

TABLE 1 Derived Dimensions Expressed in Terms of Base Dimensions

QUANTITY	VARIABLE NAME	BASE DIMENSIONS
Area	A	$[L]^2$
Volume	V	$[L]^3$
Density	ρ	$[M] [L]^{-3}$
Force	F	$[M] [L] [t]^{-2}$
Pressure	P	$[M] [L]^{-1} [t]^{-2}$
Stress	σ	$[M] [L]^{-1} [t]^{-2}$
Energy	E	$[M] [L]^2 [t]^{-2}$
Work	W	$[M] [L]^2 [t]^{-2}$
Power	P	$[M] [L]^2 [t]^{-3}$
Mass flow rate	\dot{m}	$[M] [t]^{-1}$
Specific heat	c	$[L]^2 [t]^{-2} [T]^{-1}$
Dynamic viscosity	μ	$[M] [L]^{-1} [t]^{-1}$
Molar mass	M	$[M] [N]^{-1}$
Voltage	V	$[M] [L]^2 [t]^{-3} [I]^{-1}$
Resistance	R	$[M] [I]^{-2} [t]^{-3} [I]^{-2}$

TABLE 2 Base Dimensions and their SI Units

QUANTITY	UNIT	SYMBOL
Length	meter	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
Temperature	kelvin	K
Electric current	ampere	A
Amount of substance	mole	mol
Luminous intensity	candela	cd

TABLE 4 Derived Dimensions and SI Units with Specific Names

QUANTITY	SI UNIT	UNIT NAME	BASE UNITS
Frequency	Hz	hertz	s^{-1}
Force	N	newton	$kg \cdot m \cdot s^{-2}$
Pressure	Pa	pascal	$kg \cdot m^{-1} \cdot s^{-2}$
Stress	Pa	pascal	$kg \cdot m^{-1} \cdot s^{-2}$
Energy	J	joule	$kg \cdot m^2 \cdot s^{-2}$
Work	J	joule	$kg \cdot m^2 \cdot s^{-2}$
Heat	J	joule	$kg \cdot m^2 \cdot s^{-2}$
Power	W	watt	$kg \cdot m^2 \cdot s^{-3}$
Electric charge	C	coulomb	$A \cdot s$
Electric potential (voltage)	V	volt	$kg \cdot m^2 \cdot s^{-3} \cdot A^{-1}$
Electric resistance	Ω	ohm	$kg \cdot m^2 \cdot s^{-3} \cdot A^{-2}$
Magnetic flux	Wb	weber	$kg^{-1} \cdot m \cdot s^{-2} \cdot A^{-1}$
Luminous flux	lm	lumen	cd \cdot sr

TABLE 5 Derived Dimensions and SI Units

QUANTITY	SI UNITS
Acceleration	$m \cdot s^{-2}$
Angular acceleration	$rad \cdot s^{-2}$
Angular velocity	$rad \cdot s^{-1}$
Area	m^2
Concentration	$mol \cdot m^{-3}$
Density	$kg \cdot m^{-3}$
Electric field strength	$V \cdot m^{-1}$
Energy	$N \cdot m$
Entropy	$J \cdot K^{-1}$
Heat	J
Heat transfer	W
Magnetic field strength	$A \cdot m^{-1}$
Mass flow rate	$kg \cdot s^{-1}$
Moment of force	$N \cdot m$
Radiant intensity	$W \cdot sr^{-1}$
Specific energy	$J \cdot kg^{-1}$
Surface tension	$N \cdot m^{-1}$
Thermal conductivity	$W \cdot m^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$
Velocity	$m \cdot s^{-1}$
Viscosity, dynamic	$Pa \cdot s$
Viscosity, kinematic	$m^2 \cdot s^{-1}$
Volume	m^3
Volume flow rate	$m^3 \cdot s^{-1}$
Wavelength	m
Weight	N

TABLE 6 Standard Prefixes for SI Units

MULTIPLE	EXPONENTIAL FORM	PREFIX	PREFIX SYMBOL
1,000,000,000,000	10^{12}	tera	T
1,000,000,000	10^9	giga	G
1,000,000	10^6	mega	M
1,000	10^3	kilo	k
0.01	10^{-2}	centi	c
0.001	10^{-3}	milli	m
0.000 001	10^{-6}	micro	μ
0.000 000 001	10^{-9}	nano	n
0.000 000 000 001	10^{-12}	pico	p

