

V. Significant Figures in Calculations**A. Rounding**

Round each of the following to 3 significant figures.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) 98.473 m | 98.5 m |
| 3) 0.00076321 mm | 0.000763 mm |
| 5) 57.048 g | 57.0 g |
| 7) 12.15 g | 12.2 g |
| 9) 7.49830×10^{-4} mm | 7.50×10^{-4} mm |
| 11) 874.5 °C | 875 °C |

Round each of the following to 4 significant figures.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2) 4.59812 mm | 4.598 mm |
| 4) 0.0094249 g | 0.009425 g |
| 6) 20.498 kg | 20.50 kg |
| 8) 6.82035×10^3 L | 6.820×10^3 L |
| 10) 45.698 km (be careful!) | 4.570×10^4 km |
| 12) 0.31995 mg | 0.3200 mg |

B. Calculations

Give the results of the following problems to the correct number of significant figures. Watch your units! Units can be multiplied or divided, but in addition and subtraction all units and exponents must be the same and the answer is in the same units. **Show the unrounded result first, then round** the answers to the correct number of significant figures OR decimal place. Indicate the number of sig figs or the decimal place you are rounding to.

Example: $24.548 \text{ g} / 10.8 \text{ mL} = 2.272962963 \text{ g/mL} \rightarrow 2.27 \text{ g/mL}$ (3 SF)

- 13) $12.8 \text{ m} \times 5.2 \text{ m} = 66.56 \text{ m}^2 \rightarrow 67 \text{ m}^2$ (2 sig. figs.)
- 14) $100 \text{ pencils} \times 8.57 \text{ g/pencil} = 857 \text{ g}$ (3 sig. figs.—100 pencils is a count)
- 15) $0.00005 \text{ cm} \times 538 \text{ cm}^2 = 0.0269 \text{ cm}^3 \rightarrow 0.03 \text{ cm}^3$ (1 sig. fig.)
- 16) $6008 \text{ cm}^3 \div 8.724 \text{ cm} = 688.6749198 \text{ cm}^2 \rightarrow 688.7 \text{ cm}^2$ (4 sig. figs.)
- 17) $72 \text{ cm} \div 7 \text{ rods} = 10.28571429 \text{ cm/rod} \rightarrow 10. \text{ cm/rod}$ or $1.0 \times 10^1 \text{ cm/rod}$ (7 rods is a count; 2 sig figs)
- 18) $600 \text{ g} \div 38 \text{ mL} = 15.78947368 \text{ g/mL} \rightarrow 20 \text{ g/mL}$ (1 sig fig)
- 19) $357.89 \text{ g} + 0.002 \text{ g} = 357.892 \text{ g} \rightarrow 357.89 \text{ g}$ (addition: hundredths place)
- 20) $17.95 \text{ m} + 32.42 \text{ m} + 50 \text{ m} = 100.37 \text{ m} \rightarrow 1.0 \times 10^2 \text{ m}$ (tens place)
- 21) $5.5 \text{ mL} + 3.7 \text{ mL} + 2.97 \text{ mL} = 12.17 \text{ mL} \rightarrow 12.2 \text{ mL}$ (tenths place)
- 22) $84.675 \text{ cm} - 3 \text{ cm} = 81.675 \text{ cm} \rightarrow 82 \text{ cm}$ (ones place)
- 23) $75 \text{ °C} - 2.55 \text{ °C} = 72.45 \text{ °C} \rightarrow 72 \text{ °C}$ (ones place)
- 24) $10 \text{ g} - 9.9 \text{ g} = 0.1 \text{ g} \rightarrow 0 \text{ g}$ (tens place!)