



Measuring lengths in standard metric units

Sometimes you need to measure things accurately. For example:



Measuring a room for a new carpet.



Drawing a plan to fit a new kitchen.

In the examples above it's really important that you take exact measurements - otherwise you might order the wrong amount of carpet or end up with kitchen units that don't fit!

When it's important to be accurate, we usually record the length, height or width of things using standard units of metric measurement. The most commonly used metric units of length are the **millimetre**, **centimetre** and **metre**.

Unit of metric measure	Facts
millimetre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the word millimetre can be shortened to mma millimetre is about the size of a needlepointthere are 10 millimetres in a centimetre and 1,000 millimetres in a metre
centimetre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the word centimetre can be shortened to cma centimetre is about the width of your little fingera centimetre is the same as 10 millimetres
metre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the word metre can be shortened to ma metre is roughly the length of your stridea metre is the same as 1,000 millimetres

Remember

- 10 mm = 1 cm
- 1,000 mm = 1 m