

## Metric and Imperial Units of Measurement

Read the following description of imperial units:

There are **20** fluid ounces in a pint and **8** pints in a gallon.

There are **16** ounces in a pound, **14** pounds in a stone, **8** stone in a hundredweight and **20** hundredweight in a long ton.

There are **12** inches in a foot, **3** feet in a yard, **220** yards in a furlong and **8** furlongs in a mile.

Now read the metric units version:

There are **1000** millilitres in a litre.

There are **1000** grams in a kilogram and **1000** kilograms in a tonne.

There are **10** millimetres in a centimetre, **100** centimetres in a metre and **1000** metres in a kilometre.

Although we usually use metric units these days, many people still think in imperial units, and we still use the old system for measuring particular things.

**What do you think these people are measuring? Write your guess beside the speech bubbles.**

8 pounds 5 ounces!

I'll have a pint, please.

Must be about 6 foot 4.

It's another 7 miles, I think.

I'll have a quarter-pounder, please.

10 stone 6, if you must know.

### Useful Imperial to Metric Conversions:

1 pint $\approx$ <b>570</b> millilitres	1 ounce $\approx$ <b>30</b> grams	1 inch $\approx$ <b>2.5</b> centimetres
1 gallon $\approx$ <b>4.5</b> litres	1 pound $\approx$ <b>450</b> grams	1 foot $\approx$ <b>30</b> centimetres
		1 mile $\approx$ <b>1.6</b> kilometres

### Useful Metric to Imperial Conversions:

1 litre $\approx$ <b>1.75</b> pints	1 kilogram $\approx$ <b>2.2</b> pounds	1 metre $\approx$ <b>39</b> inches
		1 kilometre $\approx$ <b>0.6</b> miles

*(These aren't exact conversions, so we use the  $\approx$  (roughly equals) sign.)*

*You **do not** need to memorize any of these, but it's useful to know roughly how big each type of unit is. You **will** need to use the tables above to do conversions.*

**Using the conversions above, fill in the gaps in the sentences below:**

I'd like two pounds of ham, please. About \_\_\_\_\_ grams.

I need a 3-inch diameter bath plug. That'll be \_\_\_\_\_ centimetres.

My fuel tank holds 10 gallons of petrol, or \_\_\_\_\_ litres.

If you fly from Birmingham to London it's a trip of about 100 miles, which is the same as \_\_\_\_\_ kilometres.

My foot is actually about 1 foot long. That's \_\_\_\_\_ centimetres.

This cake recipe needs 6 ounces of flour. That's about \_\_\_\_\_ grams.

Our family uses 10 pints of milk a week. That's \_\_\_\_\_ litres.

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At a German pub, half a litre costs the same as a pint in England.  
**Which gives you the most for your money? How do you know?**