

FAQ | TBMs Tunnel Boring Machines

How
BIG
is a TBM?



Each machine is **150 metres long**, or about the length of **5 blue whales** in a row!

The two TBMs are each **6 metres wide**!

How
far and deep
does a TBM tunnel?

The TBMs move about
18 metres per day!

These tunnels are
about **15-20 metres**
below the ground.



How
LONG
will the TBMs
be at work?



Each TBM will tunnel for
about a year!

Where do the TBMs
begin and end?



The two TBMs will begin at different times at **Great Northern Way-Emily Carr** station and will tunnel to **Cypress Street**, where they will be taken apart and removed through an extraction shaft.

How was the TBM
shipped?



Each TBM was assembled and tested in a factory in Germany. They were then disassembled and **transported in 40 containers**, with **12 oversized pieces** over **20 days** at sea.



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? How much dirt will be removed by the TBMs?

The TBMs will dig out **almost 200,000 cubic metres of soil** that will be carried through the tunnel on a special conveyor belt system, and removed at Great Northern Way



? How many **workers** fit inside a TBM?

There are **8-12 trained staff** in each TBM to control the TBM and make sure it is on track



? What is **inside** a TBM?



Each TBM has **space for workers to eat, and use the washroom.**

? How much does a TBM **weigh**?

Each machine weighs close to **1 million kilograms, or about 333 elephants.**



Check it out!

Be sure to visit our site viewing windows at Great Northern Way construction site, located at the intersection of Great Northern Way and Thornton Street!

Did you know?

You can map the TBM journey on our website! Follow the Voyage of the Tunnel Boring Machines as they visited ports and collected their passport stamps from each country on their way to Vancouver!



Scan the code above to watch!

