

3.3 Looking for the Better Buy

Focus: unit price, unit conversion, decision making

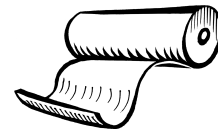
Warm Up	
<p>1. List 3 grocery items sold by weight.</p> <p>a) _____</p> <p>b) _____</p> <p>c) _____</p>	<p>2. List 3 grocery items sold by volume.</p> <p>a) _____</p> <p>b) _____</p> <p>c) _____</p>
<p>3. List 3 items found in a grocery store that are perishable.</p> <p>a) _____</p> <p>b) _____</p> <p>c) _____</p>	<p>4. Solve without using a calculator.</p> <p>a) $750 \div 1000 =$ _____</p> <p>b) $7200 \div 1000 =$ _____</p> <p>c) $250 \div 1000 =$ _____</p>
<p>5. Complete the following unit conversions.</p> <p>a) 1 L = _____ mL</p> <p>b) 1 kg = _____ g</p> <p>c) 500 mL = _____ L</p> <p>d) 100 g = _____ kg</p>	<p>6. Solve without using a calculator.</p> <p>a) $0.355 \times 1000 =$ _____</p> <p>b) $1.89 \times 1000 =$ _____</p> <p>c) $1.14 \times 1000 =$ _____</p> <p>d) $0.473 \times 1000 =$ _____</p>

How to Determine the Better Buy

- Sometimes, you have to stock up on items, especially if this is your first time living on your own. Stock up on the things you use regularly. This can include paper towels, razor blades, soap, toothpaste, and toilet paper.
- Stores have many different choices. How can you tell which one to buy? One way is by using the **unit price**. The unit price represents the cost of a single item in a group, even when a single item cannot be purchased.
- It may be just as effective to estimate total costs and compare.
- Sometimes, money doesn't enter into the decision. It depends on what you want, and why you want it.

Go to pages 45–50 to write the definition for **unit price** in your own words. Provide one example.

- 1.** Ravi's Grocer grocery store sells a roll of paper towels for 79¢. Independent Mart sells 3 rolls for \$2.29.



- a)** Calculate the price of 3 rolls of paper towels at Ravi's Grocer.
- b)** Calculate the unit price of the paper towels at Independent Mart.
- c)** Which calculation do you prefer making, a) or b)? _____
- d)** Would a lower unit price affect what paper towels you bought? Explain. _____

- e)** Would a lower unit price affect where you bought paper towels? Explain. _____

- 2.** You need to buy 4 tires for your car. Dom's Auto sells tires for \$89.99 each. Performance Tire sells 4 tires for \$329.99.

- a)** Calculate the price of 4 tires at Dom's Auto.
- b)** Calculate the unit price of the 4 tires at Performance Tire.
- c)** Which calculation do you prefer making, a) or b)? _____
- d)** Would a lower unit price affect where you bought tires? Explain why. _____

- e)** How could a simple estimate have been used in part a)?
- f)** Estimate the cost of 4 tires at Dom's Auto. _____



How Much Do You Need?

3. A 2-L jar of mayonnaise sells for \$4.49. A 500-mL squeezable plastic bottle of the same brand of mayonnaise costs \$2.79. Each bottle advertises a best-before date approximately 6 months from now.

a) What does the best-before date mean to the retailer?

b) What does the best-before date mean to the consumer?

c) Calculate the unit price, per litre, for each bottle.



2-L jar:

500-mL plastic bottle:

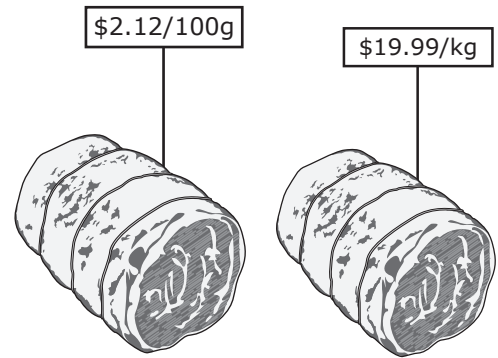
d) Which of the 2 mayonnaise containers gives you more for your money? _____

e) Explain how you might be able to determine the better buy without calculating the price per litre for each bottle.

f) If you planned on buying mayonnaise on your next trip to the grocery store, which bottle would you buy? Explain why.

Use the Easier Unit

4. Two grocery stores advertise in weekly flyers. One sells sandwich meat at \$2.12/100 g. The other sells the same sandwich meat at \$19.99/kg.



- a) Calculate the larger unit. One kilogram equals 1000 grams. Therefore, there are ten 100-g units in each kilogram. Multiply the price advertised by the first store by 10 to get the price per kg.
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- b) Calculate the smaller unit. Divide the price advertised by the second store by 10 to get the price per 100 g.
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- c) Which store has the better buy? _____

5. A discount department store sells toilet paper in packages of 45 rolls for \$14.99. A grocery store sells toilet paper at \$6.99 for 12 rolls.

- a) Calculate the price per roll at each store.

- b) What factors other than price might influence your choice of toilet paper?
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✓ Check Your Understanding

1. You need to buy 500 sheets of printer paper. Paper is sold in different quantities. An office supply store sells a package of 250 sheets for 79¢ and a package of 500 sheets for \$1.79. Determine the better buy. Show your calculations.