



## Canadian - U.S. Comparison Charts

### Length/Height/Distance/Speed

While Canada has converted to the metric system for many purposes, the country's historical ties to Great Britain and close proximity to the United States mean that Canadians are exposed to, and use, metric, imperial, and U.S. customary units of measurement. Although U.S. and imperial measurements are similar, they are not identical in all respects. The following chart compares some of these measurements.

<i>Metric</i>	<i>Imperial</i>	<i>U.S.</i>
<b>1 millimetre</b>	.039 inch	.039 inch
<b>1 centimetre</b>	.39 inch	.39 inch
25.4 millimetres	<b>1 inch</b>	<b>1 inch</b>
2.54 centimetres	<b>1 inch</b>	<b>1 inch</b>
30.48 centimetres	<b>1 foot / 12 inches</b>	<b>1 foot / 12 inches</b>
<b>1 metre</b>	1.09 yard / 39.37 inches	1.09 yard / 39.37 inches
91.44 cm / .9144 metre	<b>1 yard / 3 feet</b>	<b>1 yard / 3 feet</b>
<b>1 kilometre</b>	.62 mile	.62 mile
1.61 kilometres	<b>1 mile</b>	<b>1 mile</b>

#### Canadian Usage Notes

- Personal height is generally expressed in feet and inches:  
*I'm six feet tall, and my wife is five four (or five feet and four inches).*
- Distance is measured in metres or kilometers.
- Road signs and maps show distances in kilometres.
- Speed is measured in kilometres per hour (kph).
- Vehicles have metric speedometers and odometers, although miles-per-hour figures are often included for travel in the U.S.
- Canadian football fields and golf courses are measured in yards.
- Fabric can be purchased in either metres or yards; sewing patterns include both measurements.
- Some fast-food sizes are expressed by imperial units:  
*a six-inch sub, a foot-long hotdog.*