

Solving calculation problems

Question 1 Match the quantity with the unit

Quantity	Unit
a) force	1) ms^{-2}
b) momentum	2) kg
c) distance	3) kgms^{-1}
d) time	4) m
e) Velocity	5) N
f) mass	6) s
g) acceleration	7) ms^{-1}

Question 2 Change these numbers into SI units

98 MN _____

45 cm _____

3 minutes _____

20 g _____

93 km _____

14 μm _____

23 km hr^{-1} _____

Question 3 Rearrange these equations

a) $E_p = mgh$ rearrange to find height

b) $F = kx$ rearrange to find spring constant k

c) $v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2ad$ rearrange to find distance

d) $E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ rearrange to find velocity

e) $F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$ rearrange to find radius

f) $v_f = v_i + at$ rearrange to find time

Use the equations given in question 3 to answer questions 4 – 8

Question 4

A car travels at 30 ms^{-1} and then decelerates to 8 ms^{-1} in 5 seconds. Calculate the deceleration of the car.

Question 5

How much time does it take an object to change velocity from 20 ms^{-1} to 5 ms^{-1} if the object's acceleration is -3 ms^{-2} ?

Question 6

A 12 kg object gains 3450 J of gravitational potential energy. What height did the object reach? (Assume gravity has a value of 10 ms^{-2})

Question 7

A 16 kg object gains 1250 J of gravitational potential energy. What velocity did the object reach?

Question 8

A spring has a force of 400N placed on it and it extends 8 cm. Find the spring constant of the spring.

Answers

Question 1 Match the quantity with the unit

Quantity	Unit
a) force	5) N
b) momentum	3) kgms ⁻¹
c) distance	4) m
d) time	6) s
e) Velocity	7)ms ⁻¹
f) mass	2) kg
g) acceleration	1)ms ⁻²

Question 2 Change these numbers into SI units

$$98 \text{ MN} \longrightarrow 98 \times 10^6 \text{ N}$$

$$45 \text{ cm} \longrightarrow 45 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}$$

$$3 \text{ minutes} \longrightarrow 3 \times 60 = 180 \text{ s}$$

$$20 \text{ g} \longrightarrow 20 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg}$$

$$93 \text{ km} \longrightarrow 93 \times 10^3 \text{ m}$$

$$14 \text{ }\mu\text{m} \longrightarrow 14 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}$$

$$23 \text{ km hr}^{-1} \longrightarrow \frac{23 \times 10^3 \text{ m}}{60 \times 60} = 6.4 \text{ ms}^{-1} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\text{km hr}^{-1}}{3.6} = \text{ms}^{-1}$$

Question 3

Rearrange these equations

a) $E_p = mgh$ the mg needs to be moved so that the h (height) is alone – so it is the subject.

Divide the E_p by mg to get h $\frac{E_p}{mg} = h$

b) $F = kx$ the x (extension or change in length) needs to be moved so that the k (spring constant) is alone – so it is the subject. Divide the F by x to get k $\frac{F}{x} = k$

c) $v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2ad$ The $2a$ ($2 \times$ acceleration) needs to be moved. $2ad$ means $2 \times a \times d$ so you need to divide by $2a$. And the v_i^2 needs to be subtracted from the v_f^2 $\frac{v_f^2 - v_i^2}{2a} = d$

d) $E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$ The $\frac{1}{2}m$ ($\frac{1}{2} \times$ mass) needs to be moved. $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$ means $\frac{1}{2} \times$ mass \times velocity² so you need to divide E_k by $\frac{1}{2}m$. And then you need to square root both sides so you get v not v^2 $\sqrt{\frac{E_k}{\frac{1}{2}m}} = v$

e) $F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$ In this case you can swap the F_g and the r^2 . And then you need to square root both sides so you get r not r^2 $r = \sqrt{G \frac{m_1 m_2}{F_g}}$

f) $v_f = v_i + at$ The a (acceleration) needs to be moved. at means $a \times t$ so you need to divide by a . And the v_i needs to be subtracted from the v_f $\frac{v_f - v_i}{a} = t$

Question 4

Information given $v_i = 30\text{ms}^{-1}$ $v_f = 8\text{ms}^{-1}$ $t = 5\text{s}$ Quantity required : looking for acceleration

$$v_f = v_i + at \quad \frac{v_f - v_i}{t} = a = \frac{30 - 8}{5} = -4.4\text{ms}^{-2}$$

Question 5

Information given $v_i = 20\text{ms}^{-1}$ $v_f = 5\text{ms}^{-1}$ $a = -3\text{ms}^{-2}$ Quantity required : looking for time

$$v_f = v_i + at \quad \frac{v_f - v_i}{a} = t = \frac{5 - 20}{-3} = 5\text{ s}$$

Question 6

Information given $m = 12\text{kg}$ $E = 3450\text{J}$ $g = 10\text{ms}^{-2}$ Quantity required : looking for height

$$E_p = mgh \quad \frac{E_p}{mg} = h = \frac{3450}{12 \times 10} = 28.75\text{m}$$

Question 7

Information given $m = 16\text{kg}$ $E = 1250\text{J}$ Quantity required : looking for velocity

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \quad \sqrt{\frac{1250}{\frac{1}{2} \times 16}} = 12.5\text{ms}^{-1}$$

Question 8

Information given $F = 400\text{ N}$ $x = 8 \times 10^{-2}\text{m}$ Quantity required : looking for spring constant

$$F = kx \quad \frac{F}{x} = k = \frac{400}{8 \times 10^{-2}} = 5000\text{Nm}^{-1}$$