

Measuring mass #1

name _____

Definitions

Complete the table with basic definitions about mass and weight.

	Mass	weight
what it measures		
metric unit		
device used to measure and how it works		

Using a balance

What is the smallest digit you can see on the balance? _____

What is the maximum mass you can determine with this balance? _____

What do you always do before you start taking measurements? _____

What precautions do you use when moving a balance? _____

The mass of a nail: Work with a 2 buddies

- Without sharing information (to avoid bias), have each person determine the mass of the nail, using as many different balances as possible (you can move to other tables). Then enter the measurements below:

name	balance #	recorded mass
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- As a group, discuss the data.

- Are all the measurements the same? Why/why not? _____
- What is the range of measurements you got? _____
- What is the average measurement? _____
- Are any of the measurements way off? _____
- With regard to the previous question, why is/are those measurements so "off"?

- Write a true value of the mass of your nail _____ g

Write a statement that explains how much confidence you have in this value and explain your reasoning.