## Table of Contents

Teaching and Learning The Metric System
Unit 1 ..... 1

- Suggested Teaching Sequence ..... 1
- Objectives ..... 1
- Rules of Notation ..... 1
- Metric Units, Symbols, and Referents ..... 2
- Metric Prefixes ..... 2
- Linear Measurement Activities ..... 3
- Area Measurement Activities ..... 5
- Volume Measurement Activities ..... 7
- Mass (Weight) Measurement Activities ..... 9
- Temperature Measurement Activities ..... 11
Unit 2 ..... 12
- Objectives ..... 12
- Suggested Teaching Sequence ..... 12
- Metrics in this Occupation ..... 12
- Metric Units For Architectural, Civil and Mechanical Drafting
- Trying Out Metric Units ..... 13
- Building With Metrics ..... 14
- Drafting With Metrics ..... 15
- Drawing With Metrics ..... 1617
Unit 3 ..... 18
- Objective ..... 18
- Suggested Teaching Sequence ..... 18
- Metric-Metric Equivalents ..... 18
- Changing Units at Work ..... 20
Unit 4 ..... 21
- Objective ..... 21
- Suggested Teaching Sequence ..... 21
- Selecting and Using Metric Instruments, Tools and Devices ..... 21
- Which Tools for the Job? ..... 22
- Measuring Up in Architectural Drafting ..... 22
- Which Tools for the Job? ..... 23
- Measuring Up in Civil Drafting ..... 23
- Which Tools for the Job? ..... 24
- Measuring Up in Mechanical Drafting ..... 24
Unit 5 ..... 25
- Objective ..... 25
- Suggested Teaching Sequence ..... 25
- Metric-Customary Equivalents ..... 25
- Conversion Tables ..... 26
- Any Way You Want It ..... 27
Testing Metric Abilities ..... 28
Answers to Exercises and Test ..... 30
Tools and Devices List
References


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## TEACHING AND LEARNING THE METRIC SYSTEM

This metric instructional package was designed to meet job-related metric measurement needs of students. To use this package students should already know the occupational terminology, measurement terms, and tools currently in use. These materials were prepared with the help of experienced vocational teachers, reviewed by experts, tested in classrooms in different parts of the United States, and revised before distribution.

Each of the five units of instruction contains performance objectives, learning activities, and supporting information in the form of text, exercises, and tables. In addition, suggested teaching techniques are included. At the back of this package are objective-based evaluation items, a page of answers to the exercises and tests, a list of metric materials needed for the activities, references, and a list of suppliers.

Classroom experiences with this instructional package suggest the following teaching-learning strategies:

1. Let the first experiences be informal to make learning the metric system fun.
2. Students learn better when metric units are compared to familiar objects. Everyone should learn to "think metric." Comparing metric units to customary units can be confusing.
3. Students will learn quickly to estimate and measure in metric units by "doing."
4. Students should have experience with measuring activities before getting too much information.
5. Move through the units in an order which emphasizes the simplicity of the metric system (e.g., length to area to volume).
6. Teach one concept at a time to avoid overwhelming students with too much material.

Unit 1 is a general introduction to the metric system of measurement which provides informal, hands-on experiences for the students. This unit enables students to become familiar with the basic metric units, their symbols, and measurement instruments; and to develop a set of mental references for metric values. The metric system of notation also is explained.

Unit 2 provides the metric terms which are used in this occupation and gives experience with occupational measurement tasks.

Unit 3 focuses on job-related metric equivalents and their relationships.

Unit 4 provides experience with recognizing and using metric instruments and tools in occupational measurement tasks. It also provides experience in comparing metric and customary measurement instruments.

Unit 5 is designed to give students practice in converting customary and metric measurements. Students should learn to "think metric" and avoid comparing customary and metric units. However, skill with conversion tables will be useful during the transition to metric in each occupation.

## Using These Instructional Materials

This package was designed to help students learn a core of knowledge about the metric system which they will use on the job. The exercises facilitate experiences with measurement instruments, tools, and devices used in this occupation and job-related tasks of estimating and measuring.

This instructional package also was designed to accommodate a variety of individual teaching and learning styles. Teachers are encouraged to adapt these materials to their own classes. For example, the information sheets may be given to students for self-study. References may be used as supplemental resources. Exercises may be used in independent study, small groups, or whole-class activities. All of the materials can be expanded by the teacher.

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Editors

[^0]
## UNIT

## SUGGESTED TEACHING SEQUENCE

1. These introductory exercises may require two or three teaching periods for all five areas of measurement.
2. Exercises should be followed in the order given to best show the relationship between length, area, and volume.
3. Assemble the metric measuring devices (rules, tapes, scales, thermometers, and measuring containers) and objects to be measured.*
4. Set up the equipment at work stations for use by the whole class or as individualized resource activities.
5. Have the students estimate, measure, and record using Exercises 1 through 5.
6. Present information on notation and make Table 1 available.
7. Follow up with group discussion of activities.
*Other school departments may have devices which can be used. Metric suppliers are listed in the reference section.

## OBJECTIVES

The student will demonstrate these skills for the Linear, Area, Volume or Capacity, Mass, and Temperature Exercises, using the metric terms and measurement devices listed here.

| SKILLS |  | EXERCISES |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Linear } \\ \text { (pp. 3-4) } \end{gathered}$ | Area (pp. 5-6) | Volume or Capacity $\text { (pp. } 7-8 \text { ) }$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mass } \\ \text { (pp. } 9-10 \text { ) } \end{gathered}$ | Temperature <br> (p.11) |
| 1. 2. 3. | Recognize and use the unit and its symbol for: <br> Select, use, and read the appropriate measuring instruments for: <br> State or show a physical reference for: | millimetre ( mm ) <br> centimetre (cm) <br> metre (m) | square centimetre $\left(\mathrm{cm}^{2}\right)$ <br> square metre ( $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ ) | cubic centi- <br> metre ( $\mathrm{cm}^{3}$ ) <br> cubic metre ( $\mathrm{m}^{3}$ ) <br> litre <br> (1) <br> millilitre (ml) | gram <br> (g) <br> kilogram ( kg ) | degree Celsius <br> ( ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) |
|  | Estimate within $25 \%$ of the actual measure | height, width, or length of objects | the area of a given surface | capacity of containers | the mass of objects in grams and kilograms | the temperature of the air or a liquid |
| 5. | Read correctly | metre stick, metric tape measure, and metric rulers |  | measurements on graduated volume measuring devices | a kilogram scale and a gram scale | A Celsius thermometer |

## RULES OF NOTATION

1. Symbols are not capitalized unless the unit is a proper name ( mm not MM ).
2. Symbols are not followed by periods ( m not m .).
3. Symbols are not followed by an $s$ for plurals ( 25 g not 25 gs ).
4. A space separates the numerals from the unit symbols (41 not 41).
5. Spaces, not commas, are used to separate large numbers into groups of three digits ( 45271 km not $45,271 \mathrm{~km}$ ).
6. A zero precedes the decimal point if the number is less than one $(0.52 \mathrm{~g}$ not .52 g$)$.
7. Litre and metre can be spelled either with an -re or -er ending.

## METRIC UNITS, SYMBOLS, AND REFERENTS

| Quantity | Metric Unit | Symbol | Useful Referents |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Length | millimetre | mm | Thickness of dime or paper clip wire |
|  | centimetre | cm | Width of paper clip |
|  | metre | m | Height of door about 2 m |
|  | kilometre | km | 12 -minute walking distance |
| Area | square centimetre | $\mathrm{cm}^{2}$ | Area of this space |
|  | square metre | $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | Area of card table top |
|  | hectare | ha | Football field including sidelines and end zones |
| Volume and Capacity | millilitre | ml | Teaspoon is 5 ml |
|  | litre | 1 | A little more than 1 quart |
|  | cubic centimetre | $\mathrm{cm}^{3}$ | Volume of this container |
|  | cubic metre | $\mathrm{m}^{3}$ | A little more than a cubic yard |
| Mass | milligram | mg | Apple seed about 10 mg , grain of salt, 1 mg |
|  | gram | g | Nickel about 5 g |
|  | kilogram | kg | Webster's Collegiate Dictionary |
|  | metric ton <br> (1 000 kilograms) | t | Volkswagen Beetle |

## METRIC PREFIXES

| Multiples and Submultiples | Prefixes | Symbols |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1000000=10^{6}$ | mega (mĕg ${ }^{\text {a }}$ ) | M |
| $1000=10^{3}$ | kilo (kil' ${ }^{\text {o }}$ ) | k |
| $100=10^{2}$ | hecto (hĕk'tō) | h |
| $10=10^{1}$ | deka (děk' ${ }^{\text {a }}$ ) | da |
| Base Unit $1=10^{\circ}$ |  |  |
| $0.1=10^{-1}$ | deci ( $\operatorname{des}^{\prime}$ í) | d |
| $0.01=10^{-2}$ | centi (sĕn'ti) | c |
| $0.001=10^{-3}$ | milli (mil/ ${ }_{\text {i }}$ ) | m |
| $0.000001=10^{-6}$ | micro (mi'kro) | $\mu$ |

Table 1-b

Table 1-a

## LINEAR MEASUREMENT ACTIVITIES

## Metre, Centimetre, Millimetre

I. THE METRE (m)
A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR THE SIZE OF A METRE

1. Pick up one of the metre sticks and stand it up on the floor. Hold it in place with one hand. Walk around the stick. Now stand next to the stick. With your other hand, touch yourself where the top of the metre stick comes on you.


