



Measuring distance and speed

If you're measuring distance then you're likely to be measuring longer lengths - for example, how far it is between two towns.

Road signs in the UK show distances in **miles**. Miles are part of the **imperial** measuring system.

This road sign tells drivers that Sheffield is 32 miles away and Leeds is 59 miles away.



Traffic speed limits in the UK are set using **miles per hour**.

This sign tells drivers that the speed limit is 30 miles per hour (30 mph).

As a rough guide, a mile is about 15 to 20 minutes' walk.

Metric measure

In many other countries, distance on road signs is measured in **kilometres**.

A kilometre is a unit of **metric** measure and:

- it can be shortened to **km**
- is the same as 1,000 metres (1,000 m)
- is about 10 minutes' walk
- is just over half a mile