

## **Domain Glossary**

-Conjunction See "Compound Unit".

/Conjunction See "Compound Unit".

Addition Rule Two measures can only be added if they have like-units; the result

is a measure with a like-unit (often one of the original units).

Backspace Button/Key The key labeled "Backspace" or "←" on a traditional physical or

soft keyboard that deletes the character to the left of the cursor. Some traditional physical keyboards also have a "Delete" key that

deletes the character to the right of the cursor.

Binary Expression A left-side operand, followed by an operator, followed by a right-

side operand. (See also: Equals Button/Key)

Binary Operation An operation that takes a left-side operand and a right-side

operand. Note: All binary operations use infix notation. That is,

the operator is between the two operands.

Button A widget on a graphical user interface that can be "pressed" with

the mouse (i.e., by clicking on it). (See also: Soft Key)

Clear Button/Key A button or key that can be used to reset the state of the calculator

and clear the display.

Closed (Under an Operation) A set is closed under an operation if the evaluation of that

operation on members of the set always produces members of the

set.

Compound Unit Two units combined using either the -conjunction or the

/conjunction (e.g., mi/hr, ft-lb). As its name implies, a compound

unit is, itself, a unit and, hence, can be a part of another

compound unit (e.g., lb/in<sup>2</sup> is a compound unit comprised of lb

and in<sup>2</sup>).

Comparable Unit Two compound units are comparable if they vary only in the

order of the conjunction. For example, ft-lb and lb-ft are comparable units. As another example, mi/hr and hr/mi are comparable units. Measures with comparable units can be added

and subtracted.





Conjunction See "Compound Unit".

Current Expression The expression that is currently being added to or modified.

Digit Loosely, a one-character number. Specifically, an element of the

set {0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9}.

Display The GUI element/widget that is used to present the current

expression (and related information) to the user.

Division Rule Two measures can always be divided (regardless of their units);

the result is a compound unit that uses the /conjunction (e.g., 10

mi divided by 2 hr is 5 mi/hr).

Enter Key The key labeled "Enter" or "Return" on a traditional physical

keyboard. Many keyboards have two Enter keys, one on the main

section and on one the number pad.

Equals Button/Key A button or key that can be used to evaluate a binary expression.

Focus In a GUI, the widget that has the focus is the widget that will

respond to input.

History An ordered list of expressions (not including the current

expression).

Input Field/Input Area A GUI element that is used by a user to provide input to the

system.

Key A key on a physical keyboard (either the main section or the

number pad).

Keyboard/Keypad A collection of keys or a collection of buttons that are simulating

keys. (See also: Physical Keyboard/Keypad and Soft

Keyboard/Keypad)

Like-Units Different units for the same physical property (e.g., ft and m are

both units of length).

Measure A number and a unit (e.g., 5 oz, 10 mi/hr) or a unitless number

(e.g., 17).

Multiplication Rule Two measures can always be multiplied (regardless of their

units); the result is a compound unit that uses the -conjunction

(e.g., 5 ft times 2 lb is 10 ft-lb).





Number Button/Key A button or key that is used to input a single digit.

Number Pad A collection of number keys or a collection of number buttons

that are simulating number keys along with a collection of related operation keys/buttons. (See also: Physical Keyboard/Keypad and

Soft Keyboard/Keypad)

Operand A measure (either with or without units)

Operation Button/Key A button or key that is used to input a binary or unary

operation/operator.

Pending Operation The (binary) operation that has not yet been evaluated (because

the Enter Button/Key has not yet been pressed).

Physical Keyboard A mechanical or electronic input device consisting of a set of

labeled keys. Many physical keyboards have a main section (containing the alphabetic and numeric keys as well as some special--purpose keys), movement section containing arrow keys,

a number pad, and a row of function keys (along the top).

Power Notation The use of an exponent to display a compound unit that consists

of two identical units combined by a -conjunction (e.g., in-in

written as in<sup>2</sup>).

Result The result of evaluating a binary or unary expression.

Sign Button/Key

The button or key that is used to change the sign of the current

mixed fraction.

Soft Key Another name for a Button.

Soft Keyboard A collection of Buttons.

Subtraction Rule Two measures can only be subtracted if they have like-units; the

result is a measure with a like-unit (often one of the original

units).

Unit A determinate quantity adopted as a standard of measurement

(e.g., gram, meter, second) for a physical property (e.g., mass,

length, time).

Unitless Number A number that does not include a unit (e.g., 5). Operands can be

unitless and the results of operations can be unitless (e.g., when a 6ft piece of wood is cut into 2ft pieces there are 6ft/2ft=3 pieces.



Unit Simplification The process of simplifying a "complicated" compound unit.

Examples that only involve mechanical operations on the units include converting in-in to in<sup>2</sup> and converting mi/hr/hr to mi/hr<sup>2</sup>. Examples that include like-unit conversions are the simplification of Joules/sec to watts and the simplification of kg m<sup>2</sup>/s<sup>2</sup> to N m.

Unary Operation An operation that takes a single operand. Note: All unary

operations use postfix notation. That is, the operator follows the

operand.

Widget A part of a graphical user interface. Widgets are sometimes also

called controls. (See also: Button, Display, and Input Field.)

