Measurements

Measurements are comparisons of properties against accepted standards, called units.

ENGLISH / US SYSTEM OF UNITS:

1 foot = 12 inches 1 yard = 3 feet 1 mile = 1760 yards

5280 feet = 1 mile

So what's the problem? It's a mess! Units do not relate to one another in a sane manner.

English units are nonstandard and difficult to use. Solution?

THE METRIC SYSTEM

All metric units are made up of COMBINATIONS of BASE UNITS!

Metric Base Units:

Length	meter	m
Mass	kilogram*	kg
Temperature	Kelvin	K
Time	second	s

*we usually treat the gram as if it's the base unit for mass!

- One meter is approximately 3.3 feet.
- One kilogram is approximately 2.2 pounds.

What about SIZE?

Metric units may be made larger or smaller by adding PREFIXES.

A few common metric prefixes:

mega-	10^{6}	M
kilo-	10^{3}	k
centi-	10^{-2}	c
milli-	10^{-3}	m
micro-	10^{-6}	μ

Bigger units

smaller units

MEMORIZE the common metric prefixes in yellow on PAGE 21 of your textbook!

Applying prefixes

1 _____ m = _____ m

1 cm = 10^{-2} m $\left(\frac{1}{100}\ m\right)$ $\frac{1}{10} \times \frac{1}{10}$

1 km = 10^{3} m $\left(1000\ m\right)$ $10 \times 10 \times 10$

Scaling units with metric prefixes ... examples

The distance between here and Columbia, SC is about 107,000 meters. What metric unit would be best suited for a distance like this?

$km = 10^3 \ (1000) \ m$

107 km

A piece of chalk is 0.080 meters long. What metric unit would be best suited for this length?

$cm = 10^{-2} \ m = \frac{1}{100} \ m$

8.0 cm

Derived Units

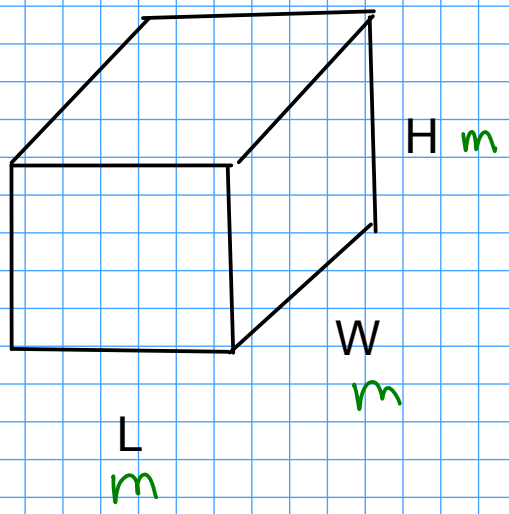
- are units that are made up of combinations of metric base units with each other and/or with prefixes

Two derived units are particularly important in introductory chemistry:

1) VOLUME

2) DENSITY

VOLUME



VOLUME = L × W × H

What are the units of volume in the metric system?

VOLUME = (m) × (m) × (m)

$= m^3$ "cubic meter"

One small problem: The cubic meter is rather large. It's too big for laboratory work.

Practical issues for volume units

- Cubic meters are too large! A meter is very similar in length to a yard, so a cubic meter is a cube that is approximately a yard long on each side!

A smaller unit for volume?

cubic decimeters!

(decimeter = 1/10 meter)

Cubic decimeters are given the name "liters", abbreviation "L"

In the lab, we typically need an even smaller unit than the liter, so we use milliliters (mL)

"cc"
cubic centimeter
=
milliliter

$1\ mL = 10^{-3}\ L$

-or-

$1000\ mL = 1\ L$

DENSITY

- Density is a measure of the concentration of matter; of how much matter is present in a given space

- Density is defined as the MASS per unit VOLUME, or ...

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{Volume}}$$

What are the metric units of DENSITY?

Mass unit = kg
Volume unit = cubix meter

$$\text{DENSITY} = \frac{kg}{m^3}$$

Again, these units are not convenient for lab work!

