

A city that has four corner, for example a square or rectangle, we measure as is to reach two thousand אמות in each direction. If the city is like a circle or triangle, we count the two thousand אמות by extending the corners to make it like a square. If the city is wider at one end than the other, we add space on the narrower side to make it a square, and from there we count the two thousand אמות. If the city is shaped like a bow, if the two ends are within four thousand אמות, then we consider the empty area to be filled in (and measure from where the “string” would go across the bow). If it is more than four thousand אמות, the two thousand אמות is counted from the bow. The רמ"א writes if part of the bow is within four thousand אמות, we consider as if that area is filled in.

Two cities that are one hundred and forty one and a third אמות from each other (in other words, the distance does not exceed the seventy and two thirds אמות that each city has) are considered as one city.

If from the top of the bow to where the string would be is less than two thousand אמות, then in any case, we measure from the string across the bow.

Any house within seventy אמות of the city is considered as if it is part of the city, and the two thousand אמות are counted from there. If the house is 4x4 אמות and has three walls, even without a roof, it is considered as a house. Any building such as a shul,

temple (even of עבודה זרה), or storehouse that has a dwelling place inside that is 4x4 אמות, or a house built to store כלים for a boat, a cave that has a dwelling place built onto the front (even if the part that was built on is not 4x4 אמות by itself, the cave can complete the required measurement), or two walls that have a roof and is 4x4 אמות (the structure had been bigger, but was partially destroyed) is considered as a house for the purposes of extending the city תחום.

A community that dwell in huts temporarily and then moves on to other locations is not considered like a city with regards to the תחום, and each person's תחום is two thousand אמות from his hut. If in this community of huts there are three courtyards that each contain two houses, then then community is no longer considered to be a random gathering of huts and can be considered a city.

