|  | Length | Weight | Capacity |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| mili $=110000$ | millimetre | milligram | millilitre |
| 匹emi $=11100$ | centimetre |  | centilitre |
|  | metre | gram | litre |
| kiio $=1000$ | kilometre | kilogram | kilolitre |

To go from a small measure to a large one (e.g. cm to m), divide.
To go from a large measure to a small one (e.g. m to cm), multiply.

## Are Imperial measuremenis seally that eassy?

- Old English measurements are based on nature and everyday activities.
- Smaller length measurements were based on the human body, such as the foot and the thumb (inch).
- Larger measures, such as the mile, were defined as multiples of smaller measures.
- Fourteenth-century statutes (Acts of Parliament) noted a yard of 3 feet, each foot containing 12 inches, each inch equalling the length of 3 barleycorns.
- The Imperial system was set up by the Weights and Measures Act of 1824 to create precise definitions of selected existing units.

| Length | Meignt | Capacity |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & 12 \text { inches = } 1 \text { foot } \\ & 3 \text { feet = } 1 \text { yard } \\ & 6 \text { feet ( } 2 \text { yards) }=1 \text { fathom } \\ & 51 / 2 \text { yards }=1 \text { pole, rod or perch } \\ & 22 \text { yards }=1 \text { chain }=100 \text { links } \\ & 10 \text { chains }=1 \text { furlong (horse racing) } \\ & 8 \text { furlongs }=1 \text { mile }=1760 \text { yards } \\ & 3 \text { miles }=1 \text { league (obsolete!) } \end{aligned}$ | Apothecaries' measures: <br> 20 grains = 1 scruple <br> 3 scruples $=1$ drachm <br> 8 drachms = 1 ounce <br> 12 ounces $=1$ pound <br> Avoirdupois weight: <br> 2711/32 grains = 1 drachm <br> 16 drachms = 1 ounce <br> 16 ounces $=1$ pound <br> 14 pounds $=1$ stone <br> 2 stones = 1 quarter <br> 4 quarters $=1$ hundredweight <br> 20 hundredweight $=1$ ton ( 2240 lbs ) | Liquid <br> 60 minims = 1 fluid drachm <br> 8 fluid drachms = 1 fluid ounce <br> 5 fluid ounces $=1$ gill <br> 4 gills $=1$ pint <br> 2 pints = 1 quart <br> 4 quarts $=1$ gallon <br> Dry <br> 8 quarts $=1$ peck <br> 4 pecks = 1 bushel <br> 3 bushels = 1 sack <br> 12 sacks = 1 chaldron <br> 8 bushels = 1 quarter <br> 5 quarters = 1 load |

