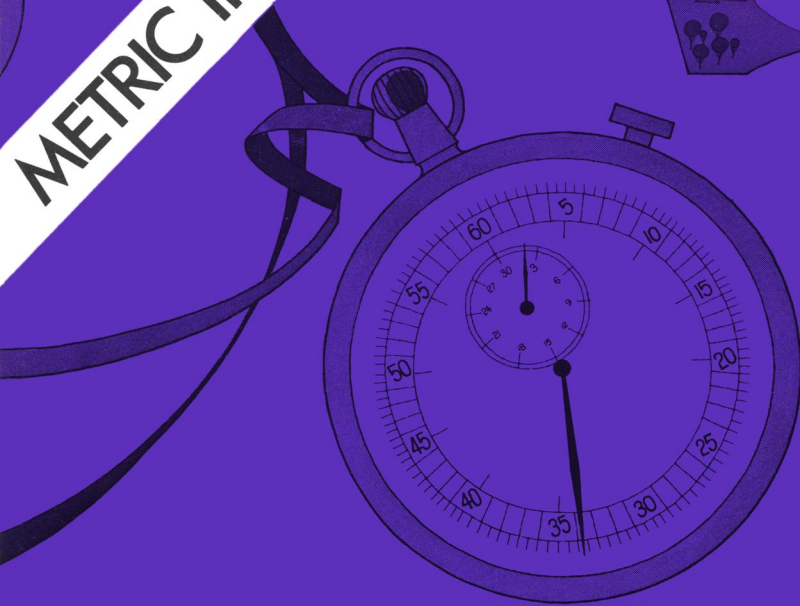


METRIC INFORMATION

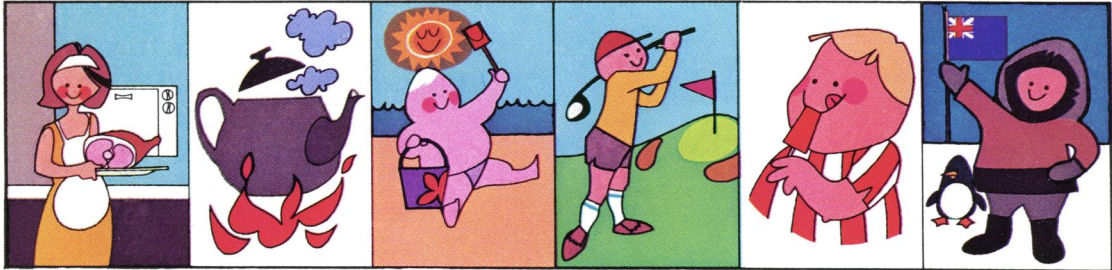


THINK METRIC—IT'S EASY

HOW HOT-HOW COLD?

TEMPERATURE

The Celsius scale has 100 equal divisions between 0°C, the freezing point of water, and 100°C, the boiling point of water



180°-190°C to cook a roast

100°C boiling point

30°-40°C hot to very hot

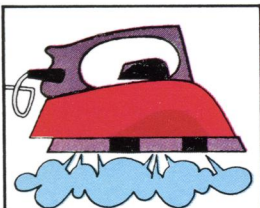
20°-30°C mild to hot

0°C freezing point

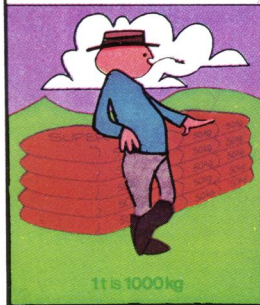
-5°C at Mawson Base

- 100°C Boiling point of water
- 40°C } Heat wave conditions
- 35°C }
- 37°C Body temperature
- 30°C Hot
- 25°C Warm

- 20°C Mild
- 15°C Cool
- 10°C } Cold to very cold
- 5°C }
- 0°C Freezing point of water



15 kg is the mass of a steam iron



1t is 1000kg

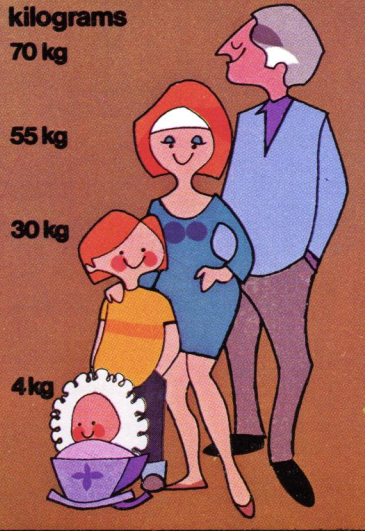
kilograms

70 kg

55 kg

30 kg

4 kg



HOW HEAVY?

