

Units of measurement

People in the US, and older people in Britain, do not usually use the metric units of measurement. Units such as **pounds**, **feet** and **gallons** are still used in general conversation in both the US and in Britain. In Britain it is the law that the metric measurements have to be used on anything that is sold but you will still see the old measurements as well.

These tables show the **approximate** equivalents between the commonest American/British and Metric measurements. There are some differences between the American and British measurements of volume. There are also some UK/US spelling differences.

	American/British	Metric
Length & Distance	1 inch	2.5 centimetres
	1 foot (= 12 inches)	30 centimetres
	1 yard (= 3 feet)	90 centimetres
	5 miles	8 kilometres(<i>UK</i>) kilometers(<i>US</i>)

Area	11 square feet	1 m ²
	5 acres	2 hectares
	1 square mile	250 hectares

Weight & Volume	1 ounce	30 grams
	1 pound (= 16 ounces)	450 grams
	(<i>UK</i>) 1 stone (= 14 pounds)	6.5 kilograms
	1 pint	(<i>UK</i>) 0.6 litres (<i>US</i>) 0.5 liters
	1 gallon (= 8 pints)	(<i>UK</i>) 4.5 litres (<i>US</i>) 3.5 liters

Temperature	Fahrenheit	Celsius
Ice	32°F	0°C
Hot day	80°F	25°C
Body temperature	98°F	37°C
Boiling water	212°F	100°C

Abbreviations

American/British		Metric	Metric
inch	in or "	centimetre	cm
foot	ft or '	(<i>UK</i>) metre (<i>US</i>) meter	m
mile	m	(<i>UK</i>) kilometre (<i>US</i>) kilometer	km
ounce	oz	hectare	ha
pound	lb	gram	g
pint	pt	kilogram	kg
gallon	gal	(<i>UK</i>) litre (<i>US</i>) liter	l