



What is capacity?

Capacity is the measure of how much space there is available to hold something.



For example, we talk about the capacity of:

- a jug
- a petrol tank
- a bucket
- a swimming pool

Capacity is the amount a container can hold.

What units do we use to measure capacity?

We usually use metric units to measure capacity. These are **millilitres** and **litres**.
Millilitre means **one thousandth** of a litre. There are one thousand millilitres in a litre.
Millilitre can be shortened to **ml**. Litre can be shortened to **l**.

1,000 millilitres = 1 litre

1,000 ml = 1 l

You can find lots of examples of a litre when you go shopping. For example:



A litre of cola



A litre of ice cream



A litre of apple juice

We use millilitres to measure smaller amounts. For example:



340 ml bottle of water



200 ml cup of tea



350 ml can of beer