



## 12 and 24 hour times

Look at the time on this digital clock.



We can tell it's evening, but how do we know what the hour is?

The clock says 20 hours and 27 minutes. To change this time to the 12 hour clock take away 12 from the hours:  $20 - 12 = 8$

So we know that it's something past 8 at night. The number after the colon (:) gives us the minutes. So it's 27 minutes past 8.

So **20.27** is the same as **8.27 pm**.

In the 24 hour clock the hours keep on going up from 12 to 13, then 14 and so on. In the 12 hour clock they go from 11 to 12 then start again back from 1, 2, 3 and so on.

Although in the UK we tend to use a mixture of the 12 and 24 hour clock, in many European countries it is usual to only use the 24 hour clock.

12 hour clock	24 hour clock		12 hour clock	24 hour clock
12 pm (noon)	12.00		12 am (midnight)	00.00
1 pm	13.00		1 am	01.00
2 pm	14.00		2 am	02.00
3 pm	15.00		3 am	03.00
4 pm	16.00		4 am	04.00
5 pm	17.00		5 am	05.00
6 pm (evening)	18.00		6 am	06.00
7 pm	19.00		7 am	07.00
8 pm	20.00		8 am (morning)	08.00
9 pm	21.00		9 am	09.00
10 pm (night)	22.00		10 am	10.00
11 pm	23.00		11 am	11.00