THAT IS HOW HIGH A METRE IS!
2. Hold one arm out straight at shoulder height. Put the metre stick along this arm until the end hits the end of your fingers. Where is the other end of the metre stick? Touch yourself at that end.


THAT IS HOW LONG A METRE IS!
3. Choose a partner to stand at your side. Move apart so that you can put one end of a metre stick on your partner's shoulder and the other end on your shoulder. Look at the space between you.

THAT IS THE WIDTH OF A METRE!

B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN METRES

Now you will improve your ability to estimate in metres. Remember where the length and height of a metre was on your body.

For each of the following items:
Estimate the size of the items and write your estimate in the ESTIMATE column. Measure the size with your metre stick and write the answer in the MEASUREMENT column.

Decide how close your estimate was to the actual measure. If your estimate was within $25 \%$ of the actual measure you are a "Metric Marvel."


## II. THE CENTIMETRE (cm)

There are 100 centimetres in one metre If there are 4 metres and 3 centimetres, you write $403 \mathrm{~cm}[(4 \times 100 \mathrm{~cm})+3 \mathrm{~cm}=400 \mathrm{~cm}$ $+3 \mathrm{~cm}]$.

## A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR THE SIZE OF A CENTIMETRE

1. Hold the metric ruler against the width of your thumbnail. How wide is it? $\qquad$ cm
2. Measure your thumb from the first joint to the end.
$\qquad$ cm
3. Use the metric ruler to find the width of your palm.
$\qquad$ cm
4. Measure your index or pointing finger. How long is it?
$\qquad$ cm
5. Measure your wrist with a tape measure. What is the distance around it? $\qquad$ cm
6. Use the tape measure to find your waist size. $\qquad$ cm

## B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN CENTIMETRES

You are now ready to estimate in centimetres. For each of the following items, follow the procedures used for estimating in metres.

| Estimate <br> $(\mathrm{cm})$ | Measurement <br> $(\mathrm{cm})$ |
| :---: | :---: |

2. Diameter (width) of a coin. $\qquad$
$\qquad$
3. Width of a postage stamp.

4. Length of a pencil.

5. Width of a sheet of paper.

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## III. THE MILLIMETRE (mm)

There are 10 millimetres in one centimetre When a measurement is 2 centimetres and 5 millimetres, you write $25 \mathrm{~mm}[(2 \times 10 \mathrm{~mm})$ $+5 \mathrm{~mm}=20 \mathrm{~mm}+5 \mathrm{~mm}]$. There are 1000 mm in 1 m .
A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR THE SIZE OF A MILLIMETRE

Using a ruler marked in millimetres, measure:

1. Thickness of a paper clip wire.
mm
2. Thickness of your fingernail. mm
3. Width of your fingernail. mm
4. Diameter (width) of a coin. mm
5. Diameter (thickness) of your pencil. mm
6. Width of a postage stamp. mm
B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN MLLLIMETRES

You are now ready to estimate in millimetres. For each of the following items, follow the procedures used for estimating in metres.

| Estimate <br> $(\mathrm{mm})$ | Measurement <br> $(\mathrm{mm})$ | How Close <br> Were You? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

2. Diameter (thickness) of a bolt.
3. Length of a bolt.
4. Width of a sheet of paper.
5. Thickness of a board or desk top.
6. Thickness of a button.

## AREA MEASUREMENT ACTIVITIES

## Square Centimetre, Square Metre

WHEN YOU DESCRIBE THE AREA OF SOMETHING, YOU ARE SAYING HOW MANY SQUARES OF A GIVEN SIZE IT TAKES TO COVER THE SURFACE.

## I. THE SQUARE CENTIMETRE ( $\mathrm{cm}^{2}$ )

## A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR A SQUARE CENTIMETRE

1. Take a clear plastic grid, or use the grid on page 6.
2. Measure the length and width of one of these small squares with a centimetre ruler.

## THAT IS ONE SQUARE CENTIMETRE!

3. Place your fingernail over the grid. About how many squares does it take to cover your fingernail? $\mathrm{cm}^{2}$
4. Place a coin over the grid. About how many squares does it take to cover the coin? $\qquad$ $\mathrm{cm}^{2}$
5. Place a postage stamp over the grid. About how many squares does it take to cover the postage stamp?
$\qquad$
6. Place an envelope over the grid. About how many squares does it take to cover the envelope?
$\qquad$
7. Measure the length and width of the envelope in centimetres. Length $\qquad$ cm ; width $\qquad$ cm. Multiply to find the area in square centimetres.
$\qquad$ $\mathrm{cm}=$ $\qquad$ $\mathrm{cm}^{2}$. How close are the answers you have in 6. and in $7 . ?$
B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN SQUARE CENTIMETRES

You are now ready to develop your ability to estimate in square centimetres.

Remember the size of a square centimetre. For each of the following items, follow the procedures used for estimating in metres.

II. THE SQUARE METRE $\left(\mathrm{m}^{2}\right)$

## A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR A SQUARE METRE

1. Tape four metre sticks together to make a square which is one metre long and one metre wide.
2. Hold the square up with one side on the floor to see how big it is.
3. Place the square on the floor in a corner. Step back and look. See how much floor space it covers.
4. Place the square over a table top or desk to see how much space it covers.
5. Place the square against the bottom of a door. See how much of the door it covers. How many squares would it take to cover the door? $\qquad$ $\mathrm{m}^{2}$
THIS IS HOW BIG A SQUARE METRE IS!
B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN SQUARE METRES

You are now ready to estimate in square metres. Follow the procedures used for estimating in metres,


CENTIMETRE GRID

1. Door.
2. Full sheet of newspaper.
3. Chalkboard or bulletin board.
4. Floor.
5. Wall.
6. Wall chart or poster.
7. Side of file cabinet.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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## VOLUME MEASUREMENT ACTIVITIES

## Cubic Centimetre, Litre, Millilitre, Cubic Metre

I. THE CUBIC CENTIMETRE $\left(\mathrm{cm}^{3}\right)$
A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR THE CUBIC CENTIMETRE

1. Pick up a colored plastic cube. Measure its length, height, and width in centimetres.

THAT IS ONE CUBIC CENTIMETRE!
2. Find the volume of a plastic litre box.
a. Place a ROW of cubes against the bottom of one side of the box. How many cubes fit in the row? $\qquad$
b. Place another ROW of cubes against an adjoining side of the box. How many rows fit inside the box to make one layer of cubes? $\qquad$
How many cubes in each row? $\qquad$
How many cubes in the layer in the bottom of the box? $\qquad$
c. Stand a ROW of cubes up against the side of the box. How many LAYERS would fit in the box? $\qquad$
How many cubes in each layer? $\qquad$
How many cubes fit in the box altogether? $\qquad$
THE VOLUME OF THE BOX IS $\qquad$ CUBIC CENTIMETRES.
d. Measure the length, width, and height of the box in centimetres. Length $\qquad$ cm ; width $\qquad$ cm; height $\qquad$ cm . Multiply these numbers to find the volume in cubic centimetres.
$\qquad$ cm x $\qquad$ cm x $\qquad$ $\mathrm{cm}=$ $\qquad$ $\mathrm{cm}^{3}$.
Are the answers the same in c.and d,?
B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN CUBIC CENTIMETRES

You are now ready to develop your ability to estimate in cubic centimetres

Remember the size of a cubic centimetre. For each of the following items, use the procedures for estimating in metres.

| Estimate | Measurement | How Close |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\left(\mathrm{cm}^{3}\right)$ | $\left(\mathrm{cm}^{3}\right)$ |  |

1. Index card file box.
2. Freezer container.
3. Paper clip box.

II. THE LITRE (1)
A. DEVFLOP A FEELING FOR A LITRE
4. Take a one litre beaker and fill it with water.
5. Pour the water into paper cups, filling each as full as you usually do. How many cups do you fill?

THAT IS HOW MUCH IS IN ONE LITRE!
3. Fill the litre container with rice.

THAT IS HOW MUCH IT TAKES TO FILL A ONE LITRE CONTAINER?

## B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN LITRES

You are now ready to develop your ability to estimate in litres. To write two and one-half litres, you write 2.51 , or 2.5 litres. To write one-half litre, you write 0.51 , or 0.5
litre. To write two and three-fourths litres, you write 2.751 , or 2.75 litres.

For each of the following items, use the procedures for estimating in metres.

III. THE MILLILITRE (ml)

There are 1000 millilitres in one litre. $1000 \mathrm{ml}=1$ litre. Half a litre is 500 millilitres, or 0.5 litre $=500 \mathrm{ml}$.
A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR A MILLILITRE

1. Examine a centimetre cube. Anything which holds $1 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ holds 1 ml .
2. Fill a 1 millilitre measuring spoon with rice. Empty the spoon into your hand. Carefully pour the rice into a small pile on a sheet of paper.
THAT IS HOW MUCH ONE MLLLILITRE IS!
3. Fill the 5 ml spoon with rice. Pour the rice into another pile on the sheet of paper.
THAT IS 5 MLLILITRES, OR ONE TEASPOON:
4. Fill the 15 ml spoon with rice. Pour the rice into a third ple on the paper.
THAT IS 15 MILLILITRES, OR ONE TABLESPOON!
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B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN MLLLILITRES

You are now ready to estimate in millilitres. Follow the procedures used for estimating metres.

