

Table 4. SI Metric Unit Prefixes

Metric System Prefixes				
<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Factor</u>	<u>Ordinary Notation</u>	<u>U.S. Name</u>
yotta	Y	10 ²⁴	1 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	septillion
zetta	Z	10 ²¹	1 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	sextillion
exa	E	10 ¹⁸	1 000 000 000 000 000 000	quintillion
peta	P	10 ¹⁵	1 000 000 000 000 000	quadrillion
tera	T	10 ¹²	1 000 000 000 000	trillion
giga	G	10 ⁹	1 000 000 000	billion
mega	M	10 ⁶	1 000 000	million
kilo	k	10 ³	1 000	thousand
hecto	h	10 ²	100	hundred
deka	da	10 ¹	10	ten
		10 ⁰	1	one
deci	d	10 ⁻¹	0.1	tenth
centi	c	10 ⁻²	0.01	hundredth
milli	m	10 ⁻³	0.001	thousandth
micro	μ	10 ⁻⁶	0.000 001	millionth
nano	n	10 ⁻⁹	0.000 000 001	billionth
pico	p	10 ⁻¹²	0.000 000 000 001	trillionth
femto	f	10 ⁻¹⁵	0.000 000 000 000 001	quadrillionth
atto	a	10 ⁻¹⁸	0.000 000 000 000 000 001	quintillionth
zepto	z	10 ⁻²¹	0.000 000 000 000 000 000 001	sextillionth
yocto	y	10 ⁻²⁴	0.000 000 000 000 000 000 000 001	septillionth

Etymologies

<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Pronunciation</u>	<u>Origin</u>
yotta	YOTE-uh or YOTT-uh	Latin: "eight" [(10 ³) ⁸]
zetta	ZETT-uh	Latin: "seven" [(10 ³) ⁷]
exa	EX-uh	Greek: "six" [(10 ³) ⁶]
peta	PET-uh	Greek: "five" [(10 ³) ⁵]
tera	TAIR-uh	Greek: "monster"
giga	JIG-uh or GIG-uh	Greek: "giant"
mega	MEG-uh	Greek: "big"
kilo	KILL-oh	Greek: "thousand"
hecto	HECK-toe	Greek: "hundred"
deka	DECK-uh	Greek: "ten"
deci	DESS-ih	Latin: "tenth"
centi	SENT-ih	Latin: "hundredth"
milli	MILL-ih	Latin: "thousandth"
micro	MIKE-roe	Greek: "small"
nano	NAN-oh	Greek: "dwarf"
pico	PEEK-oh	Spanish: "tiny bit"
femto	FEM-toe	Dano-Norwegian: "fifteen"
atto	AT-toe	Dano-Norwegian: "eighteen"
zepto	ZEP-toe	Latin: "seven" [(10 ³) ⁷]
yocto	YOCK-toe	Latin: "eight" [(10 ³) ⁸]

[Developed by David Bernklau, Certified Metrication Specialist]