

Lesson 4-8 Notes
Changing Units in the Customary System

| Type | Length | Capacity | Weight |
|-------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| Unit | Inch (in.) Foot (ft) Yard (yd) Mile (mi) | Fluid ounce (fl oz) Cup (c) Pint (p) Quart (qt) Gallon (gal) | Ounce (oz) Pound (lb) Ton (t) |
| Equivalents | 1 ft = 12 in. 1 yd = 3 ft. 1 mi = 5,280 ft | 1 c = 8 fl oz 1 pt = 2 c 1 qt = 2 pt 1 gal = 4 qt | 1 lb = 16 oz 1 t = 2,000 lb |

We can write think of some measurements as mixed numbers or fractions:

1 in. is $\frac{1}{12}$ of a foot.

3 in. is $\frac{1}{4}$ of a foot.
 $\frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4}$

6 in. is $\frac{1}{2}$ of a foot.
 $\frac{6}{12} = \frac{1}{2}$

2 ft is $\frac{2}{3}$ of a yard.

4 ft. is $1\frac{1}{3}$ yard.
 $\frac{4}{3} = 1\frac{1}{3}$

1 qt. is $\frac{1}{4}$ of a gallon.

We can use fractions and mixed numbers to change units of length in the Customary System.

A carpenter has a board 10 ft long. A piece 5 ft 3 in. long is cut from the board. What is the length in feet of the remaining piece?

Step 1: Write 5 ft 3 in. as a fraction.

$$5\frac{3}{12} \rightarrow 5\frac{1}{4} \text{ ft.}$$

Step 2: Rewrite your whole number as a fraction.

$$10 - 5\frac{1}{4} \rightarrow \frac{10^{x4}}{1 \times 4} - \frac{21}{4}$$

Step 3: Find a common denominator.

$$\frac{40}{4} - \frac{21}{4} = \frac{19}{4}$$

$$4 \overline{)19} \begin{array}{r} 4 \text{ r } 3 \\ -16 \\ \hline 3 \end{array} = \boxed{4\frac{3}{4} \text{ ft.}}$$

Step 4: Solve.

Dimensional Analysis

How many one cup servings are in a 36 fl oz bottle of juice?

Step 1: What units are you being asked to use? cups and fl. oz.

Step 2: What is the relationship between these unit? 8 fl. oz = 1 c

Step 3: Set up the problem by starting with the amount you are converting. Then use the unit relationship to solve.

$$\frac{36 \text{ fl. oz.}}{1} \times \frac{1 \text{ c}}{8 \text{ fl. oz.}} = \frac{36}{8} = 4\frac{4}{8} = \boxed{4\frac{1}{2} \text{ c}}$$

Don't forget! We want the LIKE units to be diagonal from one another so they "cancel" out.

$$\frac{3 \text{ lb}}{1} \times \frac{16 \text{ oz}}{1 \text{ lb}}$$

You Try!

How many one-cup servings are there in a 50 fl oz bottle of juice?

$$8 \text{ oz} = 1 \text{ c}$$
$$\frac{50 \text{ fl. oz.}}{1} \times \frac{1 \text{ c}}{8 \text{ fl. oz.}} = \frac{50}{8} = 6\frac{2}{8} = \boxed{6\frac{1}{4} \text{ c}}$$

You have 17 pints of milk. How many gallons is this?

$$\frac{17 \text{ pt}}{1} \times \frac{1 \text{ qt}}{2 \text{ pt}} \times \frac{1 \text{ gal}}{4 \text{ qt}} = \frac{17}{8} = \boxed{2\frac{1}{8} \text{ gal}}$$

The lighter the frame of a mountain bike, the easier it is to cycle. Which bike shown in the ad will be easier to cycle?



$$\frac{76 \text{ oz}}{1} \times \frac{1 \text{ lb}}{16 \text{ oz}} = \frac{76}{16}$$

$$= 4 \frac{12 \div 4}{16 \div 4}$$

$$4 \frac{3}{4} \text{ lb}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \text{ } 16 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline 80 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 16 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline 64 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \text{ r } 12 \\ 16 \overline{) 76} \\ \underline{-64} \\ 12 \end{array}$$

$$4 \frac{1}{4} < 4 \frac{3}{4}$$

lightest