

SI—British Conversion Factors

British Standard 3763 may be consulted for the definitions of SI units, and BS 350 for comprehensive tables of conversion factors.

Exact values are printed in bold type.

$$\text{Mass: } 1 \text{ kg} = \frac{1}{0.453\,592\,37} \text{ lb} = 2.205 \text{ lb}$$

$$\text{Length: } 1 \text{ m} = \frac{1}{0.3048} \text{ ft} = 3.281 \text{ ft} \quad \text{Volume: } 1 \text{ m}^3 = 35.31 \text{ ft}^3$$

$$\text{Time: } 1 \text{ s} = \frac{1}{60} \text{ min} = \frac{1}{3600} \text{ h}$$

$$\text{Temperature unit: } 1 \text{ }^\circ\text{K} = 1.8 \text{ }^\circ\text{R}$$

(see p. 11 for definitions of units and scales)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Force: } 1 \text{ N (or kg m/s}^2) &= 10^5 \text{ dyn} = \frac{1}{9.806\,65} \text{ kgf} \\ &= 7.233 \text{ pdl} = \frac{7.233}{32.174} \text{ or } 0.2248 \text{ lbf} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Pressure } p: 1 \text{ bar} = 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2 = 14.50 \text{ lbf/in}^2 = 750 \text{ mm Hg} = 10.20 \text{ m H}_2\text{O}$$

$$\text{Specific volume } v: 1 \text{ m}^3/\text{kg} = 16.02 \text{ ft}^3/\text{lb}$$

$$\text{Density } \rho: 1 \text{ kg/m}^3 = 0.062\,43 \text{ lb/ft}^3$$

$$\text{Energy: } 1 \text{ kJ} = 10^3 \text{ Nm} = \frac{1}{4.1868} \text{ kcal} = 0.9478 \text{ Btu} = 737.6 \text{ ft lbf}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Power: } 1 \text{ kW} &= 1 \text{ kJ/s} = \frac{10^3}{9.806\,65} \text{ kgf m/s} = \frac{10^3}{9.806\,65 \times 75} \text{ metric hp} \\ &= 737.6 \text{ ft lbf/s} = \frac{737.6}{550} \text{ or } \frac{1}{0.7457} \text{ British hp} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Specific energy etc. } (u, h, \Delta H): 1 \text{ kJ/kg} = \frac{1}{2.326} \text{ Btu/lb} = 0.4299 \text{ Btu/lb}$$

$$\text{Specific heat etc. } (c, R, s): 1 \text{ kJ/kg }^\circ\text{K} = \frac{1}{4.1868} \text{ Btu/lb }^\circ\text{R} = 0.2388 \text{ Btu/lb }^\circ\text{R}$$

$$\text{Thermal conductivity } k: 1 \text{ kW/m }^\circ\text{K} = 577.8 \text{ Btu/ft h }^\circ\text{R}$$

$$\text{(Heat transfer coefficient: } 1 \text{ kW/m}^2 \text{ }^\circ\text{K} = 176.1 \text{ Btu/ft}^2 \text{ h }^\circ\text{R)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Dynamic viscosity } \mu: 1 \text{ kg/m s} &= 1 \text{ N s/m}^2 = 10 \text{ dyn s/cm}^2 \text{ (or poise)} \\ &= 2419 \text{ lb/ft h} = 18.67 \times 10^{-5} \text{ pdl h/ft}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Kinematic viscosity } \nu: 1 \text{ m}^2/\text{s} = 10^4 \text{ cm}^2/\text{s} \text{ (or stokes)} = 38\,750 \text{ ft}^2/\text{h}$$

Symbol	Quantity	International system of units
a	Velocity of sound	m/s
a	Thermal diffusivity= $k/c\rho$	m^2/s
A	Area, A_c , cross-sectional area ; A_p , projected area of a body normal to the direction of flow; A_q , area through which rate of heat flow is q ; A_s , surface area; A_o , outside mean area; A_i , inside surface area; \bar{A} , logarithmic mean area	m^2
A	Azimuth of the sun	m^2
c	Specific heat; c_p , specific heat at constant pressure; c_v , specific heat at constant volume; c_s , humid heat capacity	J/kgK
D	diameter; D_H , hydraulic diameter; D_o , outside diameter; D_i , inside diameter	m
E	emissive power of a radiating body; E_b , emissive power per micron at wavelength λ	w/m^2
f	Fanning friction coefficient for flow through a pipe or a duct	
F ₁₋₂	geometrical shape factor for radiation from one blackbody to another	
g	acceleration of gravity	m/s^2
G	mass velocity or flow rate per unit area ($G=\rho V$)	kg/m^2s
h	enthalpy per unit mass	J/kg
\bar{h}	combined unit-surface, $h = \bar{h}_c + \bar{h}_r$; h_b , unit-surface conductance of a boiling liquid; h_c , local unit convective conductance; \bar{h}_c , average unit convective conductance; \bar{h}_r , average unit conductance for radiation	w/m^2K
k	thermal conductivity; k_s , thermal conductivity of a solid; k_f , thermal conductivity of a fluid evaluated at the mean film temperature	w/m^2K
K	thermal conductance; K_k ,	w/K