How Close
$\underset{(\mathrm{ml})}{\text { Estimate }} \quad \underset{(\mathrm{ml})}{\text { Measurement }}$ Were You?

1. Small juice can.
2. Paper cup or tea cup.
3. Soft drink can.
4. Bottle.

## IV. THE CUBIC METRE ( $\mathrm{m}^{3}$ )

A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR A CUBIC METRE

1. Place a one metre square on the floor next to the wall.
2. Measure a metre UP the wall.
3. Picture a box that would fit into that space.

## THAT IS THE VOLUME OF ONE CUBIC METRE!

B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN CUBIC METRES

For each of the following items, follow the estimating procedures used before.

How Close
$\underset{\left(\mathrm{m}^{3}\right)}{\text { Estimate }} \quad \underset{\left(\mathrm{m}^{3}\right)}{\text { Measurement }}$ Were You?

1. Office desk.
2. File cabinet.
3. Small room.

## (ml)

$\qquad$

Were You?


## MASS (WEIGHT) MEASUREMENT ACTIVITIES

## Kilogram, Gram

The mass of an object is a measure of the amount of matter in the object. This amount is always the same unless you add or subtract some matter from the object. Weight is the term that most people use when they mean mass. The weight of an object is affected by gravity; the mass of an object is not. For example, the weight of a person on earth might be 120 pounds; that same person's weight on the moon would be 20 pounds. This difference is because the pull of gravity on the moon is less than the pull of gravity on earth. A person's mass on the earth and on the moon would be the same. The metric system does not measure weight--it measures mass. We will use the term mass here.

The symbol for gram is g .
The symbol for kilogram is kg.
There are 1000 grams in one kilogram, or $1000 \mathrm{~g}=1 \mathrm{~kg}$.
Half a kilogram can be written as 500 g ,or 0.5 kg .
A quarter of a kilogram can be written as 250 g, or 0.25 kg .
Two and three-fourths kilograms is written as 2.75 kg .
I. THE KILOGRAM (kg)

DEVELOP A FEELING FOR THE MASS OF A KILOGRAM
Using a balance or scale, find the mass of the items on the table. Before you find the mass, notice how heavy the object "feels" and compare it to the reading on the scale or balance.

## (kg)

1. 1 kilogram box.
2. Textbook.
3. Bag of sugar.
4. Package of paper.
5. Your own mass.
B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN KILOGRAMS

For the following items ESTIMATE the mass of the object in kilograms, then use the scale or balance to find the exact mass of the object. Write the exact mass in the MEASUREMENT column. Determine how close your estimate is:


1. Bag of rice.
2. Bag of nails.
3. Large purse or briefcase.
4. Another person.
5. A few books.
II. THE GRAM (g)

## A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR A GRAM

1. Take a colored plastic cube. Hold it in your hand. Shake the cube in your paim as if shaking dice. Feel the pressure on your hand when the cube is in motion, then when it is not in motion.
THAT IS HOW HEAVY A GRAM IS!
2. Take a second cube and attach it to the first. Shake the cubes in first one hand and then the other hand; rest the cubes near the tips of your fingers, moving your hand up and down.
THAT IS THE MASS OF TWO GRAMS!
3. Take five cubes in one hand and shake them around.

THAT IS THE MASS OF FIVE GRAMS!
B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN GRAMS

You are now ready to improve your ability to estimate in grams. Remember how heavy the 1 gram cube is, how heavy the two gram cubes are, and how heavy the five gram cubes are. For each of the following items, follow the procedures used for estimating in kilograms.

How Close
Estimate Measurement Were You?
(g)
(g)

1. Two thumbtacks.
2. Pencil.
3. Two-page letter and envelope.
4. Nickel.
5. Apple.
6. Package of margarine.

TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENT ACTIVITIES

## Degree Celsius

## I. DEGREE CELSIUS $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$

Degree Celsius ( ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) is the metric measure for temperature.
A. DEVELOP A FEELING FOR DEGREE CELSIUS

Take a Celsius thermometer. Look at the marks on it.

1. Find 0 degrees.

WATER FREEZES AT ZERO DEGREES CELSIUS $\left(0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$
WATER BOILS AT 100 DEGREES CELSIUS $\left(100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$
2. Find the temperature of the room. $\qquad$ ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Is the room cool, warm, or about right?
3. Put some hot water from the faucet into a container. Find the temperature. $\qquad$ ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Dip your finger quickly in and out of the water. Is the water very hot, hot, or just warm?
4. Put some cold water in a container with a thermometer. Find the temperature. $\qquad$ ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Dip your finger into the water. Is it cool, cold, or very cold?
5. Bend your arm with the inside of your elbow around the bottom of the thermometer. After about three minutes find the temperature. $\qquad$ ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Your skin temperature is not as high as your body temperature.
NORMAL BODY TEMPERATURE IS 37 DEGREES CELSIUS ( $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ).
A FEVER IS $39^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
A VERY HIGH FEVER IS $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
B. DEVELOP YOUR ABILITY TO ESTIMATE IN DEGREES CELSIUS

For each item, ESTIMATE and write down how many degrees Celsius you think it is. Then measure and write the MEASUREMENT. See how close your estimates and actual measurements are.

| Estimate | Measurement <br> $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ | How Close <br> $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

1. Mix some hot and cold water in a container. Dip your finger into the water.
2. Pour out some of the water. Add some hot water. Dip your finger quickly into the water.
3. Outdoor temperature.
4. Sunny window sill.
5. Mix of ice and water.
6. Temperature at floor.
7. Temperature at ceiling.

## UNIT <br> 

## OBJECTIVES

The student will recognize and use the metric terms, units, and symbols used in this occupation.

- Given a metric unit, state its use in this occupation.
- Given a measurement task in this occupation, select the appropriate metric unit and measurement tool.


## SUGGESTED TEACHING SEQUENCE

1. Assemble metric measurement tools (rules, tapes, scales, thermometers, etc.) and objects related to this occupation.
2. Discuss with students how to read the tools.
3. Present and have students discuss Information Sheet 2 and Table 2.
4. Have students learn occupationallyrelated metric measurements by completing Exercises 6 and 7.
5. Test performance by using Section A of "Testing Metric Abilities."

## METRICS IN THIS OCCUPATION

Changeover to the metric system is under way. Large corporations are already using metric measurement to compete in the world market. The metric system has been used in various parts of industrial and scientific communities for years. Legislation, passed in 1975, authorizes an orderly transition to use of the metric system. As businesses and industries make this metric changeover, employees will need to use metric measurement in job-related tasks.

Table 2 lists those metric terms which are most commonly used in this occupation. These terms are replacing the measurement units used currently. What kinds of jobrelated tasks use measurement? Think of the many different kinds of measurements you now make and use Table 2 to discuss the metric terms which replace them. See if you can add to the list of uses beside each metric term.


METRIC UNITS FOR ARCHITECTURAL, CIVIL, AND MECHANICAL DRAFTING

| Quantity | Unit | Symbol | Use |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Length | micrometre | $\mu \mathrm{m}$ | Surface finishes.* |
|  | millimetre | mm | Chamfer; length and diameter of screws and bolts; tolerances; drill hole size; tool sizes; length of a metric drafting scale; pencil lead diameter; bolt radius; length and width of drafting paper; fixture dimensions. |
|  | centimetre | cm | Length of dafafting table; radius; length of a T-square; panel and pavement thickness. |
|  | metre | m | Length of bar stock, wire, and rolls of white print paper; road width; curve radius; house plan; wall and floor length, wall height. |
|  | kilometre | km | Plat; surveys; landscaping; hauling distance; road construction. |
| Area | square millimetre | $\mathrm{mm}^{2}$ | Cross-sectional area of wire, reinforcing rod and pipe. |
|  | square centimetre | $\mathrm{cm}^{2}$ | Area of drafting paper; size of openings; cross sections. |
|  | square metre | $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | Floor area; sidewalk; driveways; ventilating systems. |
|  | hectare | ha | lat |
|  | square kilometre | $\mathrm{km}^{2}$ | Survey, plats. |
| Volume/Capacity | cubic millimetre | $\mathrm{mm}^{3}$ | Metal removal. |
|  | cubic centimetre | $\mathrm{cm}^{3}$ | Volume of hydraulic cylinder engine displacement; capacity of small tanks and containers.** |
|  | cubic metre | $\mathrm{m}^{3}$ | Concrete; earth excavation; landfill; backfill; sand and gravel; tack coat. |
|  | millilitre | ml | Ink; rubber cement; thinner; tanks and containers; measuring granular substance by volume; bottle of ammonia; spray marking paint. |
|  | litre | 1 | Water heater; liquid or gas tanks**; pool specifications. |
| Mass | gram | g | Powdered plastic; small finished products; erasing compound; soil samples; concrete coloring. |
|  | kilogram | kg | Steei; structural materials; furnishings and equipment. |
|  | metric ton | t | Steel; machinery; equipment; concrete; sand; gravel; fill; asphalt. |
| Pressure | kilopascal | kPa | Pressure in auto tires; air, gas, plumbing or hydraulic systems; pressure for air brush. |

