

Convert measurements to metrics in Excel

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Excel offers a function that can save you all kinds of time when you need to convert measurements. Here's a look at how you can put this function to work.

With Excel's CONVERT function, you don't need to know the formulas for converting one unit of measurement to another. For example, say you have a listing of items in Column A, whose length in feet is listed in column B. You need to convert the length from feet to meters before distributing the list to your overseas offices. Follow these steps:

Select C2:C8.

Enter `=CONVERT(B2,"ft","m")`

Press Ctrl + Enter.

Figure A shows the results.

Figure A

	A	B	C	D
1	Product	Length in Feet	Length in Meters	
2	Product A	10	3.048	
3	Product B	15	4.572	
4	Product C	20	6.096	
5	Product D	50	15.24	
6	Product E	100	30.48	
7	Product F	150	45.72	
8	Product G	175	53.34	
9				

You can use the CONVERT function to convert many kinds of measurements. For example, to convert 68° Fahrenheit to its Centigrade equivalent, you would enter:

`=CONVERT(68, "F", "C")`

Likewise, to convert back to Fahrenheit, you would enter:

```
=CONVERT(F2,"C","F")
```

Figure B shows the both of these functions.

Figure B

F
=CONVERT(68,"F","C")
=CONVERT(F2,"C","F")

See Excel Help for the correct arguments for converting other types of measurements. (Note: If Excel does not recognize the CONVERT function, you need to load the Analysis ToolPak.)

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