

What's the Temperature?

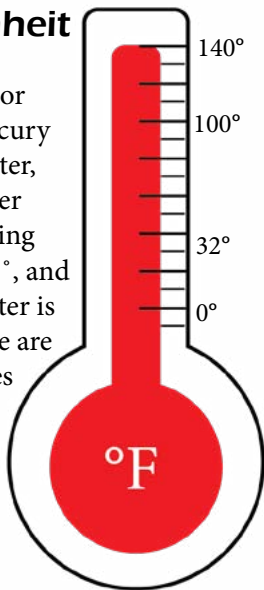
When the thermometer matches, but the numbers are not the same.
A look at temperature scales for young readers.

The Measurements

We commonly use three temperature scales to calculate temperature, each uses a different starting and ending point of calculating the temperature of weather.

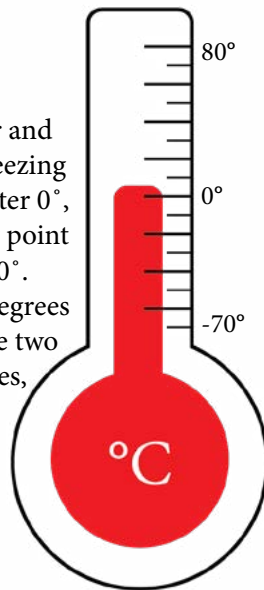
Fahrenheit

The inventor of the mercury thermometer, icy saltwater is 0°, freezing water is 32°, and boiling water is 212°. There are 180 degrees between ice and boiling water.



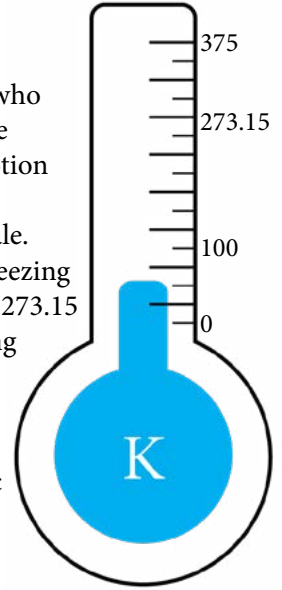
Celsius

Was an astronomer and used the freezing point of water 0°, and boiling point of water 100°. With 100 degrees between the two temperatures, scientists prefer this scale.



Kelvin

Was a physicist who used the absolute zero point of motion as the starting point for this scale. Therefore, the freezing point of water is 273.15 K, and the boiling point is 373.15 K. The Kelvin scale is mostly used in scientific research.



How do we know the temperature?

Each system has a purpose and is used in different locations. A meteorologist in the United States uses Fahrenheit, while someone in Europe uses Celsius. Scientists working at very low temperatures use Kelvins.

Conversion is easy - Celsius and Kelvins are on the same scale, so you add 273.15 ($K = ^\circ C + 273.15$) to your Celsius temperature or subtract from Kelvins ($^\circ C = K - 273.15$). Fahrenheit requires a bit more math, and you subtract 32 then divide by 1.8 ($^\circ C = (^{\circ}F - 32)/1.8$).



Temperature is relative! Several factors affect the temperature where we live these are: latitude, altitude, where on a continent, ocean currents and winds, slope and shelter, and natural vegetation and soil.

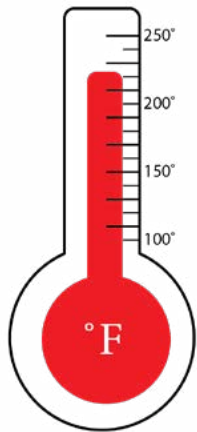
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Test Your Knowledge

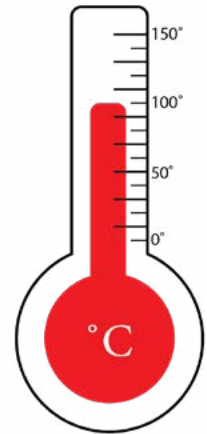
What is the temperature of boiling water?



Fahrenheit

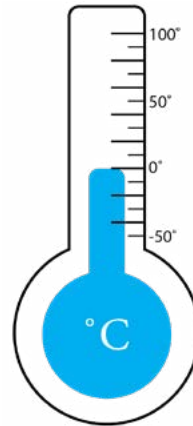
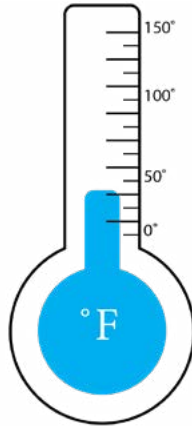
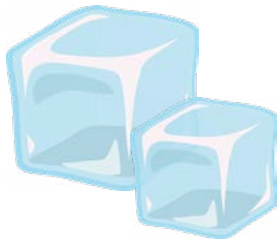


Celsius

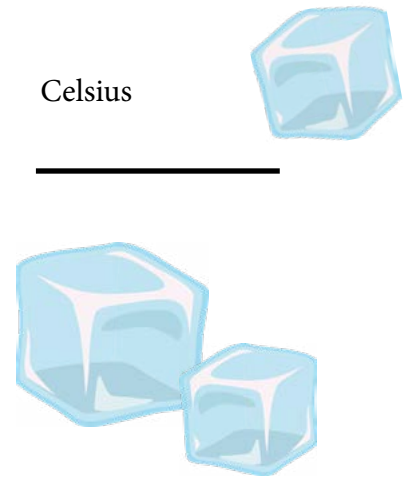


Water forms Ice at what temperature?

Fahrenheit



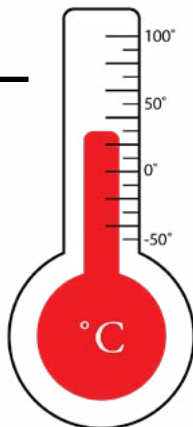
Celsius



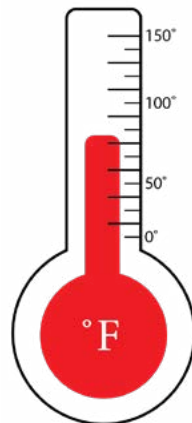
It's a beautiful, sunny day and 30° Celsius, can you convert the temperature?

Celsius

30°



Fahrenheit



Kelvin