	thermal conductance for conduction heat transfer; K_c, thermal convective conductance; K_r, thermal conductance for radiation heat transfer	
l	length, general	m
\dot{m}	mass flow rate	kg/s
q	rate of heat flow; q_k, rate of heat flow by conduction; q_c, rate of heat flow by convection; q_r, rate of heat flow by radiation; q_b, rate of heat flow by nucleate boiling	w(J/s)
\bar{q}	rate of heat flow per unit area or heat flux	w/m²
\dot{q}	rate of heat generation per unit volume	w/m³
Q	quantity of heat	J (joules)
\dot{Q}	volumetric fluid flow	m³/s
r	radius; r_H, hydraulic radius; r_i, inner radius; r_o, outer radius	m
R	thermal resistance; R_c, thermal resistance to convection heat transfer; R_K, thermal resistance to conduction heat transfer; R_r, thermal resistance to radiation heat transfer	s/w
R_e	electrical resistance	Ω (ohm)
S_T	distance between centerlines of tubes in adjacent transverse rows	m
T	temperature; T_b, temperature of bulk of fluid; T_f, T_∞, temperature of fluid far removed from heat source or sink; T_m, mean bulk temperature of fluid flowing in a duct; T_{abs}, temperature on absolute scale; T_s, temperature at surface of a wall; T_{sv}, temperature of saturated vapor; T_{sl}, temperature of a saturated liquid; T_{fr}, freezing temperature; T_l, liquid temperature; T_o, total temperature; T_{as}, adiabatic wall temperature or adiabatic saturation	K

	temperature; T_{wb}, wet-bulb temperature	
u	internal energy per unit mass	J/kg
u	time average velocity in x direction; u', instantaneous fluctuating x component of velocity; u_{∞}, free stream velocity	m/s
U	overall unit conductance, overall heat transfer coefficient, or overall transmittance	w/m²K
V	volume	m³
V	average velocity; V_i, velocity of light; V_{∞}, free stream or flight velocity	m/s
x	distance from the leading edge; x_c, critical distance from the leading edge where flow becomes turbulent	m
x	coordinate	
y	coordinate	
y	distance from a solid boundary measured in direction normal to surface	m
z	coordinate	

Greek letters

Symbol	quantity	international system of units
α	absorptance for radiation; α_{λ}, monochromatic absorptance at wavelength λ	
β	temperature coefficient of volume expansion	1/K
β_k	temperature coefficient of thermal conductivity	1/K
γ	specific heat ratio, c_p/c_v	
Γ	body force by unit mass	N/kg
δ	boundary layer thickness; δ_h hydrodynamic boundary layer thickness; δ_m, effective boundary layer thickness for mass transfer	m
Δ	difference between values	
ϵ	emittance for radiation; ϵ_{θ}, emittance in direction of θ	

θ	time	s
λ	wavelength; λ_{\max}, wavelength at which monochromatic emissive power $E_{b\lambda}$ is a maximum	10^{-6} m
λ	latent heat of vaporization ; λ_M, molar latent heat of vaporization	J/kg
μ	dynamic viscosity	Ns/m²
ν	kinematic viscosity, μ/ρ	m²/s
ρ	mass density, l/v; ρ_l, density of liquid; ρ_v, density of vapor	kg/m³
ρ	reflectance for radiation	
τ	shearing stress; τ_s, shearing stress at surface; τ_w, shear at wall of a tube or a duct	Pa(N/m²)
τ	transmittance for radiation	
σ	Stefan-Boltzmann constant	W/m²K⁴
σ	surface tension	N/m
ψ	inclination for horizontal	rad
ω	angular velocity	1/s
χ	quality	