In the lab, we typically measure masses as grams and volumes as milliliters, so the density unit we will use most often is:

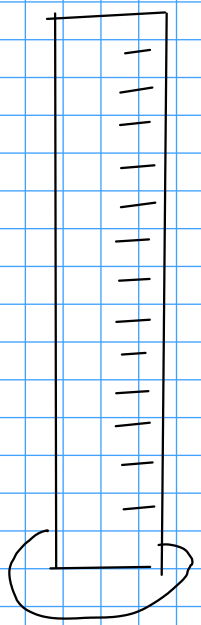
$$\frac{g}{mL}$$

A useful density to remember:

WATER at room temp: Density = 1 g/mL

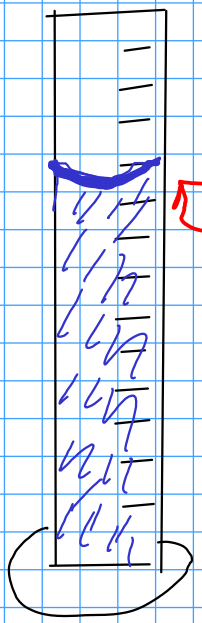
Measuring density

... of a liquid



1) Measure mass of empty cylinder

mass = 97.35 g



2) Fill cylinder and measure volume of liquid

volume = 25.3 mL

3) Measure mass of filled cylinder

mass = 130.55 g

4) Subtract to find mass of liquid

$$\begin{array}{r} 130.55\ \text{g} \\ -\ 97.35\ \text{g} \\ \hline 33.20\ \text{g} \end{array}$$

5) Density = mass liquid / volume liquid

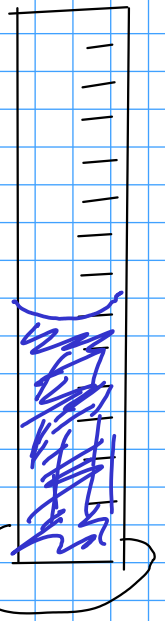
$$\text{Density} = \frac{33,20\ \text{g}}{25.3\ \text{mL}}$$

$$= 1.31\ \text{g/mL}$$

...of an object

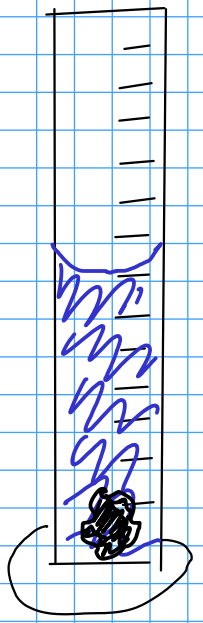
1) Measure mass of object

mass = 9.78 g



2) Partially fill cylinder with liquid, record volume.

volume = 25.0 mL



3) Put object into cylinder, record new volume

volume = 26.6 mL

4) Subtract to find volume of object

$$\begin{array}{r} 26.6\ \text{mL} \\ -\ 25.0\ \text{mL} \\ \hline 1.6\ \text{mL} \end{array}$$

5) Density = mass object / volume object

$$\text{Density} = \frac{9.78\ \text{g}}{1.6\ \text{mL}}$$

$$= 6.1\ \text{g/mL}$$

Converting from one unit to another

We will use the method of dimensional analysis, sometimes called the factor-label method.
... or, the "drag and drop" method!

Dimensional analysis uses conversion factors to change between one unit and another

What's a conversion factor? A simple equality.

Example

$$12\ \text{in} = 1\ \text{ft}$$

Conversion factors in metric

In the metric system, conversion factors between units may always be made from the metric prefixes!

For example, "kilo-" means 10^3

$$k = 10^3$$

so

$$km = 10^3 m$$

$$kg = 10^3 g$$

$$kL = 10^3 L$$

$$ks = 10^3 s$$

Just apply the prefix to the base unit!

How do we actually USE a conversion factor?

Convert 15.75 m to cm

$1\text{ cm} = 10^{-2}\text{ m}$

$$15.75\text{ m} \times \frac{1\text{ cm}}{10^{-2}\text{ m}} = 1575\text{ cm}$$

$\frac{1\text{ cm}}{10^{-2}\text{ m}}$ = 1

This fraction equals one, so multiplying by it does not change the VALUE of the number, only its UNITS! *

* Similar to...

If X = 2, then

$\frac{X}{2} = 1$

Convert 0.01893 kg to g

$1\text{ kg} = 10^{3}\text{ g}$

$$0.01893\text{ kg} \times \frac{10^{3}\text{ g}}{1\text{ kg}} = 18.93\text{ g}$$

DRAG AND DROP

- Drag the part of the factor that you want to cancel out to the BOTTOM.
- Then, drag the other half of the factor to the TOP