

The freezing point of water

In a weather forecast, temperatures are given in **degrees Celsius**. Sometimes temperatures are called degrees **centigrade**, which is the same scale.

A short hand can be used for writing temperatures. You use the degree sign ° and **C** for Celsius. For example, you write the temperature 8 degrees Celsius as **8°C**.

When water turns to ice it **freezes**. The temperature water freezes at is **zero degrees Celsius**, that's 0°C. Here are some other common temperatures:



Water freezes at 0°C



Fridges run at 5°C

The average temperature of the human body is 37°C



Water boils at 100°C



Water freezes at 0°C

Below and above freezing

Negative temperatures are called **below freezing** and positive temperatures are **above freezing**.



On the weather map it shows that:

In Newcastle it is 1 which is 1 degree Celsius, 1°C
1 degree above freezing

In Glasgow it is - 4 which is negative 4 degrees Celsius, -4°C
4 degrees below freezing

So on this map it's colder in Glasgow than in Newcastle.