## *Surface finish is given in micrometres.

Example: $\quad 0.1$ is a super finish similar to a very fine buff, lap, burnish, or bright polish. Suitable for raceways, ball bearings, and rollers of antifriction bearings.
Note: The roughness values are the average deviation in micrometres. 1 micrometre $=.001 \mathrm{~mm}$.
**Tank and container capacities, and engine displacement can be given either in millilitres and litres or in cubic centimetres and cubic metres.
Table 2

To give you practice with metric units, first estimate the measurements of the items below. Write down your best guess next to the item. Then actually measure the item and write down your answers using the correct metric symbols. The more you practice, the easier it will be.

|  | Estimate | Actual |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Length |  |  |
| 1. Palm width |  |  |
| 2. Hand span |  |  |
| 3. Your height |  |  |
| 4. Wall height |  |  |
| 5. Pavement width |  |  |
| 6. Tree diameter |  |  |
| 7. Brick |  |  |
| 8. Room width |  |  |
| 9. Ceiling height |  |  |
| 10. Sidewalk width |  |  |
| 11. Shrub height |  |  |
| 12. Window length |  |  |
| 13. Length of a city block |  |  |
| 14. Door height |  |  |
| 15. Door opening width |  |  |
| Area |  |  |
| 16. Desk top |  |  |
| 17. Floor |  |  |
| 18. Pavement surface between |  |  |
| two points |  |  |
| 19. Parking lot |  |  |
| 20. Sidewalk between two points |  |  |
| 21. Wall |  |  |
| 22. Lawn |  |  |
| 23. Ceiling |  |  |


|  | Estimate | Actual |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 24. Window pane |  |  |
| 25. Sheet of drafting paper |  |  |
| Volume/Capacity <br> 26. Small bottle |  |  |
| 27. Desk drawer |  |  |
| 28. Length of pipe |  |  |
| 29. Cylinder |  |  |
| 30. Cabinet |  |  |
| 31. Bathtub |  |  |
| 32. Dump truck bed |  |  |
| 33. Bucket |  |  |
| 34. Small box or package |  |  |
| 35. Room |  |  |
| Mass |  |  |
| 36. Textbook |  |  |
| 37. Nickel |  |  |
| 38. Yourself |  |  |
| 39. Brick |  |  |
| 40. A quantity of dirt |  |  |
| 41. A litre of water (net) |  |  |
| 42. Paper clip |  |  |
| 43. Piece of steel |  |  |
| 44. Sheet of plywood |  |  |
| 45. Wall stud |  |  |
| Temperature | 46. Room |  |
| 47. Outside |  |  |
| 48. Hot tap water |  |  |
| 49. Ice water |  |  |

## BUILDING WITH METRICS

| It is important to know what metric measurement to use. Show what measurement to use in the following situations. |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1. Height of wall |  |
| 2. Width of door opening |  |
| 3. Dimensions of window |  |
| 4. Length of wall stud |  |
| 5. Dimensions of plywood |  |
| 6. Capacity of pipe |  |
| 7. Capacity of heating duct |  |
| 8. Area of floor |  |
| 9. Area of wall |  |
| 10. Mass of plywood sheet |  |
| 11. Thickness of brick ledge |  |
| 12. Height of foundation |  |
| 13. Area of living space |  |
| 14. Volume of living space |  |
| 15. Window glass area |  |
| 16. Wall stud spacing | - |
| 17. Water pressure |  |
| 18. Soil percolation |  |
| 19. Foundation depth |  |


| 20. Length of brick |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 21. Width of mortar joint |  |



## DRAFTING WITH METRICS

It is important to know what metric measurement to use. Show what measurement to use in the following situations.

| 1. Length and width of table top |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. Length and width of drafting paper |  |
| 3. | Area of table top |


| 20. Pressure in water pipe |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 21. Angle of highway curve |  |
| 22. Distance between two towns |  |




| It is important to know what metric measurement to use. Show |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| what measurement to use in the following situations. |  |  |
| 1. | Length and width of table top |  |
| 2. | Length and width of drafting paper |  |
| 3. | Area of table top |  |
| 4. | Area of drafting paper |  |
| 5. | Volume of ink bottle |  |
| 6. | Volume of inking pen |  |
| 7. | Thickness of sheet of paper |  |
| 8. | Thickness of a ream of paper |  |
| 9. | Pencil thickness |  |
| 10. | Pencil lead diameter |  |
| 11. | Area of cross section of pencil lead |  |
| 12. | Span of compass |  |
| 13. | Span of beam compass |  |
| 14. | Area of triangle |  |
| 15. | Angles of a triangle |  |
| 16. | Length of a piece of bar stock |  |
| 17. | Thickness of a drawing template |  |
| 18. | Dimension of arrow heads |  |
| 19. | Surface finish on a machined surface |  |


| 20.Length of roll of blueprint or <br> white print paper <br> 21. Bolt dimensions |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 22. Tolerance dimensions |  |



## UNIT

## OBJECTIVE

The student will recognize and use metric equivalents.

- Given a metric unit, state an equivalent in a larger or smaller metric unit.


## SUGGESTED TEACHING SEQUENCE

1. Make available the Information Sheets (3-8) and the associated Exercises ( $8-14$ ), one at a time.
2. As soon as you have presented the Information, have the students complete each Exercise.
3. Check their answers on the page titled ANSWERS TO EXERCISES AND TEST.
4. Test performance by using Section B of "Testing Metric Abilities."

## METRIC-METRIC EQUIVALENTS

## Centimetres and Millimetres



Look at the picture of the nail next to the ruler. The nail is 57 mm long. This is $5 \mathrm{~cm}+7 \mathrm{~mm}$. There are 10 mm in each cm , so $1 \mathrm{~mm}=0.1 \mathrm{~cm}$ (one-tenth of a centimetre). This means that
$7 \mathrm{~mm}=0.7 \mathrm{~cm}$, so $57 \mathrm{~mm}=5 \mathrm{~cm}+7 \mathrm{~mm}$

$$
=5 \mathrm{~cm}+0.7 \mathrm{~cm}
$$

$=5.7 \mathrm{~cm}$. Therefore 57 mm is the same as 5.7 cm .
Now measure the paper clip. It is 34 mm . This is the same as $3 \mathrm{~cm}+$ $\qquad$ mm. Since each millimetre is 0.1 cm (one-tenth of a centimetre), $4 \mathrm{~mm}=$ $\qquad$ cm . So, the paper clip is $34 \mathrm{~mm}=3 \mathrm{~cm}+4 \mathrm{~mm}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =3 \mathrm{~cm}+0.4 \mathrm{~cm} \\
& =3.4 \mathrm{~cm} . \text { This means that } 34 \mathrm{~mm} \text { is the same as } 3.4 \mathrm{~cm} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Information Sheet 3

Now you try some.
a ) $26 \mathrm{~mm}=$ $\qquad$ cm
e) $132 \mathrm{~mm}=\square \mathrm{c}$ cm
b ) $583 \mathrm{~mm}=$ $\qquad$ cm
c ) $94 \mathrm{~mm}=$ $\qquad$ cm
d) $680 \mathrm{~mm}=$ $\qquad$ cm
f) $802 \mathrm{~mm}=$ $\qquad$ em
g) $1400 \mathrm{~mm}=$
h) $2307 \mathrm{~mm}=$

## Exercise 8

## Metres, Centimetres, and Millimetres

There are 100 centimetres in one metre. Thus,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 2 \mathrm{~m}=2 \times 100 \mathrm{~cm}=200 \mathrm{~cm} \text {, } \\
& 3 \mathrm{~m}=3 \times 100 \mathrm{~cm}=300 \mathrm{~cm} \text {, } \\
& 8 \mathrm{~m}=8 \times 100 \mathrm{~cm}=800 \mathrm{~cm}, \\
& 36 \mathrm{~m}=36 \times 100 \mathrm{~cm}=3600 \mathrm{~cm} \text {. }
\end{aligned}
$$

There are 1000 millimetres in one metre, so

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 2 \mathrm{~m}=2 \times 1000 \mathrm{~mm} \\
& 3 \mathrm{~m}=3 \times 10000 \mathrm{~mm} \\
&=3000 \mathrm{~mm} \\
& 6 \mathrm{~m}=6 \times 1000 \mathrm{~mm} \\
& 24 \mathrm{~m}=24 \times 1000 \mathrm{~mm} \\
& 24000 \mathrm{~mm}
\end{aligned}
$$

