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The water meter, being a measuring instrument, is used to determine visually, by the dial, the volume of water passed inside it; it is necessary so, for its correct use, to know how to read the dial.

The rolling numbers show the cubic meters -the last to the right is bigger in order to make the reading easier when is coming the next number.

The red pointers of the little dials show the submultiples of the cubic meters and, making the transformation of the cubic meter, you can get the reading in litres -0.001 cubic meter=1 litre) What's more, the little dial marked with x 0.0001 has the double division to read up the twentieth part of a liter, for higher precision (see Picture 1).



Pic. 1

For example the dial, shown in picture 1, reads a value of 3742 cube meters (the last rolling number is halfway between the number 2 and the number 3, therefore the lowest numerical number must be taken into account).

On the other hand, the little dials show:

- 1. dial marked by x 0,1: value 3 (being halfway between 3 and 4), equal to 0,3 m³, i.e. 300 litres
- 2. dial marked by x 0,01: value 6 (being halfway between 6 and 7), equal to 0,06 m³, i.e. 60 litres
- 3. dial marked by x 0,001: value 3 (being halfway between 3 and 4), equal to 0,003 m³, i.e. 3 litres
- 4. dial marked by x 0,0001: value 6,6 (being slightly forward, as compared to the halfway between 6 and 7), therefore 0,00066 m³, i.e. 6,6 decilitre

The sum of all the above value is:

3.742,36366 m³

Usually, when reading is made for invoicing, the municipalities take into account just the digits before the comma, I.e., cube meters only.