

The following practical units are conveniently used and are expressed in terms of S.I system of units also.

1. **Mircons** is a small unit for measurement of length 1 micron = $1 \mu\text{m} = 10^{-6} \text{ m}$
2. **Angstrom** is a unit in which the size of atom is measured and is used in Atomic Physics.
3. **Light Year** is a unit of distance traveled by light in free space and is used in Astrophysics. $1 \text{ light year} = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s} \times 365 \times 24 \times 60 \times 60 = 9.5 \times 10^{15} \text{ meters}$
4. **Fermi** is a unit of distance in which the size of a nucleus is measured. $1 \text{ Fermi} = 10^{-15} \text{ m}$
5. **Atomic Mass Unit** : It is a unit of mass equal to $1/12^{\text{th}}$ mass of carbon (12) nucleus and is used in measuring the masses of nuclei.
 $1 \text{ atomic mass unit} = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$.

SI Prefixes

The magnitudes of physical quantities vary over a wide range. The CGPM recommended standard prefixes for magnitude too large or too small to be expressed more compactly for certain powers of 10.

Table: Prefixes used for different powers of 10.

Power of 10	Prefix	Symbol	Power of 10	Prefix	Symbol
10^{18}	exa	E	10^{-1}	deci	d
10^{15}	peta	P	10^{-2}	centi	c
10^{12}	tera	T	10^{-3}	milli	m
10^9	giga	G	10^{-6}	micro	μ
10^6	mega	M	10^{-9}	nano	n