

The English system

Out of the welter of [medieval](#) weights and measures emerged several national systems, reformed and reorganized many times over the centuries; ultimately nearly all of these systems were replaced by the [metric system](#). In Britain and in its [American colonies](#), however, the altered medieval system survived.

British Imperial and U.S. Customary systems of weights and measures

unit	abbreviation or symbol	equivalents in other units of same system	metric equivalent
Weight			
Avoirdupois*	avdp		
*The U.S. uses avoirdupois units as the common system of measuring weight.			
ton			
short ton		20 short hundredweight, or 2,000 pounds	0.907 metric ton
long ton		20 long hundredweight, or 2,240 pounds	1.016 metric tons
hundredweight	cwt		
short hundredweight		100 pounds, or 0.05 short ton	45.359 kilograms
long hundredweight		112 pounds, or 0.05 long ton	50.802 kilograms
pound	lb, lb avdp, or #	16 ounces, or 7,000 grains	0.454 kilogram
ounce	oz, or oz avdp	16 drams, 437.5 grains, or 0.0625 pound	28.350 grams
dram	dr, or dr avdp	27.344 grains, or 0.0625 ounce	1.772 grams
grain	gr	0.037 dram, or 0.002286 ounce	0.0648 gram
stone	st	0.14 short hundredweight, or 14 pounds	6.35 kilograms
Troy			
pound	lb t	12 ounces, 240 pennyweight, or 5,760 grains	0.373 kilogram

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Weight			
Avoirdupois*			
	avdp		
ounce	oz t	20 pennyweight, 480 grains, or 0.083 pound	31.103 grams
pennyweight	dwt, or pwt	24 grains, or 0.05 ounce	1.555 grams
grain	gr	0.042 pennyweight, or 0.002083 ounce	0.0648 gram
Apothecaries'			
pound	lb ap	12 ounces, or 5,760 grains	0.373 kilogram
ounce	oz ap	8 drams, 480 grains, or 0.083 pound	31.103 grams
dram	dr ap	3 scruples, or 60 grains	3.888 grams
scruple	s ap	20 grains, or 0.333 dram	1.296 grams
grain	gr	0.05 scruple, 0.002083 ounce, or 0.0166 dram	0.0648 gram
Capacity			
U.S. liquid measures			
gallon	gal	4 quarts	3.785 litres
quart	qt	2 pints	0.946 litre
pint	pt	4 gills	0.473 litre
gill	gi	4 fluid ounces	118.294 millilitres
fluid ounce	fl oz	8 fluid drams	29.573 millilitres
fluid dram	fl dr	60 minims	3.697 millilitres
minim	min	$\frac{1}{60}$ fluid dram	0.061610 millilitre
U.S. dry measures			
bushel	bu	4 pecks	35.239 litres

British Imperial and U.S. Customary systems of weights and measures

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Weight			
Avoirdupois*	avdp		
peck	pk	8 quarts	8.810 litres
quart	qt	2 pints	1.101 litres
pint	pt	½ quart	0.551 litre
British liquid and dry measures			
bushel	bu	4 pecks	0.036 cubic metre
peck	pk	2 gallons	0.0091 cubic metre
gallon	gal	4 quarts	4.546 litres
quart	qt	2 pints	1.136 litres
pint	pt	4 gills	568.26 cubic centimetres
gill	gi	5 fluid ounces	142.066 cubic centimetres
fluid ounce	fl oz	8 fluid drams	28.412 cubic centimetres
fluid dram	fl dr	60 minims	3.5516 cubic centimetres
minim	min	1/60 fluid dram	0.059194 cubic centimetre
Length			
nautical mile	nmi	6,076 feet, or 1.151 miles	1,852 metres
mile	mi	5,280 feet, 1,760 yards, or 320 rods	1,609 metres, or 1.609 kilometres
furlong	fur	660 feet, 220 yards, or 1/8 mile	201 metres
rod	rd	5.50 yards, or 16.5 feet	5.029 metres
fathom	fth	6 feet, or 72 inches	1.829 metres
yard	yd	3 feet, or 36 inches	0.9144 metre

British Imperial and U.S. Customary systems of weights and measures

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Weight			
Avoirdupois*			
	avdp		
foot	ft, or '	12 inches, or 0.333 yard	30.48 centimetres
inch	in, or "	0.083 foot, or 0.028 yard	2.54 centimetres
Area			
square mile	sq mi, or mi ²	640 acres, or 102,400 square rods	2.590 square kilometres
acre		4,840 square yards, or 43,560 square feet	0.405 hectare, or 4,047 square metres
square rod	sq rd, or rd ²	30.25 square yards, or 0.00625 acre	25.293 square metres
square yard	sq yd, or yd ²	1,296 square inches, or 9 square feet	0.836 square metre
square foot	sq ft, or ft ²	144 square inches, or 0.111 square yard	0.093 square metre
square inch	sq in, or in ²	0.0069 square foot, or 0.00077 square yard	6.452 square centimetres
Volume			
cubic yard	cu yd, or yd ³	27 cubic feet, or 46,656 cubic inches	0.765 cubic metre
cubic foot	cu ft, or ft ³	1,728 cubic inches, or 0.0370 cubic yard	0.028 cubic metre
cubic inch	cu in, or in ³	0.00058 cubic foot, or 0.000021 cubic yard	16.387 cubic centimetres
acre-foot	ac ft	43,560 cubic feet, or 1,613 cubic yards	1,233 cubic metres
board foot	bd ft	144 cubic inches, or 1/12 cubic foot	2.36 litres
cord	cd	128 cubic feet	3.62 cubic metres