

1. SI Unit rules

SI is the [international standard](http://physics.nist.gov/cuu/Units/checklist.html) system of measurement in science. In addition to the SI units, there is also a set of non-SI units accepted for use with SI. Visit <http://physics.nist.gov/cuu/Units/checklist.html> for more information

SI Unit Symbols		Non SI Unit Symbols	
Full word	Symbol	Full word	Symbol
seconds	33 s	Degrees Celsius	20 °C
kilograms	80 kg	hertz	79 Hz
meter	10 m	minutes	30 min
kelvin	173 K	hours	6 h

2. SI Unit rules

Basic rules

1. There is always a space between the numerical value and the unit symbol, except for superscript units for plane angles

X: 10min

O: 10 min

O: an angle of 2°

2. No plural form

X: 10 secs

O: 10 sec

3. No period after the unit symbol unless it is at the end of a sentence.

X: The experiment took 10 min. to complete.

O: The process takes 10 min.

3. SI Unit rules

EXAMPLE

The spectrum analyzer used to capture the Power Spectral Density (PSD) data swept the 79 **MHz** ISM band for 33 **ms** twice a second. During the 33 **ms** sweep, the oven completed 2 full periods of operation to produce the resulting spectrum of Figs. 1 and 2.

A space between the numerical value and the unit symbol

No period after the unit symbol. Square brackets [...], “33 [ms]” are not used for measurements.

4. Unit rules

EXAMPLE

Cooked 10% waxy maize starch slurry was also digested by pullulanase (20 ASPU/g) for 6 h, reheated (121 °C for 30 min), and stored at 4 °C for 3, 6, 12, and 24 h and 2, 4, 6, and 8 days or -20, 4, and 20 °C for 2 days.

A space between the numerical value and unit symbol even for degrees Celsius.

No plural form

Unit symbols are not followed by a period unless at the end of a sentence.

Source: M. Miao et al.: Effect of pullulanase debranching and recrystallization on structure and digestibility of waxy maize starch, Carbohydrate Polymers, p. 2 ©2008

International format for measurements in the sciences

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