The familiar units for mass are gram(g) kilogram (kg) and tonne (t). 500 g is 10% more than 1lb, 1kg is 10% more than 2 lb and 1 t is 36 lb less than 1 ton



- 1 g About the mass of three aspirin tablets
- 5 g About the mass of a two cent piece
- 50 g About the mass of a golf ball
- 500 g A little more than one pound

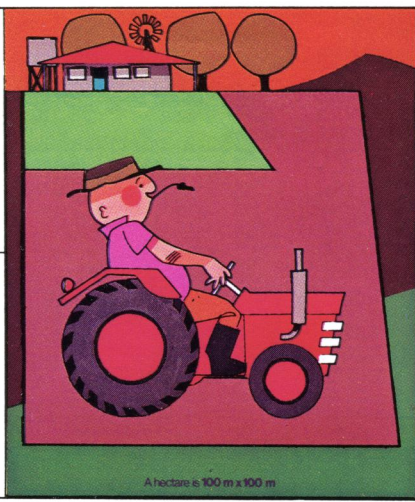
- 1 kg A little more than two pounds
- 20 kg Luggage allowance for overseas economy class air travel
- 70 kg About 11 stone
- 1 t A little less than one ton



The Queen's head stamp is about 5 cm²

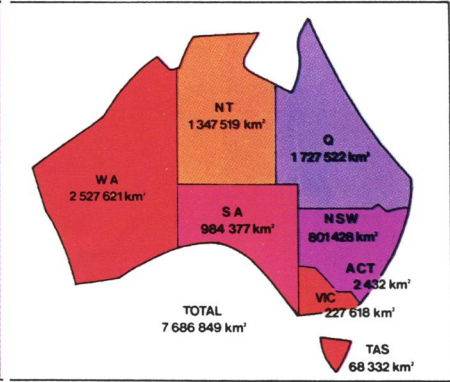


A shower recess floor is about 1 m²



A hectare is 100 m x 100 m

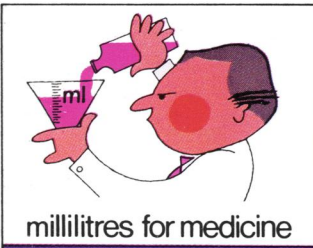
HOW BIG?



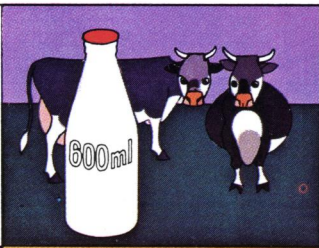
AREA

The area of smaller objects is measured generally in square millimetres (mm²) and square centimetres (cm²). Square metres are used for larger objects and the hectare and square kilometre for land areas

- 2 mm² About the area of the top of a pin head
- 5 cm² The area of the seven cent Queen's head stamp
- 1 m² About the area of a shower recess floor
- 100 m² Is about the area of an "11 square" (1100 ft²) house
- 1000 m² } Is the area of an Olympic swimming pool (50 m x 20 m)
- } Is the area of a normal quarter acre building block
- 1 ha About the area of a soccer field or a square 100 m x 100 m
- 3.7 km² Is the area covered by Ayers Rock



millilitres for medicine

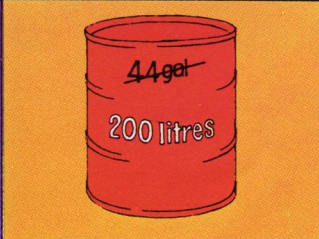


600ml

HOW FULL?



1 litre



200 litres

CAPACITY

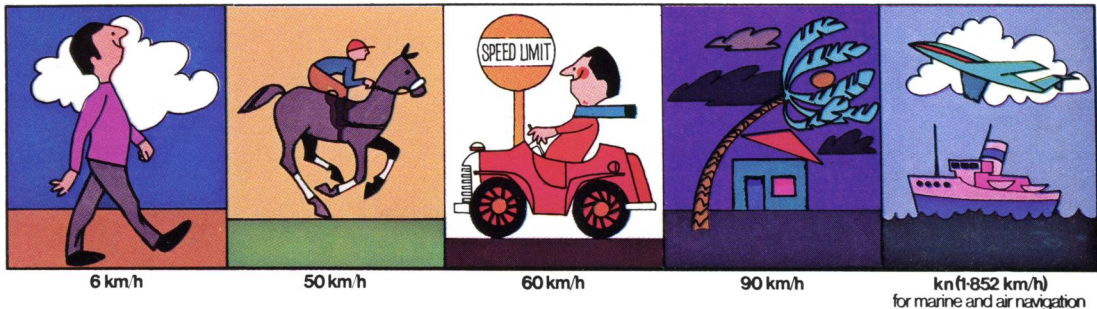
The volume of fluids is measured in millilitres (ml) and litres (l)

