

SCIENTIFIC NOTATION

Name _____

Scientists very often deal with very small and very large numbers, which can lead to a lot of confusion when counting zeros! We have learned to express these numbers as powers of 10.

Scientific notation takes the form of $M \times 10^n$ where $1 \leq M < 10$ and n represents the number of decimal places to be moved. Positive n indicates the standard form is larger than zero, whereas negative n would indicate a number smaller than zero.

Example 1: Convert 1,500,000 to scientific notation.
Move the decimal point so that there is only one digit to its left, a total of 6 places.
 $1,500,000 = 1.5 \times 10^6$

Example 2: Convert 0.00025 to scientific notation.
For this, move the decimal point 4 places to the right.
 $0.00025 = 2.5 \times 10^{-4}$

(Note that when a number starts out less than one, the exponent is always negative.)

Convert the following to scientific notation.

1. 0.005 = _____
2. 5,050 = _____
3. 0.0008 = _____
4. 1,000 = _____
5. 1,000,000 = _____
6. 0.25 = _____
7. 0.025 = _____
8. 0.0025 = _____
9. 500 = _____
10. 5,000 = _____

Convert the following to standard notation.

1. $1.5 \times 10^3 =$ _____
2. $1.5 \times 10^3 =$ _____
3. $3.75 \times 10^2 =$ _____
4. $3.75 \times 10^2 =$ _____
5. $2.2 \times 10^5 =$ _____
6. $3.35 \times 10^{-1} =$ _____
7. $1.2 \times 10^4 =$ _____
8. $1 \times 10^4 =$ _____
9. $1 \times 10^{-1} =$ _____
10. $4 \times 10^6 =$ _____

METRICS AND MEASUREMENT

Name _____

Scientists use the metric system of measurement, based on the number 10. It is important to be able to convert from one unit to another.

Basic Unit		Basic Unit	
kilo (k)	1000	gram (g)	1
hecto (h)	100	liter (L)	1
deca (da)	10	meter (m)	1
		deci (d)	10^{-1}
		centi (c)	10^{-2}
		milli (m)	10^{-3}

Using the above chart, we can determine how many places to move the decimal point and in what direction by counting the places from one unit to the other.

Example: Convert 5 mL to L.
Answer: To go from millil (m) to the basic unit, liters, count on the above chart three places to the left. Move the decimal point three places to the left and 5 mL becomes 0.005 L.

Convert the following.

1. 36 mL = _____ dL
2. 950 g = _____ kg
3. 275 mm = _____ cm
4. 1,000 L = _____ kL
5. 1,000 mL = _____ L
6. 4,500 mg = _____ g
7. 25 cm = _____ mm
8. 0.005 kg = _____ dag
9. 0.075 m = _____ cm
10. 15 g = _____ mg