

Units Of Measurement

Measurement is a numerical value that represents the quantity, intensity, dimensions, or other characteristic of an object. Measurements are standards that everybody agrees upon, and are used every day at home, in school, playground, etc.

Length, volume, weight, temperature, electricity, etc., are different examples of measurements. Units represent the magnitude of a measurement and are unique to each discipline. For example, the Foot is a unit of length. It can be further divided into smaller units, such as Inches.

There are different systems of measurements, each with its set of units. The two widely used systems are: (i) Metric system and (ii) The United States customary system

Most countries in the world use the metric system of measurement. However, the United States uses the US customary system derived from the English units system of measurement that was prevalent up to the early 19th century.

The following table will help you understand the different physical quantities and some standard units used to measure them.

Physical quantity	Metric system	The US customary system
Length Length describes how long a thing is from one end to the other 10mm = 1 cm 100 cm = 1 m 1000 m = 1 km 12 inches = 1 foot 3 feet = 1 yard 1760 yards = 1 mile	Millimeter (mm) It is used to measure very short lengths Example: The length of an eraser Centimeter(cm) Used to measure short lengths Example: Length of a table Meter(m) Used to measure long lengths Example: Length of a conference room Kilometer (km) Used to measure very long distances Example: Distance between two cities	Inch (in) It is used to measure small objects Example: The length of a book Foot (ft) Used to measure short distance and heights Example: Height of a building Yard (yd) It is bigger than a foot and used to measure larger distances Example: Length of a soccer field Mile (mi) Used to measure long distances Example: Distance between two cities

<p>Weight The amount of matter a thing consists of is its weight</p> <p>1000 mg = 1 gram 1000 g = 1 kg 16 ounces = 1 pound 2000 pound = 1 ton</p>	<p>Milligram (mg) Used to measure very light things Example: Weight of an eraser</p> <p>Gram (g) Used to measure small things Example: Potato</p> <p>Kilogram (kg) Used to measure heavy things Example: Body weight</p>	<p>Ounce (oz) Used to measure small quantities Example: Bread</p> <p>Pound (lb) Used to measure body weight</p> <p>Ton Used to measure very heavy things Example: Trucks</p>
<p>Volume Volume is the quantity a container can hold.</p> <p>1 cup = 8 fluid ounces 2 cups = 1 pint 2 pints = 1 quart 4 quarts = 1 gallon</p>	<p>Milliliter (ml) Used to measure very small quantities Examples: Medicine syrups</p> <p>Liter (l) Used to measure liquids Example: Juice, milk</p>	<p>Cup Pint Quart Gallon</p>

Write the answers to the following questions in the space provided.

1 What does measurement describe?

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2 What are the two most commonly used systems of measurement?

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3 What is length?

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4 What is weight?

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5 What is volume?

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6 $100 \text{ mm} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ cm}$

7 $12 \text{ inches} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ feet}$

8 $2 \text{ pints} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ quart}$

9 $\underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ pound} = 1 \text{ ton}$

10 $1 \text{ gram} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ mg}$

11 $1760 \text{ yards} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ mile}$

12 $1 \text{ yard} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ feet}$