

Weight and Body Fat

How does it work?

While body fat can be measured in many ways, the method used in your scale is bioelectrical impedance. This indirect method of determining body fat starts when a safe and very low electrical current is sent through the lower half of the body. The electrical current flows more quickly through water and muscle than it will through bone and fat. The scale measures the speed of the current. Based on this number, the scale estimates body fat using a multi-step, mathematical formula.

Is it accurate?

Measurements of body fat tend to fluctuate a lot more than simple weighing, and different methods of estimating body fat yield very different results. Just as different scales give different results, different body fat analyzers can provide very different body fat estimates. Even with the same scale the numbers will vary because:

- Weight loss tends to produce substantial, continuous, and unpredictable changes in body water content. Because body fat analysis is determined by water content in the body, results can vary considerably from day to day.
- Hydration status affects body fat results. If you've just worked out, there is less water for the electrical current to flow through. This may result in a higher body fat result. In the same way, if you measure your body fat after drinking a lot of fluid, it may appear that body fat is lower than it really is.
- Skin temperature can have an influence also. Measuring body fat in warm humid weather when skin is moist will yield a different result than if skin is cold and dry.
- As with weight, when your goal is to change body composition it is better to track trends over time than to use individual daily results.
- Results may not be accurate for persons under the age of 16, or persons with an elevated body temperature, diabetes or other health conditions.

What you need to know!

- Percent body fat refers to the number of pounds of fat divided by your total body weight and multiplied by 100.
- During weight loss, percent body fat doesn't appear to be reduced as quickly as expected because total weight loss and total body fat are decreasing at the same time (for a more detailed explanation, see next section).
- Weight loss in the form of body fat and lean tissue (muscle) is common, and is normal.
- To minimize the loss of lean tissue, include regular physical activity, especially strength training, in your weight-loss plan.

Why do I lose weight but my body fat percentage doesn't change much?

Most body fat monitors show body fat as a percentage only. This body fat monitor shows you not only a percentage but the actual number of body fat pounds (in fact, this is the measurement you see after your weight is displayed). Why is that important? When you lose weight, both the numerator (pounds of body fat) and denominator (total body weight) go down, so when it's calculated as a body fat percentage, the number can be small. For example, a person may weigh 200 pounds and have 40% body fat (= 80 pounds of body fat). He/She loses 20 pounds, but the body fat has only dropped 4% to 36%. That 4% of body fat was 16 pounds of fat – a very significant amount! So do not be overly concerned if you do not see the percentage change quickly as you are losing weight: monitor the absolute number of body fat pounds lost. Remember, to minimize the loss of lean tissue, include regular physical activity, especially strength training, in your weight-loss plan.

Body water/hydration levels

General health standards indicate that one should consume approximately 64 oz of water per day from food and liquids to maintain a healthy level of hydration. Maintaining a good hydration level will help improve your overall health and general feeling of well-being. If your hydration levels are lower than average, you should increase your water intake accordingly.

Body water/hydration level – how is it measured?

The hydration level is measured by using Bioelectric Impedance Analysis (BIA). The same analysis that is used to calculate your body fat is used to calculate your hydration level. Taking into consideration a user's age and gender, a calculation is made that determines the percentage of water.

Please note: It is not recommended to take the hydration measurements in certain situations, such as following exercise, after drinking a glass of water, or directly prior to, during or shortly after menstrual cycles. Hydration may not be at normal levels during these times.

Bone mass – what is it?

Bone is a living, growing tissue. During youth, your body makes new bone tissue faster than it breaks down older bone. In young adulthood, bone mass is at its peak; after that, bone loss starts to outpace bone growth, and bone mass decreases. But it's a long and very slow process that can be slowed down even more through calcium-rich diets and weight-bearing exercise.

Who should monitor bone mass?

Most people have no need to monitor bone mass, but certain groups – post-menopausal women, men and women with certain diseases, and anyone who takes medications that affect bone tissue – might want to watch for decreases in bone mass. The bone mass reading is to be used as guide only. Watch for trends over time and contact your healthcare provider for a more detailed explanation of the readings and with any questions or concerns.

