

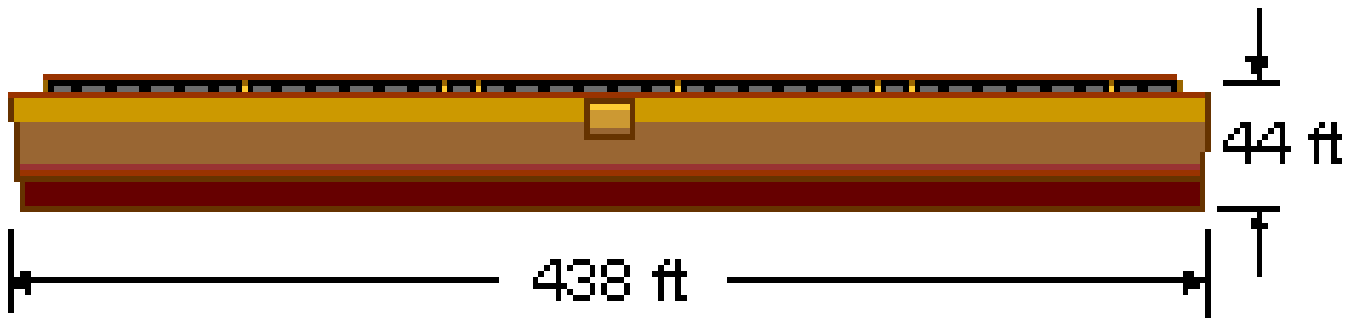
Noah's Ark Fact Sheet

NOAH'S ARK WAS HUGE!

If you wrongly imagine the Ark looked like some of those little cartoon boats in children's story books, with a couple of elephants' trunks and giraffes' necks sticking out the top, think again.



(Side View)

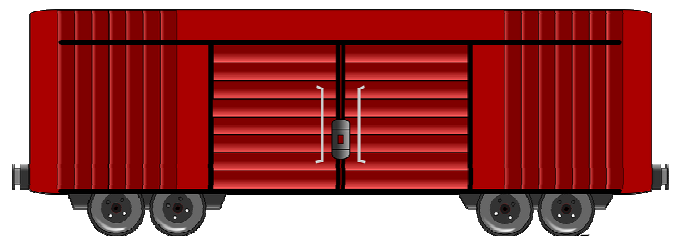


Actual Dimensions of the Ark

Height: 45 ft.; Width 75 ft.; Length: 450 ft. It would be **1 and ½ football fields long**. Its total deck area was equivalent to the area of about **20 standard college basketball courts or 36 lawn tennis courts**.

Kids would enjoy finding an open grassy area or a field where you can measure off the dimensions of the Ark and mark the four corners with something. Have people walk around the entire outside perimeter of the marked off Ark. This makes an impression on people because they realize how really large the Ark was.

The ship's internal volume was 1,518,750 cubic feet. This is equal to **570 railroad boxcars**. All of the animals would have taken up 319 box cars, only 56% of the space in the ark. There would have been more than enough room for the 8 people with their food as well as the animal's food in the remaining 251 box cars.





The Ark was to be coated inside and out with pitch. Again the Hebrew word for "pitch" is obscure. It was more likely some resinous material used not



only to waterproof the vessel but also to prevent decay. The need for this preservative was essential. It is also possible

that things did not decay as rapidly in the pre-flood atmosphere.

These dimensions were very special; these unique proportions made the Ark uniquely stable in the water. Noah's Ark was three stories high (Genesis 6:16). The rectangular dimensions of the Ark show an advanced design in ship-building. Its length of six times its width and 10 times its height would have made it amazingly stable on the ocean. According to ship-builders, this ratio represents an advanced knowledge of ship-building since it is the optimum design for stability in rough seas.

The Ark, as designed by God, was virtually impossible to capsize! It would have to have been tilted over 90 degrees in order to capsize. God knew what He was doing, even if Noah didn't.

Remember it was made more for floating than sailing, because it wasn't headed anywhere. The Ark was made to withstand a turbulent ocean voyage, not to be at a certain place at a certain time. The dimensions would have kept it stable even if the waters tossed and turned around it.

The top piece was probably a skylight and served for ventilation, with its sides open. The above drawing is based on the Bible and on eyewitness accounts from people through history who have seen it on the mountains of Ararat.