



# Metric conversion chart

Most of the world uses the metric decimal system which is based on ten.

Length	
mm	millimetres
cm	centimetres
m	metres
km	kilometres
1cm = 10mm	1m = 100cm
1km = 1000m	

Mass	
g	grams
kg	kilograms
1kg = 1000g	1 tonne = 1000kg

Area	
mm <sup>2</sup>	square millimetres
cm <sup>2</sup>	square centimetres
m <sup>2</sup>	square metres
km <sup>2</sup>	square kilometres
ha	hectares
1ha = 10,000 square metres	
100mm <sup>2</sup> = 1cm <sup>2</sup>	100ha = 1km <sup>2</sup>

Volume and Capacity	
mL	millilitres
L	Litres
cm <sup>3</sup>	cubic centimetres
m <sup>3</sup>	cubic metres
1mL = 1cm <sup>3</sup> (water)	
1 cup = 250mL (in Australia)	
1L = 1000mL	
1000L = 1 kilolitre or 1m <sup>3</sup>	

**Units smaller than a metre have Latin prefixes:**

**Deci** – means one tenth (decimetre)

**Centi** – means one hundredth (centimetre)

**Milli** – means one thousandth (millimetre)

**Units larger than a metre have Greek prefixes:**

**Kilo** – means 1,000; a kilometre is 1,000 metres.

These prefixes help us to understand measurement facts and how to convert from one unit to another.



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