

Conversion Factors for SI Units

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*"Right. So I reckon the supernova would seem about as bright as the sun does from the earth, if the supernova were viewed from a distance of roughly one parsec."
"What the devil is a parsec?" broke in Cameron.
The Inferno, Fred Hoyle*

The International System of Units (SI) refers to the standardized units of weights, measures, and other quantities used throughout the world. Some U.S. textbooks use Imperial units. The following conversion table may be useful.

To convert from	Multiply by	To get unit
inches	2.54	centimeters (cm)
feet	0.3048	meters (m)
yards	0.9144	meters (m)
miles	1.6093	kilometers (km)
miles ²	2.59	km ²
ounces	28.35	grams (g)
pounds	0.4536	kilograms (kg)
tons	1016	kilograms (kg)

Temperature is in kelvins (K), degrees Fahrenheit (°F), or degrees Celsius (°C). These are related as follows:

$$T = (5/9)(TF + 459.67)$$

$$T = TC + 273.15$$

$$TC = (5/9)(TF - 32)$$

where T is in kelvins, TF is in °F, and TC is in °C.

Note: On the absolute temperature scale, it is correct to use kelvins (symbol K) to specify temperature but not "degrees Kelvin" (symbol °K), which became obsolete by international agreement in 1967.