations: Is da Vinci's proportion accurate or not?                             |
|-------------|--|--|---|
| _____       | Width of shoulders is one quarter of the height.               | Width of shoulders (cm)<br>_____                 | Multiply the width of your shoulders by 4 to see if it equals your height.<br>_____ |
|             | Distance from elbow to tip of hand is one fifth of the height. | Distance from elbow to tip of hand (cm)<br>_____ | Multiply the distance by 5 to see if it equals your height.<br>_____                |



| Height (cm) | Da Vinci proportion to check                        | Measurement       | Calculations: Is da Vinci's proportion accurate or not? |
|-------------|---|-------------------|---|
| <hr/>       | Choose your own proportion to check.<br><hr/> <hr/> | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>                                       |

1. What do your results show? Were da Vinci's ideas about the proportions of the human body accurate for you? If not, were they almost accurate?

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2. If his ideas about proportions were not accurate for you, can you think of a reason why?

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| Height (cm) | Da Vinci proportion to check   | Measurement   | Calculations: Is da Vinci's proportion accurate or not? |
|-------------|--|---|---|
|             | Distance from elbow to tip of hand is one fifth of the height.           | Distance from elbow to tip of hand (cm)<br>_____          | _____<br>_____<br>_____                                 |
|             | Distance from top of head to bottom of chin is one eighth of the height. | Distance from top of head to bottom of chin (cm)<br>_____ | _____<br>_____<br>_____                                 |



| Height (cm) | Da Vinci proportion to check                           | Measurement             | Calculations: Is da Vinci's proportion accurate or not? |
|-------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| _____       | Choose your own proportion to check.<br>_____<br>_____ | _____<br>_____<br>_____ | _____<br>_____<br>_____                                 |
| _____       | Choose your own proportion to check.<br>_____<br>_____ | _____<br>_____<br>_____ | _____<br>_____<br>_____                                 |

1. What do your results show? Were da Vinci's ideas about the proportions of the human body accurate for you? If not, were they almost accurate?

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2. If his ideas about proportions were not accurate for you, can you think of a reason why?

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