SQUARE TAKEOFF

Estimate with confidence:

Unleashing the power of takeoff software

A complete guide to takeoff for fast, accurate pre-project planning

What is construction takeoff?

Construction takeoff is an estimating process that takes place at the start of a job to calculate the material needs and costs. Takeoffs can be done manually by measuring from the job site or digitally by uploading blueprint files to a software.

Manual construction takeoff

Manual construction takeoffs are completed by hand using physical blueprints.

Each measurement is taken and recorded from the blueprint or at the actual job site to create material lists and cost estimates. Manual takeoffs must be done with the highest level of precision to ensure the measurements are accurate and the correct number of materials are ordered. Over or under ordering materials adds extra cost and potential delays.

Manual takeoffs can also require complex equations, so whoever's performing the takeoff must be familiar with calculating the area and volume of a space. It's then an extra step to figure out the price for all materials once the amount has been determined.

Vs.

Digital construction takeoff

Digital takeoffs involve the same process as a manual takeoff with the exception being that the more complicated processes are automated.

There are several benefits to performing a digital construction takeoff, which include increased accuracy, saved time and a lower need for expertise. Using digital solutions for takeoff adds efficiency to all your processes by getting jobs started on the right track from the very beginning.

What are the key benefits of using construction takeoff software?

Takeoff software helps construction companies perform project takeoffs with more efficiency and accuracy. With these benefits, builders can quickly measure from digital blueprints while creating material lists and estimates at the same time.

Here are three key benefits of using takeoff software:

1

Less time spent on manual measuring

Measuring a room manually takes a substantial amount of time — time that you could spend on other tasks. What would once take three hours using paper, now just takes a half hour with software.

With that valuable time added back to your day, you can spend it planning your business' future, focusing on your people or finally taking that vacation.

2

Money saved on blueprints and materials

Construction takeoff software will add valuable time back to your day, and it can also save you money. Have you ever noticed how much you're really spending on printing those large-scale blueprints? Are you ordering more building materials than you need?

Using digital blueprints for all your jobs could save you hundreds if not thousands. Plus, with precise digital measuring, you can feel confident in your material estimates — and that you're only purchasing the product you need.

3

Increased accuracy and efficiency

Takeoff information can now be easily communicated to everyone on your team. Material measurements and costs are automatically updated within the takeoff software — keeping everyone on the same page.

With automatic updates and everything saved in one platform, teams have a single source of truth to work from.

So, why is takeoff software important for builders?

Planning construction jobs comes with many moving parts and pieces. The manual process of measuring for construction materials is tedious and time consuming. Plus, with the added element of human error, manual measurements aren't always as precise as they need to be. There's a better way. Using takeoff software allows builders to calculate material quantities accurately.

Takeoff software is a computer-generated estimating solution that allows construction professionals to more efficiently calculate material needs and costs. Projects can be started quickly by simply uploading digital blueprints and completing measurements with online tools.

Get to know Square Takeoff

Square Takeoff is one of the leading systems that specifically specializes in takeoff. It's designed to allow contractors to complete a residential or commercial takeoff, and estimate on any desktop or mobile device. This eliminates the costly errors traditionally found in manual processes, ensuring every contractor submits a more accurate bid every time.

This software was built for every type of construction pro, including:

- General contractor
- Painter
- Roofer
- Plumber
- Flooring
- Drywall
- Electrical
- Landscape

Square Takeoff includes the following essentials:

Blueprint uploading

Upload your blueprints directly into Square. Select a PDF or image file on your computer and upload. It's that easy. The blueprints will then be used during the takeoff process for measuring and creating material lists.

Material list building

With the online takeoff tool, you can create and use customizable templates to estimate the project's material and labor costs. This means you'll have a complete material estimate for each phase of construction, from initial foundation all the way to roofing.

Digital measuring

Our online takeoff tool allows you to measure the total area of your projects – without picking up a ruler. You'll calculate linear dimensions and the counts for each item, which assists in the creation of your project estimate.

A step-by-step guide to creating a takeoff in Square

Once you have access to Square Takeoff, you can start uploading blueprints, making accurate measurements and estimating more efficiently.

Getting started is easy. Here's a quick step-by-step guide.

1. Upload digital blueprints

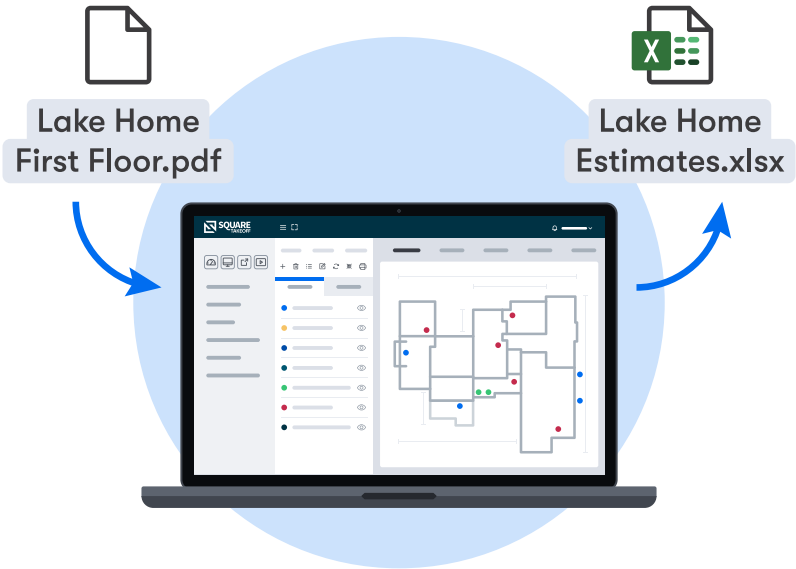
Select the PDF or image file on your computer and upload.

2. Take measurements

Set your scale manually or use the page scale and start measuring.

3. Export your calculations

Use the built-in estimator to export your measurements to Excel.



SQUARE TAKEOFF

Kick off projects efficiently with Square Takeoff

Join the thousands of construction professionals who save time and money by using digital takeoff software.

Register for your 14-day free trial today.

"I've already won several large bids thanks to the program! Before Square Takeoff, I was bidding down and dirty – trying to come up with the perfect number per square foot. Occasionally, I would get a job, but I would leave money on the table because my numbers were so skewed.

Since using Square Takeoff, I now know exactly my costs and also show my clients that I've included everything in my bid. No more nail biters."

Jennifer Holbrook,
New Color Painting LLC

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