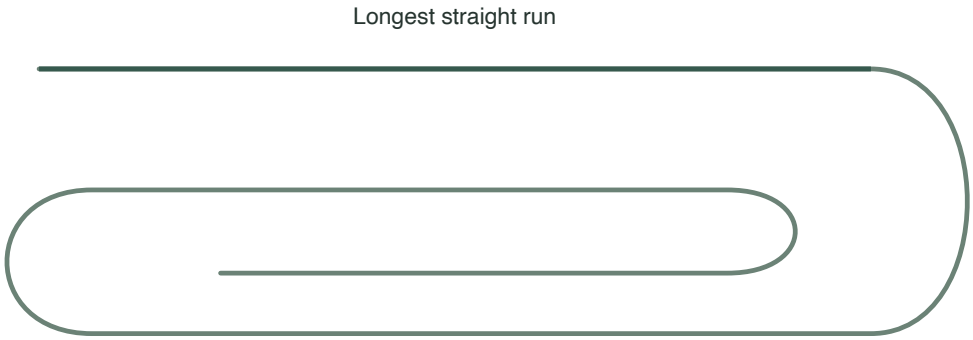
Printable Paper Clip Ruler

Original prompt

Task 1: Draw a paper-clip outline with a long outer loop and a short inner loop, and mark the straight run you will use as the scale edge.



Answer

A paper-clip outline with two long parallel runs, rounded turns at each end, a short inner return run, and one straight run marked as the scale edge.

Reasoning

The classic clip form is a single wire bent into a long outer loop and a short inner loop; the longest straight run is the natural scale edge.

Check

Check that the outline reads as a paper clip and that exactly one straight run is marked as the scale edge.

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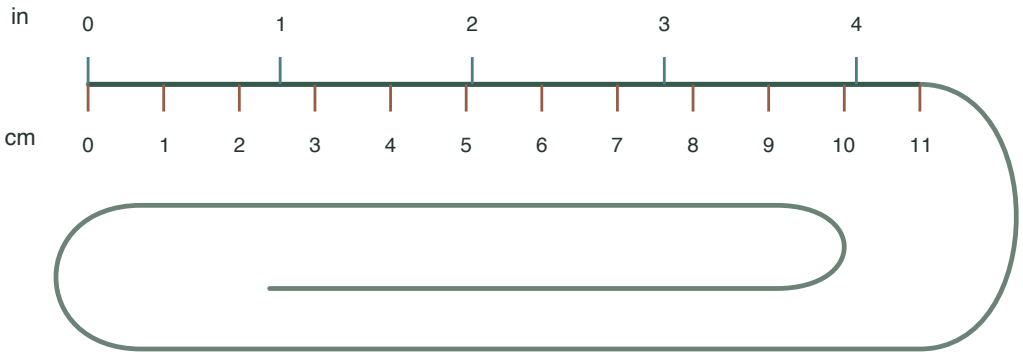
Task 2: On your Task 1 outline, place inch marks along one side of the scale edge and centimeter marks along the other side, with a zero point at one end and unit labels for each side. Do not overlap the two sets of marks. (The number of marks is your choice; state it.)



Answer

This completed example has five inch marks (0 through 4) above the scale edge and twelve centimeter marks (0 through 11) below it. The two zeros share one position on the edge.

Reasoning

Separating the two units onto opposite sides of one straight run keeps both scales readable on a single edge.

Check

Check 25.4 mm between whole inches and 10 mm between whole centimeters. Count both zeros and check the labels and strokes stay separate.

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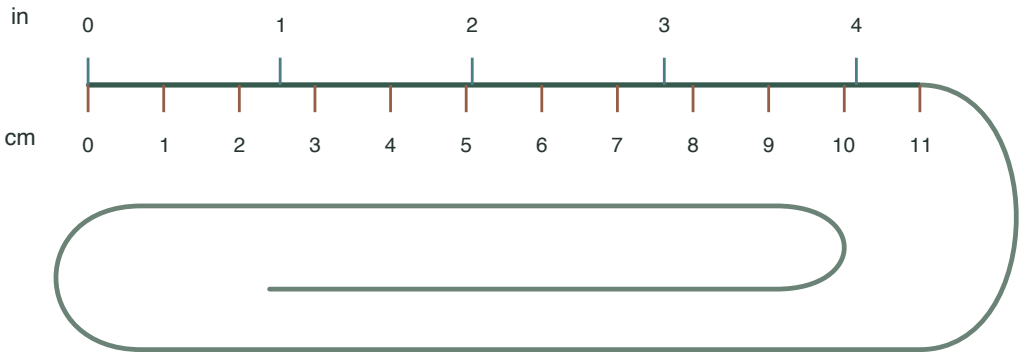
Task 3: Redraw your Task 2 ruler so the paper-clip outline is clearly recognizable and the scale edge is the longest straight run. Keep both unit scales and labels.



Answer

A redrawn paper-clip ruler in which the clip outline is clearly recognizable and the scale edge is the longest straight run, with both unit scales and labels retained.

Reasoning

Redrawing against the reference checks that the outline still reads as a clip and that the scale sits on the longest straight run.

Check

Compare the redraw to the Task 2 version: the clip outline should be clearer and the scale edge should be the longest straight run.

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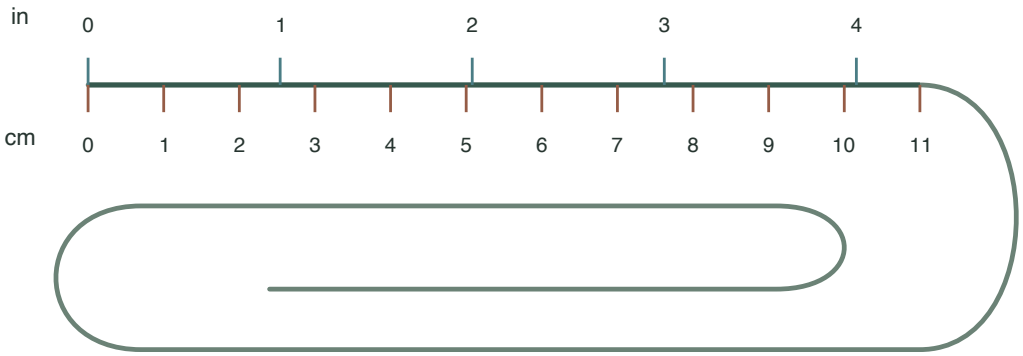
Answer | Task 4 of 4 | A4

Original prompt

Task 4: Check your Task 3 ruler against a real ruler: confirm the zero point, the unit labels, and that the scale edge is straight. Note one correction you would make.



100 mm calibration line

Print at Actual Size. Check this distance before using the ruler.

Answer

Check zero, both labels and the straight edge. One correction: if the 100 mm bar prints short, turn off page fitting, print at Actual Size and measure again before using the scale.

Reasoning

Comparing against a real ruler is the practical check that the printed scale is readable and correctly placed.

Check

Align a trusted ruler with the printed 100 mm bar. Check the first whole-inch tick at 25.4 mm from zero and the first centimeter tick at 10 mm. Check both labels and the straight edge.