

## Scale of things

Name	Symbol	Value	Equivalence	Illustration
terametre	Tm	10 <sup>12</sup>	1 terametre = 1000 000 000 000 metres = 1 trillion metres	One light-hour (the distance travelled by light in one hour) is about 1079 million km or 1.08 Tm
gigametre	Gm	109	1 gigametre = 1000 000 000 metres = 1 billion metres	The diameter of the Sun is about 1390 000 km or 1.39 Gm
megametre	Mm	10 <sup>6</sup>	1 megametre = 1000 000 metres = 1 million metres	Approximate distance from Amsterdam (NL) to Bordeaux (FR)
kilometre	km	10 <sup>3</sup>	1 kilometre = 1000 metres = 1 thousand metres	Angel Falls in Venezuela, the highest waterfalls in the world at a height of about 980 m
hectometre	hm	10 <sup>2</sup>	1 hectometre = 100 metres = 1 hundred metres	Length of a football field
decametre	dam	10	1 decametre = 10 metres = ten metres	Length of an orca (killer whale)
metre	m	1		Length of a royal python



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decimetre	dm	10 <sup>-1</sup>	1 decimetre = 0.1 metre = 1 tenth of a metre		Length of a white mouse
centimetre	cm	10 <sup>-2</sup>	1 centimetre = 0.01 metre = 1 hundredth of a meter		Width of a finger nail
millimetre	mm	10 <sup>-3</sup>	1 millimetre = 0.001 metre = 1 thousandth of a metre		Pet flea
micrometre (or micron)	μm	10 <sup>-6</sup>	1 micrometre = 0.000 001 metre = 1 millionth of a metre	600	Bacteria
nanometre	nm	10 <sup>-9</sup>	1 nanometre = 0.000 000 001 metre = 1 billionth of a metre		Buckyball (carbon 60 molecule) or 100 000 times smaller than the width of a human hair
picometre	pm	10 <sup>-12</sup>	1 picometre = 0.000 000 000 001 metre = 1 trillionth of a metre		Atom diameters are in the range from 30 to 600 pm