

Converter 1.0

By Mike Smith © 1993

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for evaluating Converter 1.0. There are several Windows-based unit conversion utilities available. A few have some obscure units not included in Converter. A couple have prettier interfaces. But none have the ease of use, the flexibility and the power of Converter at the low price of \$5.

Converter 1.0 allows you to convert all the way from angstroms (one hundred-millionth of a centimeter) to parsecs (3.26 light years), as well as most units in between. That includes standard U.S. units, metric units and even surveyor's units. That's just the length portion of the program. The weight modules include all U.S. and metric standards as well as Troy weights and Apothecaries' standards. The time module allows you to convert all the way from nanoseconds (a billionth of a second) to millenniums. There also such useful modules as Household Units, Tire Pressures and Desktop Publishing units (for converting between inches, picas and points).

You can launch separate modules and then close the main application window for a number of the same type of conversions.

Converter 1.0 includes support for the Windows clipboard. That means that if you have a number of miles in a document and you want to convert it to kilometers, you can copy to number onto the Windows clipboard, start converter, paste the number into the miles window and press enter to get the number of kilometers. You can then copy the number of kilometers to the clipboard and then paste it back into your application. You can also use the clipboard to cut and paste numbers between different Converter windows.

REGISTRATION

Converter 1.0 is not free. It is shareware -- very inexpensive shareware. It is not crippled or limited in any way. I have not included any annoying nag screens. If you keep this application for use longer than 10 days, you are expected to register it. That means sending me \$5. That's all. In exchange, you'll feel good whenever you use Converter 1.0, and you'll know that you are helping to keep the shareware system working. Send a check to:

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Shareware distributors are free to distribute this application: as long as it is distributed in its original unaltered .ZIP file format, nothing is charged beyond the necessary fees covering distribution and as long as it is made clear to buyers that the software they are purchasing is shareware and requires registration. BBS sysops are free to post Converter 1.0 on their systems.

INSTALLATION

Installation of Converter 1.0 couldn't be easier. Simply copy the file CONVERTR.EXE to a subdirectory of your choice. Drag the file from the File Manager to the Program Manager group of your choice. Or install Converter 1.0 in a Program Manager group using the File, New, Program Item menu commands. To run Converter 1.0, you must have the file VBRUN200.DLL in your Windows subdirectory. This Visual Basic runtime Dynamic Link Library is available on most bulletin boards and online services.

RUNNING CONVERTER 1.0

Once you've installed Converter 1.0, just double click on its icon to launch the program, double click on the file name in your File Manager or specify in the CONVERTR.EXE file in a run command.

Simply pick a conversion module from the Measures menu. Enter a number in any of the units boxes and press ENTER. It is automatically converted to all other units in that conversion module. There are several modules for certain types of measurements. For instance there are five different length modules. Most of them overlap to allow for conversions between them.

For instance, there is no one module that converts teaspoons to gallons. If you want to convert teaspoons to gallons, you would convert the teaspoons to ounces in the Small Household Measures module and then convert the ounces to gallons in the Large Household Measures module. Use the Windows clipboard to transfer the numbers. It sounds more complicated than it is. Give it a try.

Converter 1.0 is very accurate. The formulas for conversions run to several decimal places. Because of this accuracy, you may get some unwieldy numbers in your conversions. For most practical uses you'll want to round them off. Some numbers will be extremely large or extremely small, especially when you convert across a wide range. For instance, if you convert one grain into tons, you get the number 7.14285714285714E-08. The portion of the number to the left of the "E" is the mantissa. The portion to the right of the "E" is the exponent. This number is 7.14285714285714 times 10 to the negative eighth power. Otherwise known as .0000000714285714285714.

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