

Common conversion mistakes and how to avoid them

Engineering Fluid Mechanics

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578 km

1600 m = 1.6 km = 1 MILE

578 km · 1.6 = 924.8 MILES

$$578 \cancel{\text{km}} \cdot \left(\frac{1 \text{ mile}}{1.6 \cancel{\text{km}}} \right) = \underline{361.25 \text{ miles}}$$

**Common conversion mistake:
not using the units**



$$25,467 \text{ ft}^3$$

$$3.28 \text{ ft} = 1 \text{ m}$$

$$25,467 \text{ ft}^3 \cdot \left(\frac{1 \text{ m}^3}{3.28 \text{ ft}^3} \right)^3 = 721.6993 \text{ m}^3$$

Common conversion mistake:
forgetting math rules



$$1 \text{ m} = 100 \text{ cm}$$

$$25 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$25 \text{ cm}^2 \left(\frac{1 \text{ m}^2}{100 \text{ cm}^2} \right)^2 = 0.25 \text{ m}^2$$

$$25 \text{ cm}^2 \left(\frac{1 \text{ m}^2}{10,000 \text{ cm}^2} \right) = 0.0025 \text{ m}^2$$

Common conversion mistake:
forgetting math rules



$$25 \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1 \text{ m}}{100 \text{ cm}} \right)^2 =$$

$$(0.25 \text{ cm})^2 = 0.0625 \text{ m}^2$$

$$25 \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1 \text{ m}^2}{10,000 \text{ cm}^2} \right) = 0.0025 \text{ m}^2$$

Common conversion mistake:
forgetting math rules





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