- 1 ml About one eye dropper full
- 5 ml One standard teaspoonful
- 200 ml About 7 fluid ounces
- 600 ml A little more than a pint
- 1 litre A familiar wine quantity
- 200 litres The capacity of a 44-gallon drum
- 1 m³ About 1 1/3 cubic yards

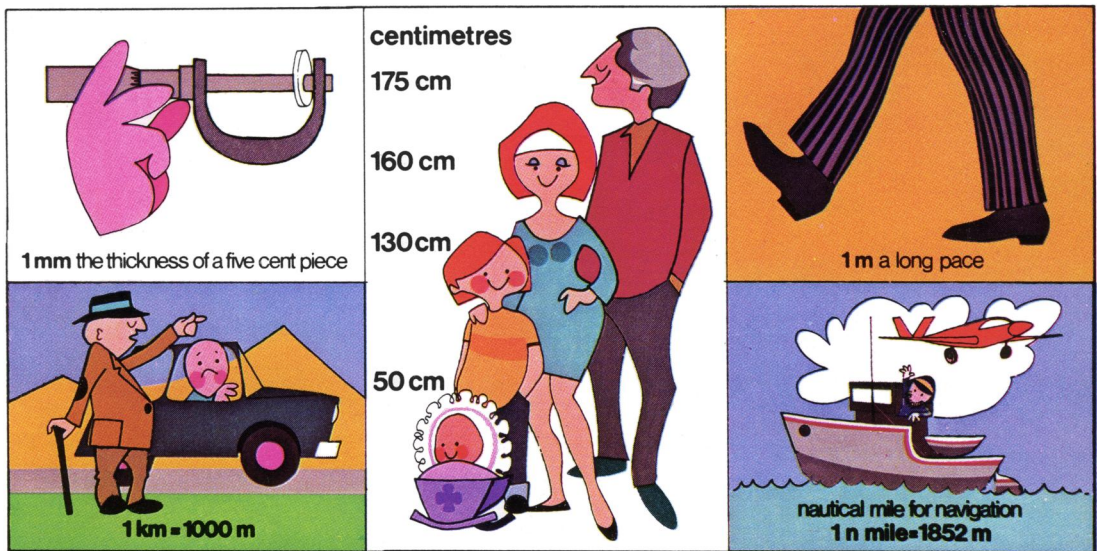
HOW FAST?

SPEED

Kilometres per hour (km/h) and knot (kn) for navigation are the units of speed



- 6 km/h Average speed for swimming 100 m in one minute
- 24 km/h Average speed for running a four-minute mile
- 36 km/h Average speed for running 100 m in 10 seconds
- 60 km/h About 35 mph
- 100 km/h About 60 mph
- 800 km/h About 500 mph



HOW LONG?

Length is measured in millimetres (mm), centimetres (cm), metres (m), and kilometres (km)

- 1 mm About the thickness of a five cent piece
- 1 cm About the width of an index fingernail
- 25 mm About one inch
- 10 cm About the width of a man's fist
- 1 m A long pace
- 50 m The length of an Olympic swimming pool
- 8 km About five miles

THINK METRIC - IT'S EASY!



The system of metric units Australia is using is the International System (SI). It has much in common with older metric systems but, in recent years, has been extensively modified and improved. Even countries which have been metric for 100 years or more are replacing their older versions with SI—the most logical system ever devised.

