

# League of SI Superheroes



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There are seven SI superheroes. SI stands for *Le Système International d'Unités* (French for “International System of Units”). The SI is also known as the metric system.

Each card in this pack lists a different superhero's name, picture, symbol, and the measurement unit he or she represents on the front.

On the back of each card, there is a short description of the superhero's powers, followed by a basic definition of the SI unit. To learn more about the SI units and get their official, scientific definitions, go to <http://go.usa.gov/AjJC>.

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# Meter Man

Symbol: **m**



SI unit of  
**LENGTH**

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**Meter Man**

SI\* unit of length

Symbol: **m**

**W**ith his sharp eyes and stretchy ruler arms, no distance is too big or small for Meter Man to measure.

A meter is the distance light travels in a tiny fraction of a second.

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# Professor Second

Symbol: **s**



SI unit of  
**TIME**

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## Professor Second

SI\* unit of time

Symbol: **s**

**B**y reading the vibrations of her laser-cooled cesium atoms, Professor Second can synchronize any frequency and correct any clock.

A second is the time it takes an excited cesium atom to vibrate 9,192,631,770 times.

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# The Mole

Symbol: **mol**



SI unit of  
**AMOUNT OF SUBSTANCE**

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## The Mole

SI\* unit of amount of substance

Symbol: **mol**

**A**ble to sniff out and count the atoms of every element, the Mole is the king of chemistry.

Equal to about 600 sextillion (that's a 6 followed by 23 zeros!), a mole is a shorthand way to talk about huge numbers, especially of tiny things.

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# Monsieur Kilogram

Symbol: **kg**



SI unit of  
**MASS**

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## Monsieur Kilogram

SI\* unit of mass

Symbol: **kg**

**W**ith his immensely strong arms, Monsieur Kilogram is the master of mass.

The kilogram is a cylinder of special metal about 39 millimeters wide by 39 millimeters tall that serves as the world's mass standard.

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# Ms. Ampere

Symbol: **A**



SI unit of  
**ELECTRIC CURRENT**

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**Ms. Ampere**  
SI\* unit of electric current  
Symbol: **A**

**M**s. Ampere has a shocking amount of power over the flow of electrons—electrical current.

In practical terms, an ampere is the measure of the flow of electrons past a point—about 6 quintillion electrons (that’s a 6 followed by 18 zeros!) per second.

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# Dr. Kelvin

Symbol: **K**



## Dr. Kelvin

SI\* unit of temperature

Symbol: **K**

**W**ith the ability to speed up or slow down particles, Dr. Kelvin can measure any temperature.

The Kelvin temperature scale begins at absolute zero, the coldest possible temperature and the point at which even atoms would stand perfectly still.

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SI unit of  
**TEMPERATURE**

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# Candela

Symbol: **cd**



**Candela**  
SI\* unit of brightness  
Symbol: cd

**D**on't let her small size fool you, Candela's power over light helps to brighten the whole world.

A candela is a measure of brightness about equal to the light given off by a single candle.

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SI unit of  
**BRIGHTNESS**

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# Major Uncertainty

Symbol: ?



**ERROR!**

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## Major Uncertainty

Symbol: ?

**A**n alien invader from parts unknown, Major Uncertainty uses his less-than-trustworthy monkey wrench to generate a dreadful “chaos beam,” which causes us to doubt the accuracy and precision of our measurements.

Major Uncertainty feeds on this doubt, which makes him bigger, stronger, and less pleasant to be around.

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