

# Conversion

Conversion is going from one unit of measure to another. Let's use proportions to solve conversion problems.

Example : How many inches is 3 feet? (1 foot equals 12 inches - from the FCAT Math Reference Sheet) Write the words down that the numbers represent. Put the numbers by the appropriate words. Use a letter for the number we dont know.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \text{ feet} \quad 1 \\ x \text{ inches} \quad 12 \end{array}$$

Now cross multiply and solve for x.

$$1(x) = 36 \quad x = 36 \quad \text{or} \quad 3 \text{ feet equal } 36 \text{ inches}$$

Example:

How many meters in 3,456 cm.? (1 meter equals 100 cm. - from the FCAT Math Reference Sheet) Write the words down that the numbers represent. Put the numbers by the appropriate words. Use a letter for the number we dont know.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \text{ meters} \quad x \\ 100 \text{ cm} \quad 3456 \end{array}$$

Now cross multiply and solve for x.

$$100x = 3456 \quad x = 34.56 \quad \text{or} \quad 3456 \text{ cm equal } 34.56 \text{ meters}$$