



### Formula Review

One Meter (m) is equal to: 39.37 inches

One Inch is equal to: 25.4 Millimeters (mm)

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Addition of two plus numbers: The answers are always plus.

Example: +2.25  
+1.50  
+3.75

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Addition of two minus numbers The answers are always minus.

Example: -2.00  
-1.50  
-3.50

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Addition of a plus and minus number: The sign of the answer will always be the same  
As the sign of the higher of the two numbers you are adding.

Example: +10.25  
-8.50  
+1.75

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Multiplication and Division

Like Signs: When multiplying or dividing two numbers with the same sign the answer will always result in a number with a plus sign.

That is, when two numbers with plus signs are multiplied or divided the answer will be plus. When two numbers with minus signs are multiplied or divided the answer will also be plus.

Examples: -3 x -3 = +9 +18 / +3 = +6

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Unlike Signs: When multiplying or dividing unlike signs, That is, when one number is Preceded by a plus sign and the other number by a minus sign, the resulting answer will Always be minus

Examples: -4 x +3 = -12 +15 / -3 = -5

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Focal Length and Prism *There is a definite relationship between the power of a lens in diopters and the resulting focal length in meters. The stronger the power, the shorter the focal length, the weaker the power, the longer the focal length. This relationship may be expressed in the following formula: D = 1/f or f = 1/D*

Where D = power of the lens in diopters and f = focal length in meters.

Calculate Focal Lengths

D = +2.00  
f = 1/D  
f = 1/ +2.00  
f = +0.5 m

Calculate Powers

f = + 7.7 cm  
D= 1/f  
D= 1/ +.077m  
D= +13.00 D

**Prentice's Rule** *The power of the prism is equal to the power of the lens in diopters times the amount of decentration in millimeters divided by ten.*

Stated algebraically:  $\Delta = \frac{f \times \text{dec (mm)}}{10}$

Where  $\Delta$ = prism diopters  
f= power of the lens in diopters  
dec= decentration or distance in mm away from the optical center of the lens.

Example: How much prism is induced 4 mm away from the optical center of a +3.00 D sph.

Applying Prentice's rule, **f = +3.00 and dec. = 4.0 mm**

So:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta &= f \times \text{dec}/10 & \text{or} & \quad \frac{+3.00 \times 4}{10} = 1.2\Delta \\ &= +3.00 \times 4/10 \\ &= 1.2\Delta\end{aligned}$$

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### Determining Power from Surface Curves

To determine the total power of a thin lens in air simply add the front surface power to the back surface power algebraically by applying the formula: **F1 + F2 = FT**

Where **F1** = the power of the front surface, **F2** = the power of the back surface, and **FT** = the total power of the lens.

Example: *(Note this is a spherical lens)*

**Front +6.00 (F1) + Back -5.00 (F2) = Power +1.00 (FT)**

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### Transposition

How to transpose a Prescription

1. Change the sign of the cylinder (*from + to - or - to +*)
2. Add the first two numbers together algebraically
3. Change the cylinder axis by 90° so the new number falls between 1-180 degrees.

Example:

<u>Original RX</u>	<u>Transposed</u>
+2.50 -0.75 x 180	+1.75 +0.75 x 090
-3.75 +1.25 x 060	-2.50 -1.25 x 150

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### Vertex Distance

Rule of Thumb: *The effective power of a 10.00 diopter lens moved a distance of 5 mm will change by approximately 0.50 diopters.*

Example: Patient has a + 10.00 lens fit at a Vertex distance of 13mm light focuses on the Retina. This is the correct power for this patient.

If the same patients frame is fit at a Vertex distance of 18 mm the effective power would be +10.50 The **Compensated** power would be +9.50

If the same patients frame is fit at a Vertex distance of 8 mm the effective power would be +9.50 The **Compensated Power** would be +10.50

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(Vertex Distance Continued)

**Minus lenses are the exact opposites.** Example: -10.00 refracted at a vertex distance of 13mm. The frame is fit at a Vertex distance of 18mm the effective power would be -9.50 the Compensated Power would be -10.50

If the same patient has a frame fit at a Vertex distance of 8 mm the Effective power would be -10.50 the Compensated power would be -9.50.

*(Note: all lenses gain in plus power when moved away from the eye)*

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**Minimum Blank Size**

The formula for determining the smallest possible lens blank which will work for any given frame and PD combination is as follows.

***Minimum Blank Size (MBS) = (Geometric Center Distance GCD – Pupil Distance PD) + (Effective Diameter ED)***

**Or:  $(MBS) = (GCD - PD) + ED$**

Example: frame size 50-20, PD 63, ED 58

$$70 - 63 = 7 + 58 = 65$$

Minimum blank size would be 65.

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**Splitting Prism**

*It is possible to redistribute prism between two lenses without altering its effective power.*

Example: O.D. + 1.00 sph with 1.0 Δ base up

O.S. + 1.00 sph with 1.0 Δ base down

Could also be written as:

O.D. + 1.00 sph with 2.0 Δ base up

O.S. + 1.00 sph

O.D. + 1.00 sph

O.D. + 1.00 sph with 2.0 Δ base down

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