

## Rule of Thumb

In 'Gulliver's Travels' by Jonathan Swift a man, named Lemuel Gulliver, is ship wrecked on the island of Lilliput where the people are very small making Gulliver appear to be a giant. Eventually they allow him to stay but are faced with the problem of making him some new clothes. The tailors use this 'rule of thumb' to take his measurements.

*Twice round the thumb = Once round the wrist*

*Twice round the wrist = Once round your neck*

*Twice round your neck = Once round your waist*

Do these rules work for you?

What about for other members of your family? It's time to get out the tape measure and investigate. Think carefully about how to record your findings and test them against the 'rule of thumb' above.

If these rules do not work, what rules work for you and your family? Can you investigate other body part proportions? E.g. is twice around your big toe the same as once around your ankle?

