

## SI prefixes

We are all familiar with milli, mega, kilo, centi and giga as prefixes for SI unit. Perhaps we are even familiar with tera. But what about the rest?

Prefix	Abbreviation	Factor
yotta	Y	$10^{24}$
zetta	Z	$10^{21}$
exa	E	$10^{18}$
peta	P	$10^{15}$
tera	T	$10^{12}$
giga	G	$10^9$
mega	M	$10^6$
kilo	k	$10^3$
hecto	h	$10^2$
deka	da	10
deci	d	$10^{-1}$
centi	c	$10^{-2}$
milli	m	$10^{-3}$
micro	$\mu$	$10^{-6}$
nano	n	$10^{-9}$
pico	p	$10^{-12}$
femto	f	$10^{-15}$
atto	a	$10^{-18}$
zepto	z	$10^{-21}$
yocto	y	$10^{-24}$

It is important to note that the nanometer and the nautical mile shouldn't be confused, as there is a factor of roughly  $10^{12}$  between them.

You may be interested in other units such as the micro-century (which is slightly longer than your average lecture), the kilowarhol (roughly 10 days of fame) the light-nanosecond (almost 1 foot) and the millihelen (the beauty required to launch one ship). These and others may be found at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_strange\\_units\\_of\\_measurement](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_strange_units_of_measurement) and links from there.