MATH

Converting customary units of length



Name _____ Date _____

I can convert inches, feet, yards and miles.

1 How it works

A foot is 12 inches, a yard is 3 feet (36 inches) and a mile is 5,280 feet. To change a bigger unit to a smaller unit, multiply. For example, 4 feet = 4 × 12 = 48 inches. To change a smaller unit to a bigger unit, divide: 48 inches ÷ 12 = 4 feet.

Remember

1 foot = 12 inches

1 yard = 3 feet

1 yard = 36 inches

1 mile = 5,280 feet

2 Convert

Big unit to small unit: multiply. Small to big: divide.

1. 12 yards = _____ feet
2. 108 inches = _____ yards
3. 5 feet = _____ inches
4. 6 yards = _____ feet
5. 24 feet = _____ yards
6. 8 feet = _____ inches
7. 4 miles = _____ feet
8. 2 miles = _____ feet
9. 2 yards = _____ inches
10. 11 feet = _____ inches

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Tables and mixed units

Name _____ Date _____

I can complete a conversion table and change mixed units.

1 Complete the tables

Look for the pattern down each column.

1 yard = 3 feet

yards	feet
1	3
2	
3	
4	
5	

1 yard = 36 inches

yards	inches
1	36
	72
3	
	144
	180

2 Change to the smaller unit

Change the big unit, then add the rest.

1. 7 feet 8 inches = ____ inches
2. 3 yards 2 feet = ____ feet
3. 1 yard 11 inches = ____ inches
4. 7 feet 3 inches = ____ inches
5. 6 yards 1 foot = ____ feet
6. 5 yards 11 inches = ____ inches

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Compare and regroup

Name _____ Date _____

I can compare measurements and change to bigger units.

1 Write >, < or = in the circle

Change to the same unit first.

1. 9 feet ◯ 108 inches
2. 6 miles ◯ 31,680 feet
3. 9 yards ◯ 311 inches
4. 5 miles ◯ 25,500 feet
5. 8 feet ◯ 96 inches
6. 7 yards ◯ 20 feet

2 Change to the bigger unit

How many whole big units? What is left over?

1. 67 inches = ____ feet ____ inches
2. 29 feet = ____ yards ____ feet
3. 319 inches = ____ yards ____ inches
4. 73 inches = ____ feet ____ inches

3 Think about it

1. Which is longer, 1 yard or 1 foot?
2. How many inches are in half a foot?
3. Why do you multiply to change feet to inches?

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Word problems

Name _____ Date _____

I can solve measurement problems by changing units.

1 Read, convert, solve

Show your work in the box. Write the unit in your answer.

1 Noor has a ribbon 4 feet long. How many inches long is the ribbon?

Answer: _____

2 A rug is 3 yards long. A table is 8 feet long. Which is longer, and by how many feet?

Answer: _____

3 Ben jumps 5 feet 7 inches. Noor jumps 64 inches. Who jumps farther, and by how many inches?

Answer: _____

4 A bike race is 2 miles long. How many feet is the race?

Answer: _____

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: converting customary units of length

1 Page 1

Convert: 1) 36 feet; 2) 3 yards; 3) 60 inches; 4) 18 feet; 5) 8 yards; 6) 96 inches; 7) 21,120 feet; 8) 10,560 feet; 9) 72 inches; 10) 132 inches.

2 Page 2

Table 1) 6, 9, 12, 15
Table 2) 2, 108, 4, 5
Smaller unit: 1) 92 inches; 2) 11 feet; 3) 47 inches; 4) 87 inches; 5) 19 feet; 6) 191 inches.

3 Page 3

Compare: 1) =; 2) =; 3) >; 4) >; 5) =; 6) >.
Bigger unit: 1) 5 feet 7 inches; 2) 9 yards 2 feet; 3) 8 yards 31 inches; 4) 6 feet 1 inch.
Think: 1) 1 yard; 2) 6 inches; 3) Each foot is 12 inches, so you need more inches.

4 Page 4: word problems

1) 4 × 12 = 48 inches
2) The rug: 3 × 3 = 9 feet, 1 foot longer
3) Ben: 5 × 12 + 7 = 67 inches, 3 inches farther
4) 2 × 5,280 = 10,560 feet

5 Teaching tip 💡

Hand children a ruler and a yardstick. Laying three rulers along the yardstick shows why 1 yard = 3 feet better than any rule on paper.

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