

Accurately Calculate Deer Weight by the Heart Girth Measurement Method.

By using a tape measure you can accurately determine the weight of your deer. The girth of the deer is measured, in inches, just behind the forelegs. The heart girth measurement is converted to pounds in the chart below. If you do not have a tape measure, use a string. Draw the string tightly around the deer's chest, then measure the string with a ruler.

Heart Girth: Distance around the chest just behind the forelegs, in inches.

Live Weight: In pounds; the weight of the animal on-the-hoof before bleeding.

Dressed Weight: In pounds; the weight of the carcass with all entrails removed.

Hide Weight, Blood Weight, Bone Weight (excluding bones of the head): In pounds.

Edible Lean Meat: Boneless edible venison. What you take home in the box.

Heart Girth	Live Wt.	Dressed Wt.	Hide Wt.	Blood Wt.	Bone. Wt.	Edible Lean Meat
20	49	32	1.9	3.3	8.0	23
21	53	35	2.3	3.5	8.4	24
22	56	38	2.6	3.6	8.8	26
23	60	42	3.1	3.8	9.2	28
24	65	45	3.5	4.0	9.6	30
25	69	49	4.0	4.2	10.1	31
26	74	53	4.5	4.4	10.7	34
27	79	58	5.1	4.7	11.2	36
28	85	62	5.7	4.9	11.8	39
29	91	68	6.3	5.2	12.5	41
30	97	73	7.0	5.5	13.1	44
31	104	79	7.7	5.8	13.9	47
32	111	85	8.5	6.1	14.6	50
33	119	92	9.4	6.4	15.5	53
34	127	99	10.3	6.8	16.4	57
35	136	106	11.2	7.2	17.3	61
36	145	114	12.3	7.6	18.4	65
37	156	123	13.4	8.1	19.5	69
38	166	132	14.5	8.6	20.6	74
39	178	142	15.8	9.1	21.9	79
40	191	153	17.1	9.7	23.3	85
41	204	164	18.6	10.3	24.7	90
42	218	177	20.1	10.9	26.2	97
43	234	190	21.8	11.6	27.9	103
44	250	204	23.5	12.3	29.6	110
45	267	219	25.4	13.1	31.5	118
46	286	234	27.4	14.0	33.5	126

This chart was produced with data collected by the Pennsylvania State University - Department of Animal Science, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission - Division of Research.

NOTE: Chart does not take into consideration poor shot placement resulting in wasted meat.