From your work with decimals you should know that one-half of a metre can be written 0.5 m (five-tenths of a metre), one-fourth of a centimetre can be written 0.25 cm
(twenty-five hundredths of a centimetre).
This means that if you want to change three-fourths of a metre to millimetres, you would multiply by 1000 . So
$0.75 \mathrm{~m}=0.75 \times 1000 \mathrm{~mm}$
$=\frac{75}{100} \times 1000 \mathrm{~mm}$
$=75 \times \frac{1000}{100} \mathrm{~mm}$
$=75 \times 10 \mathrm{~mm}$
$=750 \mathrm{~mm}$. This means that $0.75 \mathrm{~m}=750 \mathrm{~mm}$.
Information Sheet 4
Fill in the following chart.

| metre <br> m | centimetre <br> cm | milimetre <br> mm |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 100 | 1000 |
| 2 | 200 |  |
| 3 |  |  |
| 9 |  |  |
|  |  | 5000 |
| 74 | 80 |  |
| 0.8 | 2.5 | 20 |
| 0.6 |  | 148 |
|  | 639 |  |
|  |  |  |

## Millilitres to Litres

There are 1000 millilitres in one litre. This means that
2000 millilitres is the same as 2 litres,
3000 ml is the same as 3 litres,
4000 ml is the same as 4 litres,
12000 ml is the same as 12 litres.
Since there are 1000 milliiitres in each litre, one way to change millilitres to litres is to divide by 1000 . For example,

$$
\text { Or } \quad \begin{aligned}
1000 \mathrm{ml} & =\frac{1000}{1000} \text { litre }=1 \text { litre. } \\
2000 \mathrm{ml} & =\frac{2000}{1000} \text { litres }=2 \text { litres. }
\end{aligned}
$$

And, as a final example,

$$
28000 \mathrm{ml}=\frac{28000}{1000} \text { litres }=28 \text { litres. }
$$

What if something holds 500 ml ? How many litres is this? This is worked the same way:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 500 \mathrm{ml}=\frac{500}{1000} \text { litre }=0.5 \text { litre (five-tenths of a litre ). So } 500 \mathrm{ml} \\
& \text { is the same as one-half }(0.5) \text { of a litre. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Change 57 milliiitres to litres.
$57 \mathrm{ml}=\frac{57}{1000}$ litre $=0.057$ litre (fifty-seven thousandths of a litre).

Information Sheet 5
Now you try some. Complete the following chart.

| millilitres <br> $(\mathrm{ml})$ | litres <br> $(1)$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 3000 | 3 |
| 6000 | 8 |
|  |  |
| 14000 | 23 |
|  | 0.3 |
| 300 | 0.9 |
| 700 | 0.47 |
|  |  |
| 250 |  |
| 275 |  |

## Litres to Millilitres

What do you do if you need to change Iitres to millilitres? Remember, there are 1000 millilitres in one litre, or 1 litre $=1000 \mathrm{ml}$.

So,

$$
\begin{array}{rll}
2 & \text { litres }=2 & \times 1000 \mathrm{ml}=2000 \mathrm{ml}, \\
7 & \text { litres }=7 & \times 1000 \mathrm{ml}=7000 \mathrm{ml}, \\
13 & \text { litres } & =13
\end{array} \times 1000 \mathrm{ml}=13000 \mathrm{ml}, ~ \times 65 \times 1000 \mathrm{ml}=650 \mathrm{ml} .
$$

## Information Sheet 6

Now you try some. Complete the following chart.

| litres <br> 1 | millilitres <br> ml |
| :---: | :---: |
| 8 | 8000 |
| 5 |  |
| 46 |  |
|  | 32000 |
| 0.4 |  |
| 0.53 | 480 |
|  |  |

## Grams to Kilograms

There are 1000 grams in one kilogram. This means that

> 2000 grams is the same as 2 kilograms,
> 5000 g is the same as 5 kg ,
> 700 g is the same as 0.7 kg , and so on.

To change from grams to kilograms, you use the same procedure for changing from millilitres to litres.

Try the following ones.

| grams <br> $g$ | kilograms <br> kg |
| :---: | :---: |
| 4000 | 4 |
| 9000 |  |
| 23000 | 8 |
|  | 8 |
| 300 |  |
| 275 |  |

Exercise 11

Information Sheet 7

## "-

 1n) 2 kg of brick$\square$ cm

## Changing Units at Work

Some of the things you use in this occupation may be measured in different metric units. Practice changing each of the following to
a ) 5 cm diameter pipe is $\qquad$ mm
b) 2500 kg of soil is $\qquad$ t
c) $50 \times 800 \mathrm{~mm}$ board is cm
d ) 0.25 litre of solvent is $\qquad$
e) 240 cm of rope 15 m
f ) 65 cm stud spacing is m
mg) 0.5 t of copper is
h ) 2 m board is ..... kg
mm

, 500 g of nails is kg
j) $120 \times 240 \mathrm{~cm}$ sheet is mm
k) 250 ml of solution is 1
l) 10 m of wire is
m) 1 cm mortar joint is mm
م) 2 kg of brick is g
door is mm
p) 500 ml of oil is $\qquad$ 1
q) 3 cm nail is $\qquad$ mm
r ) 50 m wall length is cm
s) 2500 g of cement is kg
t) 120 mm diameter tree is cm
u) 0.5 litre of dye is
v) 2400 mm wall panel is
cm

The student will recognize and use instruments, tools, and devices for measurement tasks in this occupation.

- Given metric and Customary tools, instruments, or devices, differentiate between metric and Customary.
- Given a measurement task, select and use an appropriate tool, instrument or device.
- Given a metric measurement task, judge the metric quantity within $25 \%$ and measure within $1 \%$ accuracy.


## SUGGESTED TEACHING SEQUENCE

1. Assemble metric and Customary measuring tools and devices (rules, scales, ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ thermometer, micrometer, drafting scales, templates, measuring tapes, gages) and display in separate groups at learning stations.
2. Have students examine metric tools and instruments for distinguishing characteristics and compare them with Customary tools and instruments.
3. Have students verbally describe characteristics.
4. Present or make available Information Sheet 9.
5. Mix metric and Customary tools or equipment at learning station. Give students appropriate Exercises 15 and 16.
6. Test performance by using Section C of "Te;ting Metric Abilities."

## SELECTING AND USING <br> METRIC INSTRUMENTS, TOOLS AND DEVICES

Selecting an improper tool or misreading a scale can result in an improper plan, damaged materials, or injury to workers. For example, if the design flexing moment of a steel beam is 0.5 mm , but was misread as 0.5 cm , the longer flexing moment would cause undue stress and the beam would collapse; measuring a road bed width in yards by using a measuring tape dimensioned in metres would result in an improper survey or plan; and when the design tolerance of an axle bearing shaft is 0.001 m and the shaft is machined to 0.01 m , it will have too tight a fit and break. Here are some suggestions:

1. Find out in advance whether Customary or metric units, tools, instruments, or products are needed for a given task.
2. Examine the tool or instrument before using it.
3. The metric system is a decimal system. Look for units marked off in whole numbers, tens or tenths, hundred or hundredths.
4. Look for metric symbols on the tools or gages such as $\mathrm{m}, \mathrm{mm}, \mathrm{kg}, \mathrm{g}, \mathrm{kPa}$.
5. Look for decimal fractions (0.25) or decimal mixed fractions (2.50) rather than common fractions (3/8) on tools and devices.
6. Some products may have a special metric symbol such as a block M to show they are metric.
7. Don't force devices which are not fitting properly.
8. Practice selecting and using tools, instruments, and devices.


Information Sheet 9

## WHICH TOOLS FOR THE JOB?

## MEASURING UP IN <br> ARCHITECTURAL DRAFTING

Practice and prepare to demonstrate your ability to identify, select, and use metric-scaled tools and instruments for the tasks given below. You should be able to use the measurement tools to the appropriate precision of the tool, instrument, or task.

Select and demonstrate or describe use of tools, instruments, or devices to:

1. Measure length of board.
2. Determine mass of a brick.
3. Measure height of a wall.
4. Measure width of a window.
5. Find width and height of a door.
6. Find capacity of a room.
7. Calculate area of floor space.
8. Find ceiling dimensions.
9. Find paneling dimensions.
10. Select lettering size on blueprint.
11. Calculate wall weight.
12. Measure panel thickness.
13. Find beam flex.
14. Check nail length.
15. Find compression strength.

For the tasks below, estimate the metric measurement to within $25 \%$ of actual measurement, and verify the estimation by measuring to within $1 \%$ of actual measurement.

|  | Estimate | Verify |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Length of table |  |  |
| 2. Width of table |  |  |
| 3. Length of paneling |  |  |
| 4. Width of paneling |  |  |
| 5. Wall height |  |  |
| 6. Window dimensions |  |  |
| 7. Doorway opening: <br> a. length |  |  |
| b. width |  |  |
| 8. Hall width |  |  |
| 9. Floor space |  |  |
| 10. Room capacity |  |  |
| 11. Stud dimension |  |  |
| 12. Heat register dimensions: <br> a. length |  |  |
| b. width |  |  |
| 13. Wall length |  |  |
| 14. Dimensions of drafting paper: <br> a. length |  |  |
| b. width |  |  |
| 15. Width of white print paper |  |  |
| 16. Angle of rafter slope |  |  |
| 17. Volume of ammonia in partly filled jug |  |  |

## WHICH TOOLS FOR THE JOB?

Practice and prepare to demonstrate your ability to identify, select, and use metric-scaled tools and instruments for the tasks given below. You should be able to use the measurement tools to the appropriate precision of the tool, instrument, or task.

