

Melting the Eiffel Tower

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The construction of the Eiffel Tower is a feat of architectural engineering – the lattice structure gives enormous strength and stability while only needing a relatively small amount of iron to do so.

The weight of the metal structure of the Eiffel Tower is 7300 *tonnes*. What is the total volume of the iron used, to the nearest cubic metre?

If the entire metal structure of the Eiffel Tower were to be melted down to form a cuboid with the same size base as the base of the tower (125 by 125 metres), what would the height of this cuboid be?

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$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Weight}}{\text{Volume}} \Rightarrow 7850 = \frac{7300000}{\text{Volume}}$$

$$\text{Volume} = \frac{7300000}{7850} = \mathbf{930\text{m}^3} \text{ to the nearest } \text{m}^3$$

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$$\text{Volume} = \text{length} \times \text{width} \times \text{height}$$

$$930 = 125 \times 125 \times h \Rightarrow 930 = 15625h$$

$$h = \frac{930}{15625} = 0.0595\text{m} = \mathbf{5.95\text{cm}} \text{ to } 2 \text{ d.p.}$$