Body Analysis Table				
Always keep in mind that you know your body best. The following ranges of body fat, BMI, body water and bone mass are offered as guides.				
		low	on target	high
BMI		<20	20-25	25+
Body Fat				
	age	%	%	%
Male	20-29	<13%	13-23%	23.1%+
	30-39	<14	14-24	24.1+
	40-49	<15	15-25	25.1+
	50-59	<16	16-26	26.1+
	60-69	<17	17-27	27.1+
Female	20-29	<18	18-28	28.1+
	30-39	<19	19-29	29.1+
	40-49	<20	20-30	30.1+
	50-59	<21	21-31	31.1+
	60-69	<22	22-32	32.1+
Body Water				
	age	%	%	%
Male	20-69	<50%	50-65%	65%+
Female	20-69	<45	45-60	60+
Bone Mass				
	age	%	%	%
Male	20-29	<7.6%	7.6-8.4%	8.5%+
	30-39	<7.4	7.4-8.2	8.3+
	40-49	<7.0	7-7.8	7.9+
	50-59	<6.6	6.6-7.4	7.5+
	60-69	<6.3	6.3-7.1	7.2+
Female	20-29	<6.2%	6.2-7%	7.1%+
	30-39	<6.0	6-6.8	6.9+
	40-49	<5.6	5.6-6.4	6.5+
	50-59	<5.2	5.2-6	6.1+
	60-69	<4.9	4.9-5.7	5.8+

Make the most of it!

To summarize, make the most of the body analysis feature by:

- Tracking change over time and not day to day.
- Using the same scale as much as possible.
- Being extra-consistent in the time of day, day of the week, time before or after food and fluid consumption, before or after exercise, etc., when measuring body composition.

While a scale/body fat monitor can be a useful tool on your weight-loss journey, it's not in and of itself a program for losing weight. Studies show that people lose three times more weight on Weight Watchers than they do on their own.*

Come to a meeting and learn from us the best way to lose and maintain weight. Call 1-800-651-6000 or go to WeightWatchers.com to find a meeting near you.

Important Information Concerning Weight Management

Your scale is the best tool for monitoring weight. While not the only measure of weight loss, scales are the most popular method used to gauge weight-loss success. A scale measures the sum of your total body weight, which includes bone, muscle, fat, and water.

Body weight fluctuates during the day, and from day to day, depending on a variety of factors.

- Salt and carbohydrate intake can affect the body's water retention.
- A large meal adds weight and can cause water retention.
- Dehydration from exercise, illness, or low fluid intake can result in weight loss.
- Muscle is also a factor. Heavy-duty resistance training can build muscle, which can affect weight.
- The menstrual cycle can cause temporary weight gains and losses.

When You're Losing Weight

It's important not to put too much stock in the exact number on the scale, because it can and will vary. This is especially true when you're dieting. Small weight gains and losses are common as your body adjusts to fewer calories and more exercise. Your scale is a valuable tool when used to track weight over a period of weeks and months. Be aware that different scales often give different results. The scale at your doctor's office may show one weight, and your scale at home another. **So don't get too caught up with a single number.**

**Heshka S et al. Weight loss with self-help compared to a structured commercial program: a randomized controlled trial. JAMA 2003; 289(14): 1792-1798.*

Don't Overdo It!

A surefire way to get overly concerned with your weight is to weigh yourself too often. We generally recommend weighing yourself no more than once a week when you're dieting. Though it's hard to stick to this pattern, it's the best way to prevent unnecessary concern with normal weight fluctuations, which are unrelated to your weight-loss efforts. Regardless of your weighing habits, it's important that you're consistent.

Here are 5 rules for effectively monitoring your weight – weigh yourself:

- Once a week, on the same day of the week
- At the same time of day
- In the same place
- Wearing the same clothes
- Using the same scale

To keep track of your weight, record only one number for the week. This will give you a clear picture of any trend your weight is following.

When You're Maintaining Weight

Fluctuations in day-to-day weight tend to be smaller when weight is stable, so a more frequent weigh-in pattern is helpful. To maintain a stable weight:

- Weigh yourself more often than once a week.
- Use the “5-pound rule” – research shows that people who keep weight within a 5-pound range are more likely to maintain a healthy body weight over the long term.

Facts You Should Know

Your Weight Watchers scale is a precise measuring instrument that is most accurate when weighing a stationary object. To ensure accurate readings, always try to stand on the same area of the scale platform and **DO NOT MOVE**. Should the weight on the scale exceed the scale's capacity, you may see an error message "ERR".

Electronic sensors are sensitive. Be careful not to drop or jar the scale. Place it gently onto floor surface, and store where it will be protected from impact. The scale is an electronic instrument and should never be submerged in water. Clean with damp cloth and/or glass cleaner.