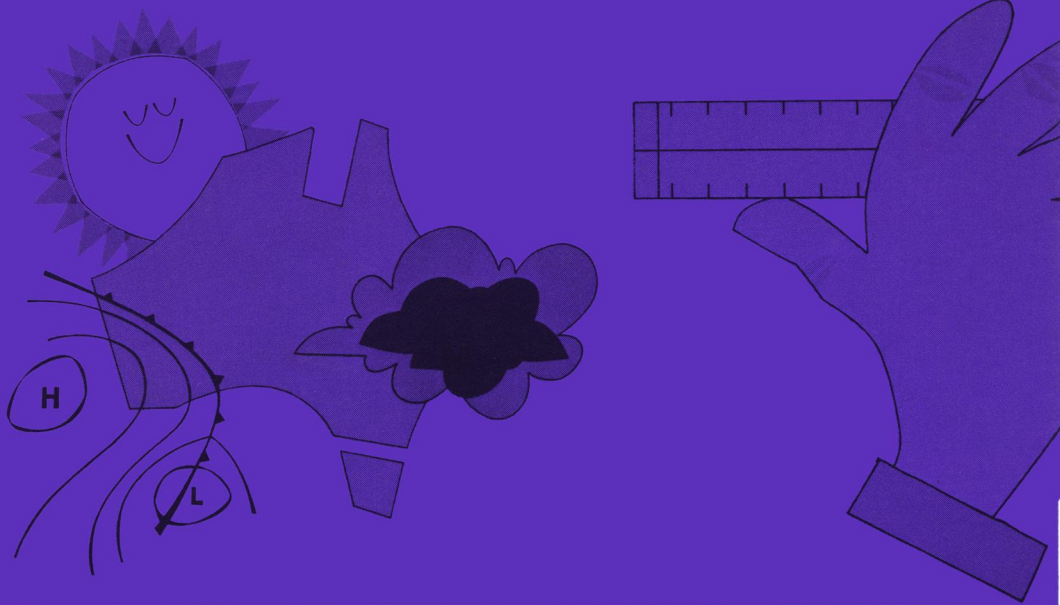
About 95% of the world's population live in metric countries, or countries which have announced an intention to convert to SI. Australia made the decision to convert in 1970.

Few adults will need to learn everything about SI. It will be important, however, to gain an appreciation of “everyday” metric units—such as units of mass (weight), length, volume, area, and speed—and to *think metric*. For example, one should think of a man of average build as weighing about 75 kilograms and being about 175 centimetres tall.

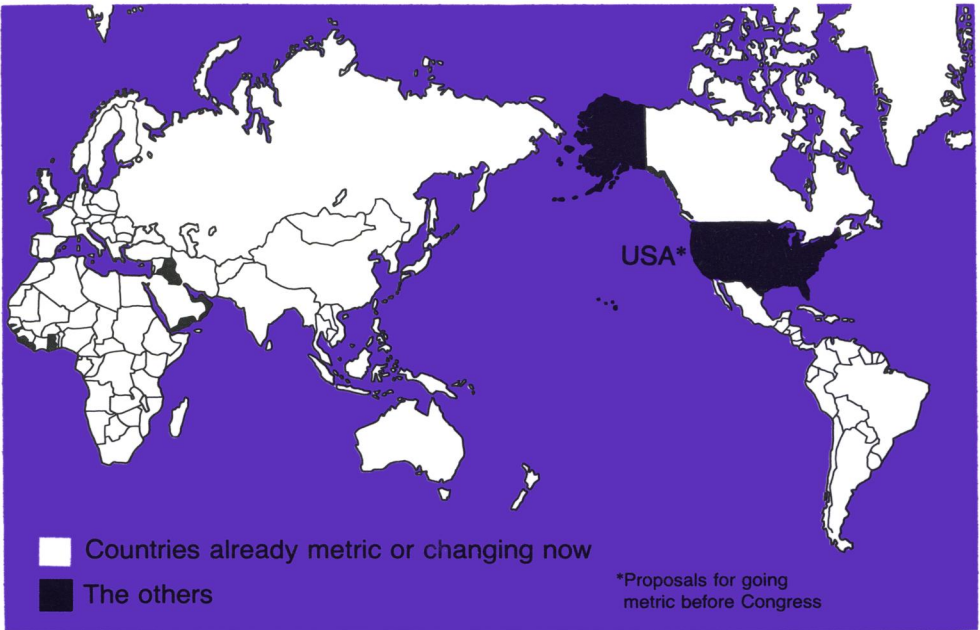
Increasingly, we are being involved in our new metric environment. Our weather information is metric, horseracing, football, cricket and Olympic sports are metric. We buy wine and beer in metric quantities, our wool is sold in kilograms. Next year we will be reading metric road maps and road signs and measuring our speed in kilometres per hour.

Teaching in metric units began in primary schools at the beginning of this year. Secondary schools will follow suit through 1973 and 1974. By the end of 1973 it is anticipated that about half the goods available on supermarket shelves will be marked in metric units only. Already building plans are being accepted in metric units, and houses built to metric specifications.

Use of the imperial system as a “prop” to understand metric measurement will confuse rather than foster confidence in *thinking metric*. What we must do is forget the imperial system and, instead, associate familiar objects and situations with metric values. The “recognition points” in this pamphlet will help you feel at home with the units we are using in our metric environment.



THE METRIC WORLD



PRODUCED BY THE METRIC CONVERSION BOARD

For further information, write to The Metric Conversion Board,
18-24 Chandos Street, ST. LEONARDS, N.S.W. 2065.

Telephone: 439-2088, or 450 St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE, VIC. 3004. Telephone: 267-2155.