

QUANTITIES, UNITS, AND SYMBOLS

A report by the Symbols Committee of the Royal Society 1971

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Symbols, signs, and abbreviations, the 1969 report of the Symbols Committee of the Royal Society, was so widely welcomed by educational, scientific and professional organizations that the edition was soon sold out. The Committee was therefore encouraged to prepare a revised report, and it has been able to improve the layout and the clarity of many tables of units and to include additional recent decisions on definitions, names and symbols for units, and to draw on the experience gained from the increased use of SI units in the community.

The Committee (which represents the Royal Society, the Chemical Society, the Faraday Society, and the Institute of Physics) has given the 1971 report the title *Quantities, units, and symbols* which more adequately represents its content and scope than did the earlier title.

Considerable use has been made of the publications of the various international bodies concerned with units, and only those procedures and symbols which have already been internationally agreed have been accepted. It is not generally realized how much work has been, and is being done, by these international bodies and it is hoped that the inclusion of a bibliography of important documents and sources of information on units and related matters increases the interest and value of this publication.

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It is felt that *Quantities, units, and symbols* constitutes an authoritative statement of value to all who are concerned with the ordering of 'all things in measure, and number, and weight'.

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