

Adapted from Take-Home Physics by Michael Horton

Objectives

- Find the acceleration due to gravity.

Materials

- Marble
- Pie pan
- Stopwatch
- Meter stick

Distance	Time 1	Time 2	Time 3	Average Time	Average Velocity	Final Velocity	Acceleration
2.00 m							

Procedure

We have already learned that

$$\bar{v} = \frac{v_f + v_0}{2}$$

If the initial velocity is 0 and the acceleration is constant, then

$$v_f = 2\bar{v}$$

- Drop the marble from 2.00 m into a pie pan on the floor. Use to stopwatch to measure the time it takes a marble to. Measure three times and find the average time.
- Use $\bar{v} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$ to find the average velocity.
- Find the final speed of the marble.
- We have learned that

$$a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} = \frac{v - v_0}{t}$$

So calculate the acceleration of the marble.

- Repeat this procedure of another distance (not less than 1.0 m).
- Since gravity is pulling the marble down, the acceleration you found should be the acceleration due to gravity. Find the percent error of your acceleration with the accepted 9.8 m/s². _____
- What is the biggest source of error in this lab? _____