To replace scale batteries, open the battery cover on the bottom of the scale and replace the old batteries with 4 new alkaline AAA batteries. Dispose of the old batteries properly. Do not mix old and new batteries. **Dispose of the old battery properly. Do not attempt to open the scale or to remove any components. Servicing should be done by qualified technicians only. See warranty information below.**

Before Using Scale

Precautions for Use

CAUTION! Use of this device by persons with any electrical implant such as a heart pacemaker, or by pregnant women, is not recommended.

1. Set switch on the base of the scale to measure in pounds (lb) or kilograms (kg).
2. Set scale on floor. Surface must be level for accurate operation and safety.

Weight Measurement Only

To measure weight only:

1. Operate the scale on a secure flat floor.
2. Choose pounds (lb) or kilograms (kg) by switching the convertible switch on rear of scale.
3. Tap the scale to turn it on.
4. Wait until all digits light for a few seconds and "0.0" appears.
5. Step on the scale and stand still to measure your weight.
6. Step off the scale and it will shut off automatically.



Personal Data Setting Mode

Setting the User Number

1. Tap the scale to turn it on. Wait until "0.0" appears, then press the "SET" button. User number "P-01" will flash; press "UP" or "DOWN" button to select another user number. Press the SET button to confirm.



Setting the User height

2. Default height flashes. Press "UP" or "DOWN" button to get the correct height. Pressing and holding either the "UP" or the "DOWN" arrow will advance numbers quickly. Press "SET" button to accept the height.



Setting the Age

3. "AGE" appears and default age will flash. Press "UP" or "DOWN" button to select your age. Once the correct age has been reached, press "SET" button to confirm.



Setting Gender

4. Default gender icon flashes. Press "UP" or "DOWN" to choose between male and female gender. Press "set" button to confirm.



Display and store data

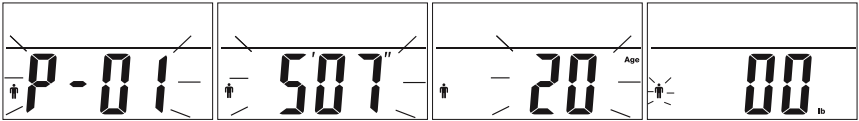
Data storage is now complete. Scale will display stored data (user number, height, age, gender) and then turn off automatically. Scale is now ready for body analysis measurements.

Body Analysis Measurement

1. Operate the scale on a secure flat floor. Tap the scale to turn it on.
Wait until “0.0” appears.



2. Press user button repeatedly until you get to your user number. Scale will display the stored data: user number, height, age, gender.



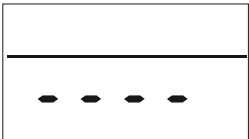
3. When scale display shows “0.0”, step on the scale barefoot with your feet aligned on the electrodes on both sides of the platform. (Note: you must be barefoot in order for the scale to read your body analysis measurements.) Your weight will display for a few seconds.



4. While calculating your body analysis measurements, the scale will display:



If your feet are not properly aligned on the metal strips, your scale will display:



5. Then, body fat (BF), weight (lb or kg) and % as well as bone mass (bone) will display for a few seconds.



6. Finally, body water (BW) and BMI will display for a few seconds.



7. Scale will scroll through all measurements again and then turn off automatically.

NOTE:

If the scale is overloaded, “Err” will show.
If you step on the scale before “0.0” appears, the scale will not function properly.



Scale will show “Err” if there is improper foot contact in the body analysis mode, for instance, when you stand on the scale with socks or shoes on. Hard or dry skin can prevent you from making proper contact with electrodes on the surface of the scale. Try applying a small amount of moisturizer to your feet before using the scale.

When batteries need replacing, the scale displays a low battery warning: “Lo”



LIMITED TEN YEAR WARRANTY

Conair will repair or replace (at our option) your unit free of charge for 120 months from the date of purchase if the appliance is defective in workmanship or materials.

To obtain service under this warranty, return the defective product to the service centre listed below, together with your purchase receipt and \$7.50 for postage and handling. In the absence of a purchase receipt, the warranty period shall be 120 months from the date of manufacture.

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Instructions for use of Weight Watchers bathroom scale

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Congratulations! By purchasing this Weight Watchers Scale, you've made the first step toward taking control of your weight. To get the greatest benefit from your purchase, please read this entire brochure before using your scale.

Model WW52C