Select and demonstrate or describe use of tools, instruments, or devices to:

1. Adjust a compass to draw a circle.
2. Adjust a beam compass to draw an arc.
3. Calculate the scale of the drawing to fit on a sheet of paper.
4. Calculate the area of an irregularly shaped piot of land.
5. Survey a plot to determine area.
6. Survey a project and figure the grade.
7. Calculate the cut and fill on a project.
8. Calculate the quantity of asphalt paving needed for a project.
9. Calculate the amount of fill sand needed for a project.
10. Calculate the amount of tack coat needed for a project.
11. Test a core sample of concrete.
12. Measure the percolation rate of the soil.
13. Measure the overall length of a bolt.

## MEASURING UP IN CIVIL DRAFTING

For the tasks below, estimate the metric measurement to within $25 \%$ of actual measurement, and verify the estimation by measuring to within $5 \%$ of actual measurement.

|  | Estimate | Verify |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. Length of a city block |  |  |
| 2. Mass of a concrete building block |  |  |
| 3. Cubic volume of sand |  |  |
| 4. Area of water main pipe |  |  |
| 5. Length of building |  |  |
| 6. Angle between three points |  |  |
| 7. Distance between two points |  |  |
| 8. Percolation rate of soil |  |  |
| 9. Slope of angle |  |  |
| 10. Radius of curbing |  |  |
| 11. Width of sidewalk |  |  |
| 12. Diameter of tree |  |  |
| 13. Tire air pressure |  |  |
| 14. Mass of ingredients of concrete |  |  |
| prepared for a slump test: |  |  |
| a. sand |  |  |
| b. gravel |  |  |
| c. cement |  |  |
| d. water |  |  |

## WHICH TOOLS FOR THE JOB?

Practice and prepare to demonstrate your ability to identify, select, and use metric-scaled tools and instruments for the tasks given below. You should be able to use the measurement tools to the appropriate precision of the tool, instrument, or task.

Select and demonstrate or describe use of tools, instruments, or devices to:

1. Adjust the compass to draw a circle.
2. Adjust the beam compass to draw an arc.
3. Center a view on a piece of paper.
4. Scale down a bookcase to fit a piece of drafting paper.
5. Draw two tangents to a circle so that they intersect at $90^{\circ}$.
6. Draw two tangents to a circle so that they intersect at $45^{\circ}$.
7. Determine the cross hatch spacing on a cut away view.
8. Draw a 24 mm circle in an isometric view.
9. Measure a styrofoam cup.
10. Measure the overall length of a bolt.
11. Measure the angle of screw threads.
12. Measure a root thread diameter.
13. Measure the number of threads per mm .
14. Order a drawing pen point by size.

MEASURING UP IN
MECHANICAL DRAFTING
For the tasks below, estimate the metric measurement to within $25 \%$ of actual measurement, and verify the estimation by measuring to within $1 \%$ of actual measurement.

|  | Estimate | Verify |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. Length of table |  |  |
| 2. Width of table |  |  |
| 3. Length of a sheet of drafting paper |  |  |
| 4. Width of a sheet of drafting paper |  |  |
| 5. Temperature of the drafting room |  |  |
| 6. Height of table top |  |  |
| 7. Angle of slant of drawing board |  |  |
| 8. Bolt dimension (length and thread |  |  |
| size) |  |  |
| 9. Extension of lead from mechanical |  |  |
| pencil |  |  |

## OBJECTIVE

The student will recognize and use metric and Customary units interchangeably in ordering, selling, and using products and supplies in this occupation.

- Given a Customary (or metric) measurement, find the metric (or Customary) equivalent on a conversion table.
- Given a Customary unit, state the replacement unit.


## SUGGESTED TEACHING SEQUENCE

1. Assemble packages and containers of materials.
2. Present or make available Information Sheet 10 and Table 3.
3. Have students find approximate metricCustomary equivalents by using Exercise 17.
4. Test performance by using Section $D$ of "Testing Metric Abilities."

## METRIC-CUSTOMARY EQUIVALENTS

During the transition period there will be a need for finding equivalents between systems. Conversion tables list calculated equivalents between the two systems. When a close equivalent is needed, a conversion table can be used to find it. Follow these steps:

1. Determine which conversion table is needed.
2. Look up the known number in the appropriate column; if not listed, find numbers you can add together to make the total of the known number.
3. Read the equivalent(s) from the next column.

Table 3 on the next page gives an example of a metric-Customary conversion table which you can use for practice in finding approximate equivalents. Table 3 can be used with Exercise 17, Part 2 and Part 3.

Below is a table of metric-Customary equivalents which tells you what the metric replacements for Customary units are.* This table can be used with Exercise 17, Part 1 and Part 3. The symbol $\approx$ means "nearly equal to."

| $\mathrm{cm} \approx 0.39$ inch | $1 \mathrm{inch} \approx 2.54 \mathrm{~cm}$ | $1 \mathrm{ml} \approx 0.2 \mathrm{tsp}$ | $1 \mathrm{tsp} \approx 5 \mathrm{ml}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1 \mathrm{~m} \approx 3.28$ feet | 1 foot $\approx 0.305 \mathrm{~m}$ | $1 \mathrm{ml} \approx 0.07 \mathrm{tbsp}$ | $1 \mathrm{tbsp} \approx 15 \mathrm{ml}$ |
| $1 \mathrm{~m} \approx 1.09$ yards | $1 \mathrm{yard} \approx 0.91 \mathrm{~m}$ | $11 \approx 33.8 \mathrm{fl} \mathrm{oz}$ | $1 \mathrm{fl} \mathrm{oz} \approx 29.6 \mathrm{ml}$ |
| $1 \mathrm{~km} \approx 0.62$ mile | 1 mile $\approx 1.61 \mathrm{~km}$ | $11 \approx 4.2$ cups | 1 cup $\approx 237 \mathrm{ml}$ |
| $1 \mathrm{~cm}^{2} \approx 0.16 \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{in}$ | 1 sq in $\approx 6.5 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$ | $11 \approx 2.1 \mathrm{pts}$ | $1 \mathrm{pt} \approx 0.471$ |
| $1 \mathrm{~m}^{2} \approx 10.8 \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{ft}$ | $1 \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{ft} \approx 0.09 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ | $11 \approx 1.06 \mathrm{qt}$ | 1 qt $\approx 0.95 \mathrm{l}$ |
| $1 \mathrm{~m}^{2} \approx 1.2 \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{yd}$ | $1 \mathrm{sq} \mathrm{yd} \approx 0.8 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ | $11 \approx 0.26 \mathrm{gal}$ | $1 \mathrm{gal} \approx 3.791$ |
| hectare $\approx 2.5$ acres | 1 acre $\approx 0.4$ hectare | $1 \mathrm{gram} \approx 0.035 \mathrm{oz}$ | $1 \mathrm{oz} \approx 28.3 \mathrm{~g}$ |
| $1 \mathrm{~cm}^{3} \approx 0.06 \mathrm{cu} \mathrm{in}$ | $1 \mathrm{cu} \mathrm{in} \approx 16.4 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ | $1 \mathrm{~kg} \approx 2.2 \mathrm{lb}$ | $1 \mathrm{lb} \approx 0.45 \mathrm{~kg}$ |
| $1 \mathrm{~m}^{3} \approx 35.3 \mathrm{cu} \mathrm{ft}$ | $1 \mathrm{cu} \mathrm{ft} \approx 0.03 \mathrm{~m}^{3}$ | 1 metric ton $\approx 2205 \mathrm{Jb}$ | 1 ton $=907.2 \mathrm{k}$ |
| $1 \mathrm{~m}^{3} \approx 1.3 \mathrm{cu} \mathrm{yd}$ | $1 \mathrm{cu} \mathrm{yd} \approx 0.8 \mathrm{~m}^{3}$ | $1 \mathrm{kPa} \approx 0.145 \mathrm{psi}$ | $1 \mathrm{psi} \approx 6.895 \mathrm{kPa}$ |

*Adapted from Let's Measure Metric. A Teacher's Introduction to Metric Measurement. Division of Educational Redesign and Renewal, Ohio Department of Education, 65 S . Front Street, Columbus, OH 43215.1975 ,

## CONVERSION TABLES



Table 3

1. You are working in a drafting firm. With the change to metric measurement some of the things you order, sell or use are marked only in metric units. You will need to be familiar with appropriate Customary equivalents in order to communicate with customers and suppliers who use Customary units. To develop your skill use the Table on Information Sheet 10 and give the approximate metric quantity (both number and unit) for each of the following Customary quantities.

|  | Customary Quantity | Metric Quantity |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a) | 2 lbs . of grass seed |  |
| b) | 4 qts. of ammonia |  |
| c) | $3 / 4$ in. pipe |  |
| d) | 10 acres |  |
| e) | 1000 lbs . of aluminum |  |
| f) | 18 in. diameter tree |  |
| g ) | two-gallon can |  |
| h) | 6 ft . tape measurer |  |
| i) | 1 fl . oz. of spray paint |  |
| j ) | 3 miles |  |
| k) | 8 in. pipe |  |
| 1) | 2 in . x 4 in. x 8 ft . stud |  |
| m) | 2 ft . sidewalk |  |
| n) | 6 in. stake |  |
| o) | 1/4 in. bolt |  |
| p) | 16 oz . can of epoxy |  |
| q) | $4 \mathrm{ft} . \times 2 \mathrm{ft}$. window |  |
| r) | 5 gals. of paint |  |

