

METRIC SYSTEM QUICK REFERENCE

The International System of Units (SI)

COMMON PREFIXES

Prefix	Symbol	Multiplier
Kilo-	k	1,000
Hecto-	h	100
Deka-	da	10
(Base)	-	1
Deci-	d	0.1
Centi-	c	0.01
Milli-	m	0.001

BASE UNITS

Measure	Unit	Symbol
Length	Meter	m
Mass	Gram	g
Volume	Liter	L
Time	Second	s
Temp.	Celsius	C

LENGTH & DISTANCE

1 km = 1,000 m
1 m = 100 cm
1 cm = 10 mm

WEIGHT & MASS

1 kg = 1,000 g

1 g = 1,000 mg

1 metric ton = 1,000 kg

THE STAIRCASE METHOD

Move Decimal Right (Multiply by 10 per step down)

Kilo | Hecto | Deka | [Base] | Deci | Centi | Milli

Move Decimal Left (Divide by 10 per step up)

Educational Resource Metric System Overview