



Eleven Plus Maths How To Do - Mass or Weight

The basic unit in mass is the gram. We use it to weigh our ingredients in cooking, or the food we buy in the supermarket.

For heavier items like your luggage when you go on holiday the kilogram is used.

Mass Conversion

It is necessary to understand the rules of decimals before starting to convert g to km. When you multiply a decimal number by 1000 the figures move 3 places to the left. When you divide a decimal number by 1000 the figures move 3 places to the right. The decimal point does not move.

$$1000g = 1kg$$
$$1000kg = 1 \text{ tonne}$$

- (a) To change g to kg divide by 1000
 $8347g = 8kg \ 347g$ or $8.347kg$

To change kg to g multiply by 1000
 $8.347kg = 8347g$

- (b) To convert kg to tonnes divide by 1000
 $4343kg = 4.343 \text{ tonnes}$

To convert kg to kg multiply by 1000
 $4.343 \text{ tonnes} = 4343kg$