2. Use the conversion tables from Table 3 to convert the following:

| a) | $13 / 4 \mathrm{in} .=$ | mm | f) | 0.4 cm | $=$ | in. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| b) | $13 \mathrm{~mm}=$ | in. | g) | 19 in. | $=$ | mm |
| c) | $1241 \mathrm{ft} .^{2}=$ | $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | h) | $331.7 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ | $=$ | $\mathrm{ft.}^{2}$ |
| d) | $11.3 \mathrm{~cm}=$ | in. | i ) | 442 mm | $=$ | in. |
| e) | 39.37 in . $=$ | mm | j ) | 1 ft . | $=$ | cm |

3. Complete the Requisition Form using the items listed. Convert the Customary quantities to metric before filling out the form. Complete all the information (Date, For, No., etc.).
Order the following civil engineering or drafting materials:
a) 1200 lbs . of sand
b) 5 gals. of white print.fluid in 1 gal. containers
c ) 50 yd . roll of white print paper
d) 1000 sq. ft. of paneling
e ) 1 pt . of rubber cement thinnker
f ) 6 ft . metal tape measure
g ) 6-4 in. paint brushes

REQUISITION

> Date
$\qquad$
For $\qquad$

No. Date Wanted $\qquad$
Deliver to $\qquad$

| QTY | UNIT | ITEM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Requested by $\qquad$
Approved by $\qquad$

## SECTION A

1. One kilogram is about the mass of a:
[A] nickel
[B] apple seed
[C] basketball
[D] Volkswagen "Beetle"
2. A square metre is about the area of:
[A] this sheet of paper
[B] a card table top
[C] a bedspread
[D] a postage stamp
3. The length of screws and bolts is measured in:
[A] millilitres
[B] micrometres
[C] millimetres
[D] kilograms
4. The mass of steel is measured in:
[A] millilitres
[B] centimetres
[C] kilograms
[D] cubic metres
5. Road width is normally given in:
[A] kilograms
[B] metres
[C] grams
[D] centimetres
6. The correct way to write twenty grams is:
[A] 20 gms
[B] 20 Gm .
[C] 20 g .
[D] 20 g
7. The correct way to write twelve thousand millimetres is:
[A] $12,000 \mathrm{~mm}$.
[B] 12.000 mm
[C] 12000 mm
[D] 12000 mm

## SECTION B

8. A board 20 centimetres wide also has a width of:
[A] 0.2 millimetre
[B] 2000 millimetres
[C] 2 millimetres
[D] 200 millimetres
9. A 750 gram drafting set is the same as:
[A] 7.5 kilograms
[B] 75.0 kilograms
[C] 750 kilograms
[D] 0.75 kilogram

## SECTION C

10. For measuring kilograms you would use a:
[A] scale
[B] pressure gage
[C] ruler
[D] container
11. For measuring millilitres you would use a:
[A] tape
[B] container
[C] ruler
[D] pressure gage
12. For measuring in centimetres and millimetres you would use a:
[A] thermometer
[B] ruler
[C] scale
[D] measuring cup or graduate
13. For measuring in Celsius you would use a:
[A] ruler
[B] measuring cup or graduate
[C] thermometer
[D] scale
14. Estimate the length of the line segment below:
[A] 23 grams
[B] 6 centimetres
[C] 40 millimetres
[D] 14 pascals
15. Estimate the length of the line segment below:
$\longmapsto$
[A] 10 millimetres
[B] 4 centimetres
[C] 4 pascals
[D] 23 milligrams

## SECTION D

16. The metric unit for liquid measure which replaces the fluid ounce is:
[A] millilitre
[B] hectare
[C] litre
[D] gram
17. The metric unit for area which replaces the acre is:
[A] litre
[B] kilometre
[C] square metre
[D] hectare
18. The metric unit for pressure which replaces pounds per square inch ( psi ) is:
[A] cubic centimetre
[B] kilopascal
[C] cubic metre
[D] Celsius
19. The metric unit for liquid measure which replaces the gallon is:
[A] litre
[B] pascal
[C] metre
[D] kilogram

Use this conversion table to answer questions 20 and 21.

| mm | in. | mm | in. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 0.04 | 0.1 | 0.004 |
| 2 | 0.08 | 0.2 | 0.008 |
| 3 | 0.12 | 0.3 | 0.012 |
| 4 | 0.16 | 0.4 | 0.016 |
| 5 | 0.20 | 0.5 | 0.020 |
| 6 | 0.24 | 0.6 | 0.024 |
| 7 | 0.28 | 0.7 | 0.028 |
| 8 | 0.31 | 0.8 | 0.031 |
| 9 | 0.35 | 0.9 | 0.035 |

20. The equivalent of 5.5 mm is:
[A] 0.220 in .
[B] 0.55 in .
[C] 2.20 in .
[D] 0.055 in .
21. The equivalent of 6.2 mm is:
[A] 0.62 in .
[B] 0.062 in .
[C] 0.248 in .
[D] 0.2408 in .

## ANSWERS TO EXERCISES AND TEST

## EXERCISES 1 THRU 6

The answers depend on the items used for the activities.

## EXERCISE 7

Currently accepted metric units of measurement for each question are shown in Table 2. Standards in each occupation are being established now. so answers may vary.

## EXERCISE 8

| a) | -2.6 cm | e) | 13.2 cm |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| b) | 58.3 cm | f) | 80.2 cm |
| c) | 9.4 cm | g) | 140.0 cm |
| d) | 68.0 cm | h) | 230.7 cm |

## EXERCISES 9 THRU 13

Tables are reproduced in total. Answers are in parentheses.

Exercise 9

| metre <br> m | centimetre <br> cm | millimetre <br> mm |
| :---: | :---: | ---: |
| 1 | 100 | 1000 |
| 2 | 200 | $(2000)$ |
| 3 | $(200)$ | $13000)$ |
| 9 | $(900)$ | $(9000)$ |
| $(5)$ | $(500)$ | 5000 |
| 74 | $(7400)$ | $(74000)$ |
| 0.8 | 80 | $(800)$ |
| 0.6 | $(60)$ | 600 |
| 10.025$)$ | 2.5 | 25 |
| $(0.148)$ | $114.8)$ | 148 |
| $(6.39)$ | 639 | $16390)$ |

Exercise 10

| millilitres <br> ml | Litres <br> 1 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 3000 | 3 |
| 6000 | $(6)$ |
| $(8000)$ | 8 |
| $(14000)$ | $(14)$ |
| $(23000)$ | 23 |
| 300 | 0.3 |
| 700 | $(0.7)$ |
| $(900)$ | 0.9 |
| 250 | $(0.25)$ |
| 1470$)$ | 0.47 |
| 275 | $(0.275)$ |

Exercise 11

| litres <br> l | millilitres <br> ml |
| :---: | :---: |
| 8 | 8000 |
| 5 | $(5000)$ |
| 46 | $(46000)$ |
| $(32)$ | 32000 |
| 0.4 | $(400)$ |
| 0.53 | $(530)$ |
| $(0.48)$ | 480 |

Exercise 12

| grams <br> g | kilograms <br> kg |
| :---: | :---: |
| 4000 | 4 |
| 9000 | 191 |
| 23000 | 1231 |
| 18000$)$ | 8 |
| 300 | 10.31 |
| 275 | $(0.275)$ |

Exercise 13

| kilograms <br> kg | grams <br> g |
| :---: | ---: |
| 7 | 7000 |
| 11 | 1110001 |
| 125$)$ | 25000 |
| 0.4 | $(400)$ |
| 0.63 | $1630)$ |
| $(0.1751$ | 175 |

## Exercise 14

a ) 50 mm

1) 1000 cm
b) 2.5 t
m) 10 mm
) $5 \mathrm{~cm} x$
n) 2000 g
a) 1000 mm x

2100 mm
d) 250 ml
p) 0.5 litre
e) 2.4 m
q ) 30 mm
f) 0.65 m
r) 5000 cm
g) 500 kg
i) 0.5 kg
2.5 kg
j) 1200 m
t) 12 cm
j) 1200 mmxu$) 500 \mathrm{ml}$ $2400 \mathrm{~cm} \mathrm{v}) 240 \mathrm{~cm}$
k) 0.25 litre

## EXERCISES 15 AND 16

The answers depend on the items used for the activities.

