



## WAYWISERS

A waywiser is a wheel that measures the distance between two points. The wheel has a circumference of 36 inches. The wheel is marked in degrees. It has a fixed ridge at  $0^{\circ}$ . The ridge makes a click each time the wheel completes one full turn. Each click marks one yard traveled. The total number of clicks between two points provides the rough distance in yards.

Waywisers have had several names over time, including *perambulator*, *clickwheel*, and *trundle wheel*. Runners use a type of waywiser called a pedometer. Cars use a type of waywiser called an odometer.

Today, the most common waywiser is a “trundle wheel.” Policemen use them at accident sites. Street maintenance workers use them when they install water lines. Utilities workers use them when they lay cable and power lines.