TABLE 8 Base Dimensions and their English Units

QUANTITY	UNIT	SYMBOL
Length	foot	ft
Mass	slug ⁽¹⁾	slug
Time	second	s
Temperature	rankine	° R
Electric current	ampere ⁽²⁾	A
Amount of substance	mole	mol
Luminous intensity	candela ⁽²⁾	cd

(1) The unit pound-mass (lb_m) is also used. $1 \text{ slug} = 32.2 \text{ lb}_m$.

(2) There are no English units for electrical current and luminous intensity. The SI units are given here for completeness only.

TABLE 9 Derived Dimensions and English Units

QUANTITY	ENGLISH UNITS
Acceleration	$\text{ft} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$
Angular acceleration	$\text{rad} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$
Angular velocity	$\text{rad} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
Area	ft^2
Concentration	$\text{mol} \cdot \text{ft}^{-3}$
Density	$\text{slug} \cdot \text{ft}^{-3}$
Electric field strength	$\text{V} \cdot \text{ft}^{-1}$
Energy	Btu
Entropy	$\text{Btu} \cdot \text{slug}^{-1} \cdot \text{°R}^{-1}$
Force	lb_f
Heat	Btu
Heat transfer	$\text{Btu} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
Magnetic field strength	$\text{A} \cdot \text{ft}^{-1}$
Mass flow rate	$\text{slug} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
Moment of force	$\text{lb}_f \cdot \text{ft}$
Radiant intensity	$\text{Btu} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1}$
Specific energy	$\text{Btu} \cdot \text{slug}^{-1}$
Surface tension	$\text{lb}_f \cdot \text{ft}^{-1}$
Thermal conductivity	$\text{Btu} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{ft}^{-1} \cdot \text{R}$
Velocity	$\text{ft} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
Viscosity, dynamic	$\text{slug} \cdot \text{ft}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
Viscosity, kinematic	$\text{ft}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
Volume	ft^3
Volume flow rate	$\text{ft}^3 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
Wavelength	ft

TABLE 10 Non-SI Units Commonly Used in the United States

QUANTITY	UNIT NAME	SYMBOL	SI EQUIVALENT
Length	inch	in	$0.0254 \text{ m}^{(1)}$
	yard	yd	0.9144 m (36 in)
Mass	metric ton	t	1000 kg
	short ton	t	907.18 kg (2000 lb_m)
Time	minute	min	60 s
	hour	h	3600 s
	day	d	$86,400 \text{ s}$
Plane angle	degree	°	$\pi/180 \text{ rad}$
	minute	'	$\pi/10,800 \text{ rad}$
	second	"	$\pi/648,000 \text{ rad}$
Volume	liter	L	10^{-3} m^3
Land area	hectare	ha	10^4 m^2
Energy	electron-volt	eV	$1.602177 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$

(1) Exact conversion.

Sources

K. D. Hagan. "Dimensions and Units." *Introduction to Engineering Analysis, 2/e* — 0-13-145332-7. ESource/Pearson Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ, 2000.

R. M. Felder; R. W. Rousseau. *Elementary Principles of Chemical Engineering, 3rd Ed.* John Wiley & Sons, Inc.: New York, 2000.

