

PHYSICS UNIT 1 PRACTICE PROBLEMS

1. A race car's velocity increases from 4 m/s to 88 m/s over a 4 sec time interval.
a. What is its average acceleration?

$$21 \frac{m}{s^2}$$

- b. How far does the car travel during this time?

The 1 got it!

2. The car in problem #1 decelerates from 88 m/s to 20 m/s in 3 sec.
a. What is its average acceleration?

$$a = \frac{V_f - V_i}{t} = \frac{20 \frac{m}{s} - 88 \frac{m}{s}}{3s} = \frac{-68 \frac{m}{s}}{3s} = -22 \frac{2}{3} \frac{m}{s^2}$$

- b. Over what distance does it travel during this time?

$$S = V_i t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2 = (88 \frac{m}{s})(3s) + \frac{1}{2} (-22 \frac{2}{3} \frac{m}{s^2})(3s)^2$$

3. A car accelerates from rest at 7 m/s² to a velocity of 50 m/s.
a. How long does it take?

$$S = 264m - 11.33(9s^2)$$

- b. How far does the car travel in this time?

$$S = 264m - 101.97m = 162m$$

4. A bike rider accelerates uniformly at 2.4 m/s² to a velocity of 13 m/s. If the bike moved 14 m during this acceleration, calculate the bike's initial velocity.

$$V_f^2 = V_i^2 + 2as \Rightarrow V_i = \sqrt{V_f^2 - 2as} = \sqrt{(13 \frac{m}{s})^2 - 2(2.4 \frac{m}{s^2})(14m)} = \sqrt{169 \frac{m^2}{s^2} - 67.2 \frac{m^2}{s^2}} = \sqrt{101.8 \frac{m^2}{s^2}} = 10.1 \frac{m}{s}$$

5. A drag racer accelerates uniformly from rest, traveling 400 meters in 6.5 seconds. What is the car's average and final velocity?

#1 $V_{av} = \frac{S}{t} = \frac{400m}{6.5s} = 61.54 \frac{m}{s}$

#3 $V_f = 2V_{av} = 2(61.54 \frac{m}{s}) = 123.08 \frac{m}{s}$

6. An airplane starts from rest and accelerates uniformly for 30 seconds down a 1400 meter runway before leaving the ground.

a. What is its acceleration?

#4

$a = ?$

$$S = \frac{at^2}{2}$$

$$a = \frac{2S}{t^2} = \frac{2(1400\text{m})}{(30\text{s})^2} = 3.11 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

b. How fast was it moving when it took off?

#2

$$v_f = at \text{ so } v_f = (3.11 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2})(30\text{s}) = 93.3 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

7. A rock, starting from rest, takes 7.5 sec to fall from a height to the ground.

a. Calculate the distance it fell.

$$S = v_i t + \frac{1}{2} at^2 = 0 + \frac{1}{2}(9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2})(7.5\text{s})^2$$

b. Calculate its final velocity just before it lands.

$$a = \frac{v_f}{t} \text{ so } 7.5\text{s} \times 9.8 = \frac{v_f}{7.5} \text{ so } v_f = 73.5 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$S = (4.9 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2})(56.25\text{s}^2) = 275.625\text{m}$$

8. A brick is dropped from rest from a high scaffold that is 180 meters above the ground.

a. How long does it take for the brick to fall?

$$S = \frac{at^2}{2} \text{ so } t = \sqrt{\frac{2S}{a}} = \sqrt{\frac{2(180\text{m})}{9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}}} = 6.1\text{s}$$

b. What is its velocity after this period of time?

$$v_f = ?$$

#2

$$a = \frac{v_f}{t} \text{ so } v_f = at = (9.8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2})(6.1\text{s}) = 60 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

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