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Length

Length may demonstrate an object's or place's:

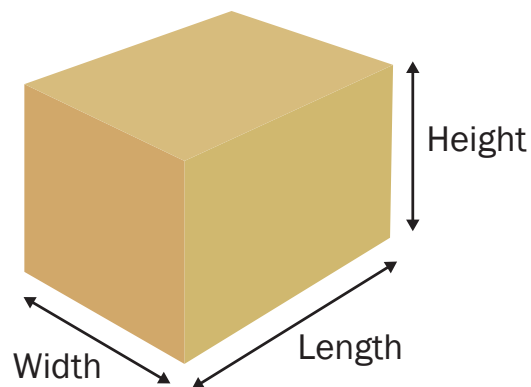
- length
- width
- height
- depth.

Depth and height are often the same, but you refer to each in relation to different things. For instance, you talk about the depth of the water and the height of a box.

You usually measure length in:



- kilometres (km)
- metres (m)
- centimetres (cm)
- millimetres (mm).

Kilometres are the longest common unit of measurement, followed by metres, centimetres and millimetres.



Units for measuring volume

The table below provides some more information about the different units used to measure volume.

Unit	Abbreviation	About the unit
millilitre	mL or ml	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures volume – usually up to 1,000 millilitres (or 1 L). A teaspoon holds about 5 mL. A cup holds about 250 mL. This syringe has the capacity to hold up to 2 millilitres. Millilitres are used to measure small amounts of liquid, such as liquid fertiliser, medicine and canned drinks. 
litres	L or l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures volume – usually up to 1,000 litres (L). A litre is the size of a container of UHT milk or bleach. This bottle has the capacity to hold up to 1 litre. Litres are used to measure larger quantities of liquids, such as petrol, paint and large buckets. 

**Stopwatch**

A stopwatch is used to measure things that happen over a small period of time, such as a running race. Today, stopwatches are usually digital.

**Calendar**






Calendars are used to show the days, weeks and months of the year. The calendar also shows you which year it is, and some calendars include the dates for multiple years and even decades.



Day 2

On your second day working at Murray's General Store, your supervisor, Molly, gives you the recipe for coleslaw and shows you how to make it for customers to buy. To make coleslaw, you need to use the right measuring equipment. Molly shows you where the equipment is and tells you how much coleslaw you need to make.

Here is what 18 divided into 3 equal lots looks like.

18	÷	3			=	6
						

You may need to use division when you do calculations with weight, length, volume, time and temperature.

How to write a division sum

When you write a division sum, it's important to set it out correctly in order to make an accurate calculation.

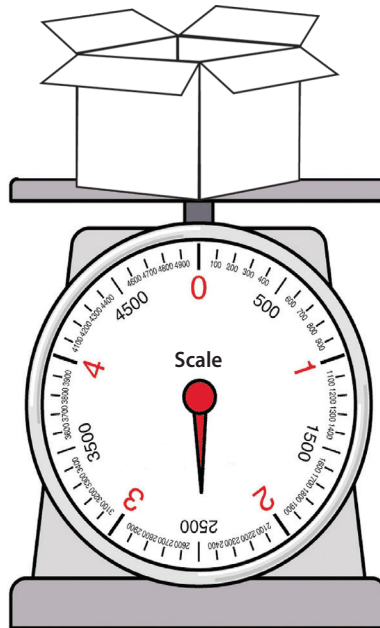
For example, if you want to divide 12.55 metres into 5 equal parts, you might set the division sum out like this:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 12.55 \\
 \div \quad 5 \\
 \hline
 2.51
 \end{array}$$

Put in the decimal point
when you get to it.

The digital scale you usually use to weigh parcels has broken, and you need to use the analogue scales instead.

How much does the parcel below weigh? _____



Now use a set of scales to measure an object of your choice. Make sure you weigh it accurately.

What did you weigh? _____

What type of scales did you use? _____

How much did it weigh? _____

Dividing

If you want to use a calculator to divide 12.55 metres into 5 equal parts , you would press the buttons in the following order:

1	2	.	5	5	÷	5	=
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

If you have done this correctly, the following answer will appear on the screen:

2.51

12.55 metres divided by 5 is 2.51 metres.

Formal and informal maths language

Sometimes, you will need to understand formal maths language to read, write or discuss numbers and calculations (e.g., plus, subtract, multiply, divide). Other times, you can use informal language (e.g. total, from, lots of, into). You will also need to understand formal maths symbols (e.g. +, −, ×, ÷, %). You learnt about these earlier on Day 2. On Day 1, you also learnt about abbreviations for units of measurement like ‘g’ for grams and ‘L’ for litres.

Depending on where you work, there may be formal words related to the maths that you might need to learn and use. For example, at Murray’s General Store, you have to accurately record the temperature of the coolroom.

Formal language is usually more precise. In this example, it is needed to make sure the measurements and calculations are precise and accurate. When recording the information, you must use the correct language to ensure other workers can understand what is being communicated.

In some workplaces, informal maths language may be used to record information or talk about measurements and calculations. Informal maths language is more casual and friendly; it may also be less precise. Informal maths language is more likely to be used when you talk to someone casually about a topic that concerns numbers, measurements and calculations.



What has happened on Day 2

On your second work day at Murray's General Store, you have learned about:

- calculations using +, −, x and ÷.
- solving a numerical problem
- estimating
- measuring
- different ways of making calculations including using a calculator
- checking measurements
- recording results
- using formal and informal maths language to communicate about measurement.

What you have learned

Well done. Since you started working at Murray's General Store, you have learned about:

- measuring length, weight, volume, temperature and time
- units of measurements
- measuring equipment
- choosing the right equipment
- calculations using +, −, x and ÷
- solving a numerical problem with measurement
- estimating
- measuring
- different ways of making calculations, including how to use a calculator
- checking measurements and calculations
- recording results
- using formal and informal maths language to communicate about measurement.