



How to Measure a Tree and calculate its Magnificent Tree Score

Step 1: Find the basic **circumference** of the tree trunk in inches (x)

Circumference- The distance around the trunk of the tree

- Wrap a tape measure around the trunk four and a half feet off of the ground. Four and a half feet is the standard foresters use for measuring tree height.
- For a tree that has a split trunk, measure at the narrowest point just below the split

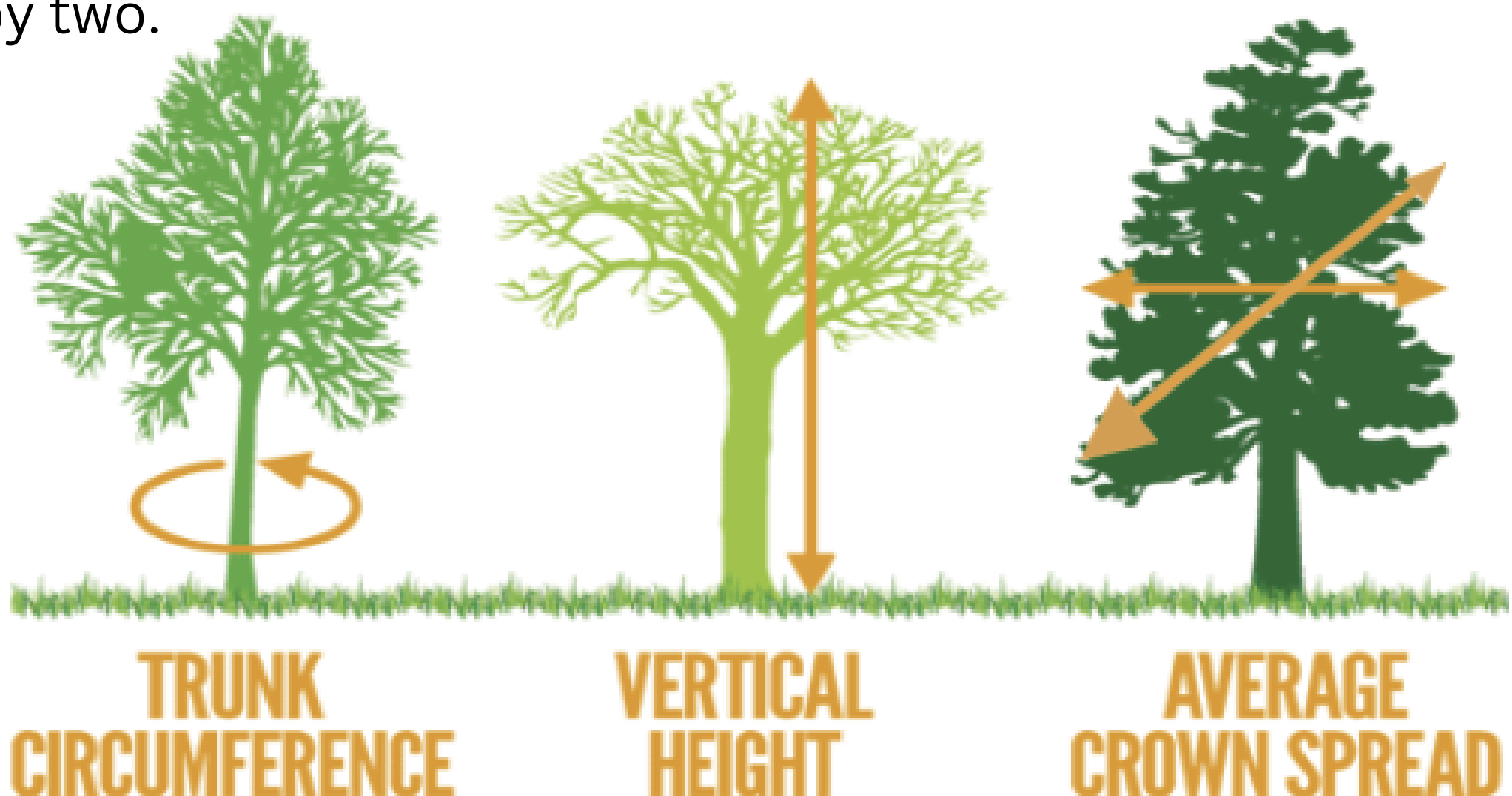
Step 2: Find the **height of the tree** in feet (y)

- Standing on the same elevation as the tree, step back until you see the crown top and ground point directly below it.
- Hold a yardstick with your arm outstretched and place the tip near your eye. Tilt the stick up vertically while holding your arm level. Step forward or back until the tip of the yardstick aligns with the top of the crown.
- The tree height equals your horizontal distance from the tree plus your height.

Step 3: Find the **Average crown spread** in inches

- With a partner, each holding an end of a large measuring tape, stand across from each other under the crown of the tree. Position yourselves at the drip line or edge of the canopy or branch spread.
- Repeat a second measurement at a 90-degree angle (perpendicular to your first measurement). Now calculate the average (z) crown spread by adding the two numbers together and dividing by two.

**Your $x + y + (z/4)$
=
total tree score!**





Arizona's Magnificent Trees

We recognize amazing trees that are:

- **Champion Trees** - The largest of their species
- **Heritage Trees** - Trees with cultural significance
- **Witness Trees** - Trees proven to have been in the same location before Arizona Statehood.

December 1	Public nomination period opens
May 31	Public nomination period closes. Nominations received after May 31 will be added to the following year's list.
June 1	Tree verification period opens
September 15	Tree verification period closes
October 15	Nominators notified of status of submitted trees
November 1	State register of Magnificent Trees is announced



Tree hunting and measuring is a fantastic way to introduce members of our communities to the importance of trees and green space, cultural heritage related to trees, the field of forestry, and the value of trees as part of our rich natural history.