

A GUNTER'S CHAIN

What is a Gunter's chain?

A Gunter's chain was a tool used to measure distance. Most of the time it's used by surveyors to measure the distance between geographical features. By using a Gunter's chain, surveyors can make more accurate maps.

What is it made out of?

A Gunter's chain is made out of 100 metal links. When it is stretched out end to end, it is 66 feet long.



Surveyors also used compasses like this one to help them keep track of where they were and tripods like the one pictured below.



A surveyor is someone who measures and charts physical features of the land so that maps can be made.



Fun Fact:

The Gunter's chain was invented by an Englishman named Edmund Gunter in 1620.

Notice & Wonder

- Are these tools similar to the tools surveyors use today? Are there modern versions or are they basically the same today?
- How are maps still useful today? When do you use a map?