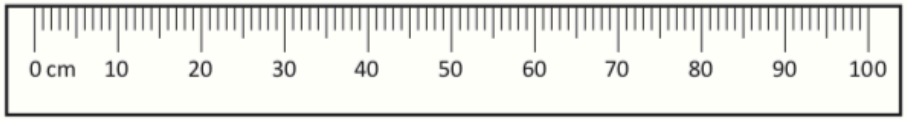
Units of length – metres and centimetres

We use metres, centimetres and millimetres regularly in everyday life. There are 100 centimetres in 1 metre. Another way to think about this relationship is that 1 centimetre is one hundredth of a metre.

100 cm = 1 m 1 cm = $\frac{1}{100}$ m or 0.01 m So $\frac{1}{2}$ m = 50 cm = 0.5 m



Convert each metre measurement into centimetres:

a 2 m = ☐ cm **b** 4 m = ☐ cm **c** $\frac{1}{4}$ m = ☐ cm

d 9 m = ☐ cm **e** $\frac{1}{2}$ m = ☐ cm **f** $1\frac{1}{4}$ m = ☐ cm

Convert each centimetre measurement to metres:

a 10 cm = ☐ m **b** 30 cm = ☐ m **c** 90 cm = ☐ m

d 50 cm = ☐ m **e** 75 cm = ☐ m **f** 80 cm = ☐ m

Match these objects to their correct measurement by connecting them with a line:






37 m 45 cm 5 cm 83 cm 1 m 15 cm 12 cm

Measure the length of the lines below using a ruler. Write each length in centimetres, to the nearest centimetre.

a _____ ☐ cm

b _____ ☐ cm

c _____ ☐ cm

Answer these questions about the lines above:

a How much longer is line **b** than line **c**? ☐ cm

b What would the length of line **b** be if it was 3 cm shorter? ☐ cm

c What would the length of line **c** be if it was 9 cm longer? ☐ cm

Work with a partner to measure the following parts of your body with a tape measure. Label your measurements to the nearest centimetre in the boxes.

a Across your shoulders. ☐ cm

b Around your head. ☐ cm

c Around one ankle. ☐ cm

d Around one wrist. ☐ cm

e From your foot to the top of your thigh. ☐ cm

f Around one knee. ☐ cm

g From the top of your forehead to your chin. ☐ cm