

Necessary calculation to determine the final, typeset length of a printed book. The estimator begins with the raw manuscript and calculates how many printed pages the manuscript copy will run based on the following:

- (1) Type size: Size of letters, measured in points
- (2) Typeface: Style of type (e.g., Stempel Garamond, Adobe Caslon, etc.). Also now referred to as “font” in desktop publishing industry
- (3) Line measure: Length of typeset line, measured in picas
- (4) Page fill: Number of lines per page

(These four items are derived from the book design.)

Original manuscript

Number of characters per line 62 × Number of lines per page 27 × Number of manuscript pages 400 = 669,600 [TOTAL NUMBER OF CHARACTERS IN MANUSCRIPT]

Typeset page

Number of characters per pica 2.8 × Number of picas per line 26 × Number of lines per page 40 = 2912 [TOTAL NUMBER OF CHARACTERS PER TYPESET PAGE]

Approximate number of typeset pages*

Number of characters in original manuscript ÷ number of characters per typeset page
= 256

*add extra amount—about 5–10%—for slippage

Fig. A.4. Formula for estimating the length of a book manuscript based on a castoff. The numbers in this example come from the manuscript excerpted in figure A.5 and are reflected in the typeset page in figure A.6.