

General Information Series



Weights and Measures

Troy weight

24 grains	1 pennyweight
20 pennyweights	1 ounce (480 grains)
12 ounces	1 pound (5760 grains)

Avoirdupois weight

16 drams	1 ounce (437.5 grains Troy)
16 ounces	1 pound (7,000 grains Troy)
14 pounds	1 stone
28 pounds	1 quarter
4 quarters	1 hundredweight (112 pounds)
20 hundredweight	1 ton (2240 pounds)

Linear measure

12 inches	1 foot
3 feet	1 yard
5.5 yards	1 pole, rod or perch
4 poles	1 chain
10 chains	1 furlong
8 furlongs	1 mile (1,760 yards. Up to the year 1600, an English mile was normally 1,666 yards.)
3 miles	1 league

Note: An English, or Statutory mile is 1,760 yards: an Irish, or Plantation mile is 2,240 yards and a Cunningham, or Scottish mile is 1,984 yards.

Square measure

144 square inches	1 square foot
9 square feet	1 square yard

30.25 square yards	1 square pole
40 square poles	1 rood
4 roods	1 acre
640 acres	1 square mile

Note: an English, or Statutory acre is 4,840 square yards: an Irish, or Plantation, acre is 7,840 square yards, and a Cunningham, or Scottish acre is 6,250 square yards.

Measure of capacity (used for liquids and dry goods)

4 gills	1 pint
2 pints	1 quart
4 quarts	1 gallon
2 gallons	1 peck
4 pecks	1 bushel
8 bushels	1 quarter
5 quarters	1 load
36 bushels	1 chaldron

Note: A bushel of wheat on average weighs 60 pounds; of barley, 47 pounds; of oats, 40 pounds.
The gallon contains 10 pounds avoirdupois of distilled water.

