

The Metric System Contracted  
 by Charles Scamahorn

Scale \ Quality	Mass	Length	Volume	Time	Velocity	Temperature	
Metric word	gram	meter	liter	second	meter per second	Degree Celsius	
Metric symbol	g	m	l	s	m/s	C	
Metric contraction and pronunciation as in	ger tiger	met helmet	lit sunlit	sec second	metpes met pees	Cel	
P - Peta +15	Pa pa	Pager	Pamet	Palit	Pasec	Pametpes	Pacel
T - Tera +12	Te tee	Teger	Temet	Telit	Tesec	Temetpes	Tecel
G - Giga + 9	Gi git	Giger	Gimet	Gilit	Gisec	Gimetpes	Gicel
M - Mega + 6	Ma ma	Mager	Mamet	Malit	Masec	Mametpes	Macel
K - Kila + 3	Ki kite	Kiger	Kimet	Kilit	Kisec	Kimetpes	Kicel
H - Hecta + 2	He heet	Heger	Hemet	Helit	Hesec	Hemetpes	Hecel
Da- Deka + 1	Da dam	Dager	Damet	Dalit	Dasec	Dametpes	Dacel
	ger	met	lit	sec	metpes	cel	
d - deci - 1	de dead	deger	demet	delit	desec	demetpes	decel
c - centi - 2	ce cent	ceger	cemet	celit	cesec	cemetpes	cecel
m - milli - 3	me meet	meger	memet	melit	mesec	memetpes	mecel
u - micro - 6	mo mote	moger	momet	molit	mosec	mometpes	mocel
n - nano - 9	na nat	nager	namet	nalit	nasec	nametpes	nacel
p - pico - 12	pi pie	piger	pimet	pilit	pisec	pimetpes	picel
f - femto - 15	fe fess	feger	femet	felit	fesec	femetpes	fecel

Pronunciation guide - The US Metric Association says, "In a strict sense, spelling and pronunciation [of metric terms] are matters of language and are not set by the international standards that define SI." The contracted words in the chart above have been adjusted for maximum differentiation from the other words. Therefore the contracted words must be spelled and pronounced consistently as shown above because the redundancy inherent in the original longer words has been removed. The set of contracted words was derived from the preexisting words and carries all of the meaning of those longer words. The contracted words are formed from the first letter of the scale word followed by one of the vowels that usually follows it. The second portion of the contracted word is formed by the same rule but has an additional final letter added. The same method is used when additional terms are added as in Kilometers per second becoming Kimetpes. A term in common usage is kilometers per hour but his becomes nonstandard and silly when the scaling terms are added. Such as millikilometers per hour. In such unwieldy cases a wholly new term for contraction would be better such as Kiper.