

1 משנה the משנה: אין מודדין אלא בחבל של נ' אמה לא פחות ולא יותר – When measuring the תחום we use a measuring rope that is exactly 50 אמות long.

The אמה explains that we derive the 50 אמה measurement from the פסוק that describes the width of the חצר המשכן to be חצר המשים בחמשים π , which teaches us both the size of a קרפף and the size of the rope used to measure.



The ברייתא explains the logic of using a rope of 50 אמה.
- We do not use a shorter rope, because it can be pulled too taut, artificially lengthening the measurement.



ולא יותר - We do not use a longer rope, because it will sag due to its weight, artificially shortening the measurement.









תניא אמר רבי יהושע בן חנניא אין לך שיפה למדידה יותר משלשלאות של – רגזל –

Actually, iron chains would be ideal for measuring, but since we find a Posuk

- ובידו חבל מדה

that refers to measuring with a rope, we use rope.

Although, we also find a Posuk; וביד האיש קנה המדה which refers to measuring with a stick -

that is for measuring small areas like gates, but larger areas are measured with a rope.

According to רב אסי this rope is made of that grows around a palm tree.



According to רב יוסף the rope is made of linen - as he cites a Braisa;

- תני רב יוסף שלשה חבלים הם

There are three הלכות that require ropes, but each requires a different type of rope.

של מגג לפרה - Reed ropes are used to tie the פרה אדומה down when it is burned.

של נצרים לסוטה – Willow ropes are used to tie the ישל נצרים לסוטה's clothing up so it does not fall off after it was torn at the shoulders.

של פשתן למדידה – Linen rope is used for measuring the תחום.









7 The משנה continues:
היה מודד והגיע לגיא או לגדר מבליעו וחוזר למידתו
הגיע להר מבליעו וחוזר למידתו

If he was measuring and came across a valley, a stone wall, or a mountain -

He should measure in a straight line across the top of them before continuing to measure normally.

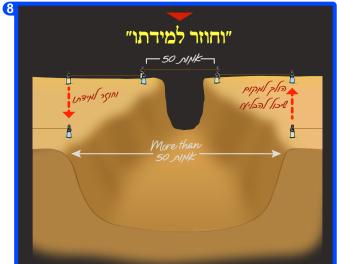


The מדייק si cfrom the words מדייק א נמרא – וחוזר למידתו from the words מדייק א נמרא – that if the valley or mountain is more than 50 אמות wide at the point where he is measuring, in line with the city, – הולך למקום שיכול להבליעו –

he should move over to a point where the valley or mountain is less than אמות wide, and measure it there, even though it is not in line with the city.

- וחוזר למידתו

He then returns to his original line of measuring.











אם אינו יכול להבליעו בזו אמר רבי דוסתאי בר ינאי משום רבי מאיר שמעתי בהרים – שמקדרין בהרים –

If the mountain cannot be measured without leaving the תחתה, we measure the mountain as if it was pierced.

This means that two people stand on the slope with the lower one holding a four אמה long rope to his chest, and the higher one holding the rope at a straight line to his feet. This keeps the incline out of the measurement, and increases the distance. They repeat this procedure until they get to the other side of the mountain. This procedure is also used in a valley which cannot be spanned.

This is קולא - a leniency we use only for a תחומין דרבנן. When measuring for

ערי מקלט סי עגלה ערופה, however, we do not rely on this method, and we include the incline since these are דינים דאורייתא.

When it comes to a wall, the ברייתא says;
he can estimate its width and continue,

while the משנה said;

מבליעו וחוזר למידתו - he has to measure it by holding the rope over it - with poles if necessary.





The משנה speaks of a stone fence that collapsed that traffic can pass over relatively easily, because it does NOT have a steep incline - which Rashi explains as - ימתלקט עשרה מתוך '- It reaches an elevation of 10 טפחים at a distance of four - אמות - אמות - Therefore, it requires an actual measurement, either by spanning or piercing.

אמישתא - The ברייתא חשמישתא speaks of a wall that is not easy for traffic to pass over, because it has a steeper incline, therefore, we can rely on estimating.t

The גמרא explains; התם ניחא תשמישתא -









אמר רב יהודה אמר שמואל לא שנו אלא שאין חוט המשקולת יורד כנגדו - אמר רב יהודה אמר שמואל לא שנו אלא שאין חוט המשקולת יורד כנגדו The Mishnah said to measure the incline of the valley by - די - either by spanning or piercing, only when the plumb line would not clear the incline within אמות of the top edge-



אבל חוט המשקולת יורד כנגדו מודדו מדידה יפה –
But if the incline of the wall is so steep that a plumb line would fall less than four אמות away from the top of the valley, we can ignore the distance of the incline, and just measure to the top edge, and then the floor of the valley. This is a קולהת because it will legnthen the overall distance.



Regarding a mountain the גמרא qualifies that which the משנה said that you can measure a mountain with מבליעו ואם לאו ואם לאו that is only if it's that steep that it is מתלקט עשרה מתוך ד'

It reaches an elevation of 10 טפחים at a distance of four אמות









But if it's not as steep in that it is only מתלקט עשרה מתוך ה

It only reaches an elevation of 10 טפחים at a distance of five אמות

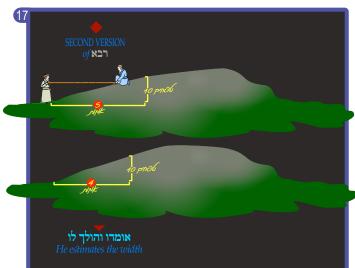
יפה מדידה מדידה יפה - You measure it on the ground as if it were level ground.

This is a חומרא, because it shortens the overall distance.



The second version of רבא's statement is that we only measure the mountain with a straight rope if the slope is so mild that it reaches ten טפחים over a length of five,

but if it is steeper and reaches ten טפחים over four אמות, הולך לו - he estimates the width and continues on his way.



To better understand this daf, we will summarize from the least to most steep incline, according to the first version of אכד.

-1- מתלקט עשרה מתוך ה

If it only reaches an elevation of 10 טפחים at a distance of five אמות - According to the first version of רבא - in both a valley or mountain

יפה מדידה יפה - You measure it on the ground as if it were level terrain.









מתלקט עשרה מתוך ד -2- 19

If it reaches an elevation of 10 טפחים at a distance of four אמות - a bit steeper -

According to the first version of רבא - in both a valley or mountain

- מבליעו ואם לאו מקדר

It's measured either by spanning or piercing.



-3- Where it is steeper than
ד' מתלקט עשרה מתוך ד - but
אין חוט המשקולת יורד כנגדו –
The plumb line needs more than ד' אמות to clear - מבליעו ואם לאו מקדר - In a walley – אומדו והולך לו



-4- If it is חוט המשקולת יורד כנגדו

The incline of the wall is so steep that a plumb line would clear the incline in less than four אמות -

In a valley מבליעו - if possible he spans it, because it's easier to span a valley. Otherwise,

- מודדו מדידה יפה

he can ignore the distance of the incline and just measure the level surfaces.

In a mountain, since it's difficult to span it at such a steep incline,

- מודדו מדידה יפה

he just ignores the distance of the incline and measures the level surfaces.