TABLE 11 Some Common SI-to-English Unit Conversions

QUANTITY	UNIT CONVERSION
Acceleration	$1 \text{ m/s}^2 = 3.2808 \text{ ft/s}^2$
Area	$1 \text{ m}^2 = 10.7636 \text{ ft}^2 = 1550 \text{ in}^2$
Density	$1 \text{ kg/m}^3 = 0.06243 \text{ lb}_m/\text{ft}^3$
Energy, work, heat	$1055.06 \text{ J} = 1 \text{ Btu} = 252 \text{ cal}$
Force	$1 \text{ N} = 0.22481 \text{ lb}_f$
Length	$1 \text{ m} = 3.2808 \text{ ft} = 39.370 \text{ in}$ $0.0254 \text{ m} = 1 \text{ in}^{(1)}$
Mass	$1 \text{ kg} = 2.20462 \text{ lb}_m = 0.06852 \text{ slug}$
Power	$1 \text{ W} = 3.4121 \text{ Btu/h}$ $745.7 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ hp}$
Pressure	$1 \text{ kPa} = 20.8855 \text{ lb}_f/\text{ft}^2 = 0.14504 \text{ lb}_f/\text{in}^2$
Specific heat	$1 \text{ kJ/kg} \cdot ^\circ\text{C} = 0.2388 \text{ Btu/lb}_m \cdot ^\circ\text{F}$
Temperature	$T(\text{K}) = T(^{\circ}\text{C}) + 273.16 =$ $T(^{\circ}\text{R})/1.8 = [T(^{\circ}\text{F}) + 459.67]/1.8$
Velocity	$1 \text{ m/s} = 2.2369 \text{ mi/h}$

(1) Exact conversion

FACTORS FOR UNIT CONVERSIONS

Quantity	Equivalent Values
Mass	$1 \text{ kg} = 1000 \text{ g} = 0.001 \text{ metric ton} = 2.20462 \text{ lb}_m = 35.27392 \text{ oz}$ $1 \text{ lb}_m = 16 \text{ oz} = 5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ ton} = 453.593 \text{ g} = 0.453593 \text{ kg}$
Length	$1 \text{ m} = 100 \text{ cm} = 1000 \text{ mm} = 10^6 \text{ microns } (\mu\text{m}) = 10^{10} \text{ angstroms } (\text{\AA})$ $= 39.37 \text{ in.} = 3.2808 \text{ ft} = 1.0936 \text{ yd} = 0.0006214 \text{ mile}$ $1 \text{ ft} = 12 \text{ in.} = 1/3 \text{ yd} = 0.3048 \text{ m} = 30.48 \text{ cm}$
Volume	$1 \text{ m}^3 = 1000 \text{ L} = 10^6 \text{ cm}^3 = 10^6 \text{ mL}$ $= 35.3145 \text{ ft}^3 = 220.83 \text{ imperial gallons} = 264.17 \text{ gal}$ $= 1056.68 \text{ qt}$ $1 \text{ ft}^3 = 1728 \text{ in.}^3 = 7.4805 \text{ gal} = 0.028317 \text{ m}^3 = 28.317 \text{ L}$ $= 28,317 \text{ cm}^3$
Force	$1 \text{ N} = 1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}^2 = 10^5 \text{ dynes} = 10^5 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm/s}^2 = 0.22481 \text{ lb}_f$ $1 \text{ lb}_f = 32.174 \text{ lb}_m \cdot \text{ft/s}^2 = 4.4482 \text{ N} = 4.4482 \times 10^5 \text{ dynes}$
Pressure	$1 \text{ atm} = 1.01325 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2 (\text{Pa}) = 101.325 \text{ kPa} = 1.01325 \text{ bar}$ $= 1.01325 \times 10^6 \text{ dynes/cm}^2$ $= 760 \text{ mm Hg at } 0^\circ\text{C} (\text{torr}) = 10.333 \text{ m H}_2\text{O at } 4^\circ\text{C}$ $= 14.696 \text{ lb}_f/\text{in.}^2 (\text{psi}) = 33.9 \text{ ft H}_2\text{O at } 4^\circ\text{C}$ $= 29.921 \text{ in. Hg at } 0^\circ\text{C}$
Energy	$1 \text{ J} = 1 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} = 10^7 \text{ ergs} = 10^7 \text{ dyne} \cdot \text{cm}$ $= 2.778 \times 10^{-7} \text{ kW} \cdot \text{h} = 0.23901 \text{ cal}$ $= 0.7376 \text{ ft} \cdot \text{lb}_f = 9.486 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Btu}$
Power	$1 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ J/s} = 0.23901 \text{ cal/s} = 0.7376 \text{ ft} \cdot \text{lb}_f/\text{s} = 9.486 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Btu/s}$ $= 1.341 \times 10^{-3} \text{ hp}$

Example: The factor to convert grams to lb_m is $\left(\frac{2.20462 \text{ lb}_m}{1000 \text{ g}}\right)$.