



Using maps and reading distances

If you need to know the distance between two places then you're likely to use either **miles** or **kilometres** as the units of measurement. All road signs in the UK show distances in miles and speed limits in **miles per hour** (mph). But in many other countries distances and speed limits are given in **kilometres**. Remember that:

- miles are **imperial** units of measurement
- kilometres are **metric** units of measurement

Follow the instructions below to record distances between places that are familiar to you:

1. Type this address into your computer's browser: <http://maps.google.co.uk>
2. Type in the postcode of where you live, work or study in the box marked '**Search Maps**'. A map will be displayed showing the local area in detail.
3. Click on '**From here**' and type in the postcode of your destination (eg this could be your home, a friend's home, your work address or anywhere else that's familiar to you).
4. The distance between the two places will then be shown on the left-hand side of the page. It will also give you an idea of how long the journey will take if you're driving.
5. Experiment with different journeys and record your results in the table below. Make sure you record whether the distances are in **miles** or **kilometres**.

Distances of journeys			
From	To	Distance	Estimated driving time

What is the difference between the longest and shortest distances you recorded?