

METRIC PREFIXES AS FACTORS OF TEN

FACTOR	PREFIX	SYMBOL
+18	exa	E
+15	peta	P
+12	tera	T
+9	giga	G
+6	mega	M
+3	kilo	k
+2	hecto	h
+1	deka	da
0	*ROOT WORD ONLY (Base Units)*	
-1	deci	d
-2	centi	c
-3	milli	m
-6	micro	μ
-9	nano	n
-12	pico	p
-15	femto	f
-18	atto	a

The above table includes only the commonly used metric prefixes. There have been some metric prefixes suggested for some of the exponents of ten not listed here, but they are not in common use, or are in use by only a small number of people for limited use. The prefix "myria-" (my or ma) as E4 is a good example. The word "myriad" means ten-thousand, so the prefix is well documented in language. (Thanks to Van Isaac Anderson for the thought.)

A FEW ODD METRIC DEFINITIONS

$$1 \text{ metric tonne} = E3 \text{ kg}$$

$$1 \text{ mL} = 1 \text{ cc} = 1 \text{ cm}^3$$

$$1 \text{ \AA} = E-10 \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ cubic meter} = 1000 \text{ L}$$

Note: 'E' in this instance can be thought of as the Exponent on the 10 in scientific notation. You can substitute 'x10' for the 'E' in these descriptions. Many early calculators used 'E' in this fashion.