

How Chain is Measured

The first step to understanding chain types is understanding how chain is measured.

Most people think chain is measured according to the width or length but it's not. When you see 1/4" chain, for example, it is referring to the diameter of the chain link, NOT the width or length.

1/4" Chain Example



This is where the 1/4" comes from

1/4" Chain Example



Can be different!

Therefore, when you see 1/4" HT Chain, 1/4" BBB Chain, 1/4" Proof Coil Chain, each of these chains may have the same diameter but each may have very different lengths, widths (and something called pitch).