

Selecting The Right Balance or Scale

1 **Knowing the application**

What is the balance / scale going to be used for or where is it going to be used?

Is the balance or scale going to be interfaced to other equipment?

Some Different Applications:

- Counting parts
- General warehouse
- Shipping and receiving
- Manufacturing (laboratory or industrial)
- Automotive
- Laboratory testing or research
- Materials testing
- Field applications
- Education university or high school
- Food processing or preparation
- Veterinarian or health care

2 **Readability**

Readability is the finest reading that you can see on the screen. It might not be the accuracy of the scale or balance as that would be determined by a range of factors. The readability is the smallest increment that can be displayed.

3 **Capacity**

This is the maximum weight that you need the scale or balance to weigh. It should include any weight of containers that might be used as well.

4 **Weighing units**

Many balances and scales are capable of weighing in different units from grams to pounds and a whole lot in between. Certain applications require particular weighing units. For example, jewelers may want to weighing in carats, and gun powder is often weighed in grains.

5 **Pan or platform size**

The application can determine what pan size is needed. You do not want the items to be weighing to be falling off the top of the scale or balance. Likewise where the balance or scale is located may also affect the pan size; space restrictions may require a smaller platform.

6 **Other features**

There are a lot of other features that can help determine the right balance

Some features:

- Internal calibration / External calibration
- Connectivity USB / RS-232 – used for data collection now or in the future
- Density / Specific Gravity – some balances have the ability to calculating this within the balance
- Lock down – If balances are disappearing then lockdown capability might be very important