

Metric

Building Your Article · By Simon Townsend · 1 min read

Metric

You must use metric measure in your writing.

It's decades since Australia switched to metric. You should use only metric measurements. There are some exceptions such as sailing magazines that still like to write about 36 foot yachts and 22 fathoms down. If you feel readers need to also know the old imperial measure, then put the accurate imperial equivalent in brackets after the metric measurement, like this: The knife is 15cm (6 inches) long.

Conversion tables:

Symbol

When You Know

Multiply By

To Find

Symbol

Length

in

inches

25.4

millimetres

mm

ft

feet

0.305

metres

m

yd

yards

0.914

metres

m

mi

miles

1.61

kilometres

km

Area

in²

square inches

645.2

square millimetres

mm²

ft²

square feet

0.093

square metres

m²

yd²

square yard

0.836

square meters

m²

ac

acres

0.405

hectares

ha

mi²

square miles

2.59

square kilometers

km²

Volume

fl oz

fluid ounces

29.57

millilitres

mL

gal

gallons

3.785

litres

L

ft³

cubic feet

0.028

cubic metres

m³

yd³

cubic yards

0.765

cubic metres

m³

Mass

oz

ounces

28.35

grams

g

lb

pounds

0.454

kilograms

kg

T

short tons (2000 lb)

0.907

megagrams (or "metric ton")

Mg (or "t")

Temperature

oF

Fahrenheit

$(F-32) \times 5 / 9$

or

$(F-32) / 1.8$

Celsius

oC

Illumination

fc

foot-candles

10.76

lux

lx

fl

foot-Lamberts

3.426

candela/m²

cd/m²

FORCE and PRESSURE or STRESS

lbf

poundforce

4.45

newtons

N

lbf/in²

poundforce per square inch

6.89

kilopascals

kPa

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