## EXERCISE 17

## Part 1.

a ) 0.9 kg

1) 5.08 cm x
b) 3.8 litres $10.16 \mathrm{~cm} \times$
c ) 1.905 cm
2.44 m
d) 4 ha
m) 0.61 m
e) 450 kg
n) 15.24 cm
f) 45.72 cm
g ) 7.58 litres
o) 0.635 cm
h) 1.83 m
p) 452.8 g
i) 29.6 ml
q) 1.22 m x
j ) 4.83 km
r) 18.95 litres
k) 20.32 cm

Part 2.
a ) 44.5 mm f) 0.16 in .
b) 0.51 in . g ) 482.6 mm
c) $115.29 \mathrm{~m}^{2} \mathrm{~h}$ ) $3,570.38 \mathrm{ft} .^{2}$
d) 4.44 in
e) 1000 mm j) 30.48 cm

## Part 3.

a ) 540 kg
b ) 5, 3.79 litres
c ) 45.5 m
d) $90 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$
e ) 0.47 litre
f) 1.83 m
g ) $6-10.16 \mathrm{~cm}$

## TESTING METRIC ABILITIES

| 1. | C | 8. | D | 15. | A |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 2. | B | 9. | D | 16. | A |
| 3. | C | 10. | A | 17. | D |
| 4. | C | 11. | B | 18. | B |
| 5. | B | 12. | B | 19. | A |
| 6. | D | 13. | C | 20. | A |
| 7. | D | 14. | B | 21. | C |

THE CENTER FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

## SUGGESTED METRIC TOOLS AND DEVICES NEEDED TO COMPLETE MEASUREMENT TASKS IN EXERCISES 1 THROUGH 5

> (* Optional)

## LINEAR

Metre Sticks
Rules, 30 cm
Measuring Tapes, 150 cm
*Height Measure
*Metre Tape, 10 m
*Trundle Wheel
*Area Measuring Grid

## VOLUME/CAPACITY

*Nesting Measures, set of 5, $50 \mathrm{ml}-1000 \mathrm{ml}$
Economy Beaker, set of 6 , 50 ml . 1000 ml
Metric Spoon, set of 5 , 1 ml - 25 ml
Dry Measure, set of 3 , $50,125,250 \mathrm{ml}$
Plastic Litre Box
Centimetre Cubes

## MASS

Bathroom Scale
*Kilogram Scale
*Platform Spring Scale 5 kg Capacity 10 kg Capacity
Balance Scale with 8-piece mass set
*Spring Scale, 6 kg Capacity

## TEMPERATURE

Celsius Thermometer

## SUGGESTED METRIC TOOLS AND DEVICES NEEDED TO COMPLETE OCCUPATIONAL MEASUREMENT TASKS

In this occupation the tools needed to complete Exercises 6, 15 , and 16 are indicated by " $\star$."

* A. Assorted Metric Hardware-Hex nuts, washers, screws, cotter pins, etc.
B. Drill Bits-Individual bits or sets, 1 mm to 13 mm range
* C. Vernier Caliper-Pocket slide type, 120 mm range
* D. Micrometer-Outside micrometer caliper, 0 mm to 25 mm range
E. Feeler Gage -13 blades, 0.05 mm to 1 mm range
* F. Metre Tape- 50 or 100 m tape
* G. Thermometers-Special purpose types such as a clinical thermometer
H. ${ }^{1}$ Temperature Devices-Indicators used for ovens, freezing/ cooling systems, etc.
I. Tools-Metric open end or box wrench sets, socket sets, hex key sets
J. Weather Devices-Rain gage, barometer, humidity, wind velocity indicators
* K. ${ }^{1}$ Pressure Gages-Tire pressure, air, oxygen, hydraulic, fuel, etc.
L. ${ }^{1}$ Velocity-Direct reading or vane type meter
M. Road Map-State and city road maps
$\star$ N. Containers-Buckets, plastic containers, etc., for mixing and storing liquids
* O. Containers-Boxes, buckets, cans, etc., for mixing and storing dry ingredients

Most of the above items may be obtained from local industrial, hardware, and school suppliers. Also, check with your school district's math and science departments and/or local industries for loan of their metric measurement devices.

[^1]
## REFERENCES

Going Metric in Drafting. Center for Metric Education, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49001, 1974, (available through the industrial education depart ments of teacher education instutions in each of the states), 51 transparency masters, Notes and Comments (12 pages).

Set of transparency masters and teacher's script for metrication of drafting in construction and manufacturing. Includes various scale comparisons, roundingoff rules and tolerancing, preferred metric linear sizes for engineering design, comparisons of first- and third-angle orthographic metric drawings, ISO metric thread sizes, and reading metric micrometers and calipers.

Let's Measure Metric. A Teacher's Introduction to Metric Measurement. Division of Educational Redesign and Renewal, Ohio Department of Education, 65 S. Front Street, Columbus, $\mathrm{OH} 43215,1975,80$ pages; $\$ 1.50$, must include check to state treasurer.

Activity-oriented introduction to the metric system designed for independent or group inservice education study. Introductory information about metric measurement; reproducible exercises apply metric concepts to common measurement situations; laboratory activities for individuals or groups. Templates for making metre tape, litre box, square centimetre grid.

Measuring with Meters, or. How to Weigh a Gold Brick with a Meter-Stick. Metrication Institute of America, P.O. Box 236, Northfield, IL 60093. $1974,23 \mathrm{~min}$., 16 mm , sound, color; $\$ 310.00$ purchase, $\$ 31.00$ rental.

Film presents units for length, area, volume and mass, relating each unit to many common objects. Screen overprints show correct use of metric symbols and ease of metric calculations. Relationships among metric measures of length, area, volume, and mass are illustrated in interesting and unforgettable ways.

Metric Education, An Annotated Bibliography for Vocational, Technical and Adult Education. Product Utilization, The Center for Vocational Edueation, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, 1974, 149 pages; $\$ 10.00$.

Comprehensive bibliography of instructional materials, reference materials and resource list for secondary, post-secondary, teacher education, and adult basic education. Instructional materials indexed by 15 oeeupational clusters, types of materials, and educational level.

Metric Education, A Position Paper for Vocational, Technical and Adult Education. Product Utilization, The Center for Vocational Education, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, 1975, 46 pages; $\$ 3.00$.

Paper for teachers, curriculum developers, and administrators in vocational, technical and adult education. Covers issues in metric education, the metric system, the impact of metrication on vocational and technical education, implications of metric instruction for adult basic education, and curriculum and instructional strategies.

Metric Supplement to Technical Drawing. Mark Henschel, 3123 N. Seminary, Chicago, IL $60657,1975,48$ pages, $\$ 1.50 ; 40 \%$ discount to schools and non-profit institutions.

Introduction to reading metric drawings based on the practices of American industries going metric. Describes basic metric units and prefixes, international metric paper sizes, converting inch drawings to metric, making tolerance conversions, duai-dimensioning practices, first-angle projections, special symbols, and thread designations. Includes drawings from industries - International Harvester, ITT Gilfillan, Caterpillar Tractor, Clarke Equipment, General Motorsand on ISO Metric Serew Threads. Sets of questions with drawings, answers appended. Conversion charts appended for tap and drill sizes.

Metrics in Career Education. Lindbeck, John R., Charles A. Bennett Company Inc., 809 W. Detweiller Drive, Peoria, IL 61614, 1975, 103 pages,
$\$ 3.60$, paper; $\$ 2.70$ quantity school purchase.
Presents metric units and notation in a well-illustrated manner. Individual chapters on metrics in drafting, metalworking, woodworking, power and energy, graphic arts, and home economics. Chapters followed by several learning activities for student use. Appendix includes conversion tables and charts.

Taking the Tricks Out of Metrics. Metric Training Department, Creative Universal, Inc., Tower 14, 21700 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI $48975,1976,4$ booklets; $\$ 3.00$ each, $\$ 12.00$ set, discounts.

Series of booklets presents step-by-step directions, questions, answers on how to read metric measurement tools: micrometers, vernies calipers, rules, dial indicators.

## METRIC SUPPLIERS

Brown \& Sharpe Manufacturing Co., Precision Park, North Kingstown, RI 02852
Industrial quality micrometers, steel rules, screw pitch and thickness gages, squares, depth gages, calipers, dial indicators, conversion charts and guides.

Central Instrument Company, 900 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10032.
Drafting rules and scales for drafting, engineering, architecture, conversion tables and slides, posters, teaching aids, drafting templates.
Dick Blick Company, P.O. Box 1267, Galesburg, IL 61401.
Instructional quality rules, tapes, metre sticks, cubes, height measures, trundle wheels, measuring cups and spoons, personal scales, gram/kilogram scales, feeler and depth gages, beakers, thermometers, kits and other aids.
Regal-Beloit Corporation, P.O. Box 38, South Beloit, IL 61080 .
Audio-cassettes, books, charts and posters, films, filmstrips, industrial measuring instruments and metric fasteners, kits, periodicals, reports and pamphlets, slides and transparencies.
INFORMATION SOURCES
American National Metric Council, 1625 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

Charts, posters, reports and pamphlets, Metric Reporter newsletter. National metric coordinating council representing industry, government, education, professional and trade organizations.

National Bureau of Standards, Office of Information Activities, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20234.

Free and inexpensive metric charts and publications, also lends films and displays.


[^0]:    This publication was developed pursuant to contract No OEC-0.74.9335 with the Sureau of Occupational and Adult Education, US. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. However, the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the U.S. Office of Education and no official endorsement by the US Office of Education should be inferred

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Measuring devices currently are not available. Substitute devices (i.e., thermometer) may be used to complete the measurement task.

