corresponds to the liquid level in the buret before any liquid is transferred, \( V_{\text{initial}} \) (or \( V_i \)), and after the transfer is complete, \( V_{\text{final}} \) (or \( V_f \)). The volume of liquid transferred is obtained by difference (\( V_f - V_i \)) and it is sometimes designated as \( V_t \).

Burets are available in a limited range of sizes; the most common size is 50-mL. The scale of a 50-mL buret is divided into 0.1 mL increments. Therefore, when the liquid level in a buret is read, it is read (and recorded) to the nearest 0.01 mL. Water or aqueous solutions are the most common liquids used with a buret, and like the graduated cylinder the bottom of the meniscus is taken as the liquid lever.

The buret and devices like it (pipet and syringe) is classified as a to-deliver (TD) devices.