

# AMA Manual of Style

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## Expressing Unit Names and Symbols

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The SI includes conventions for expressing unit names and abbreviations (often referred to as symbols) and for displaying them in text. | The SI unit names are written lowercase (eg, kilogram) when spelled out, except for Celsius (as in “degrees Celsius”), which is capitalized. Abbreviations or symbols for SI units also are written lowercase, with the following exceptions: # Abbreviations derived from a proper name should be capitalized (eg, N for newton, K for kelvin, A for ampere), although nonabbreviated SI unit names derived from a proper name are not capitalized (eg, newtons, amperes). # An uppercase letter L is

## Capitalization

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The SI unit names are written lowercase (eg, kilogram) when spelled out, except for Celsius (as in “degrees Celsius”), which is capitalized. Abbreviations or symbols for SI units also are written lowercase, with the following exceptions: # Abbreviations derived from a proper name should be capitalized (eg, N for newton, K for kelvin, A for ampere), although nonabbreviated SI unit names derived from a proper name are not capitalized (eg, newtons, amperes). # An uppercase letter L is used as the abbreviation for liter to avoid confusion with the lowercase letter l and the number 1. # Certain SI prefixes

## Products and Quotients of Unit Symbols

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The product of 2 or more SI units should be indicated by a space between them or by a raised multiplication dot. The multiplication dot must be positioned properly to distinguish

it from a decimal point, which is set on the baseline. (See , Mathematical Composition, Expressing Multiplication and Division.) When the unit of measure is the product of 2 or more units, either abbreviations (symbols) or nonabbreviated units should be used. Abbreviated and nonabbreviated forms should not be combined in products. When numerals are used to denote a quantity of measurement, it is preferable to use the abbreviated form