# PECULIARITIES OF ASIAN SYSTEMS OF MEASUREMENT



### China

For measurements of distance up until the Early Zhou dynasty, a complex mix was used, similar to the imperial mishmash of inch, foot, yard, rod and chain. 2 li  $(\underline{\Xi})$  = 1 kilometer, 15 mu  $(\stackrel{.}{\boxplus})$  = 1 hectare, 1 sheng  $(\stackrel{.}{\mathcal{H}})$  = 1 liter and 2 jin  $(\stackrel{.}{\mathcal{H}})$  = 1 kilogram.



#### Korea

The traditional system of measurement is cheokgeun-beop (척근법; 尺斤法). The base unit of Korean area measurement is the pyeong (평), equivalent to about 3.158 m². When measuring weight the unit is the gwan (관), usually considered as equivalent to 600 grams. Volume is measured by the Korean doi (되), which amounts to nearly 2 litres.



# Japan

A tsubo (坪) is a unit measuring an area of 3.3 m² used in Japan. This is the square area covered by two tatami mats put side by side. It's commonly used when discussing land pricing. A commonly used traditional unit of measurement when describing room size is jo (貴), which is the size of one tatami mat.



## **Thailand**

Old Thai units are still in common use, especially for measurements of land which uses wha (วา), ngaan (งาน) and rai (ไร่). 1 rai equals to 1600 m².