
My maths != good

Posted by King Mob - 06-05-2008 14:03

How do I work out how to distribute a given number of points equally along a line? Say I've got five fence posts to place along a line of 400m, with one at each end and the same space between each - what's the formula for working out what that space should be?

I've got as far as $\text{SPACE} = \text{DISTANCE} / \text{NUMBER OF POSTS}$ but of course that only breaks the distance up into (number of posts) chunks, leaving a post-less space at the end.

So... help.

Re:My maths != good

Posted by King Mob - 06-05-2008 14:10

Bah, hang on. I just subtract one post.

Maths, eh.

Re:My maths != good

Posted by And I am the Life - 06-05-2008 14:11

$\text{space} = \text{distance} / (\text{number of posts} - 1)$ you don't count the first

Re:My maths != good

Posted by King Mob - 06-05-2008 14:11

Right, I'm hijacking my own thread. New theme: 'Really easy maths you're no good at'.

Re:My maths != good

Posted by WornOldMotorbike - 06-05-2008 14:11

You want the measure of the spans, so that's one fewer than the posts. So, $400 \text{ m} / 4 \text{ posts} = 100 \text{ m spans}$.

However, with spans like that, you're likely to see a fair bit of sagging.

/heh

Re:My maths != good

Posted by WornOldMotorbike - 06-05-2008 14:14

Okay, so the five of us are in agreement, then?

Re:My maths != good

Posted by JtS - 06-05-2008 16:12

Have you taken into account the thickness of the posts?

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Re:My maths != good

Posted by WornOldMotorbike - 06-05-2008 16:19

Not necessary as long as you measure to the same point on each.

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