

System

All the _____ involved in the _____

Usually only _____ objects

_____ Forces – Forces that the objects exert on each other

_____ Forces – Forces exerted by things outside of the system

Law of Conservation of Momentum

In an _____ system the total momentum remains _____

$$p_0 = p_f$$

Reasoning Strategy

1. Decide on the _____
2. Identify _____ and _____
3. Is the system _____? If no, then _____ use conservation of momentum
4. Set the total _____ momentum of the isolated system _____ to the total _____ momentum

Two billiard balls are colliding on a table. In order to apply the law of conservation of momentum, what should the system be?
One ball or both billiard balls?

A hockey puck of mass 0.17 kg and velocity 5 m/s is caught by a 0.5 kg mitten laying on the ice. What is the combined velocity after the puck is in the mitten? (ignore friction)

A 5 kg baseball pitching machine is placed on some frictionless ice. It shoots a 0.15 kg baseball horizontally at 35 m/s. How fast is the pitching machine moving after it shoots the ball?

Practice Work

1. In movies, Superman hovers in midair, grabs a villain by the neck, and throws him forward. Superman, however, remains stationary. Using the conservation of linear momentum, explain what is wrong with this scene.
2. A satellite explodes in outer space, far from any other body, sending thousands of pieces in all directions. How does the linear momentum of the satellite before the explosion compare with the total linear momentum of all the pieces after the explosion? Explain.
3. You are a passenger on a jetliner that is flying at a constant velocity. You get up from your seat and walk toward the front of the plane. Because of this action, your forward momentum increases. What, if anything, happens to the forward momentum of the plane? Give your reasoning.
4. An ice boat is coasting along a frozen lake. Friction between the ice and the boat is negligible, and so is air resistance. Nothing is propelling the boat. From a bridge someone jumps straight down and lands in the boat, which continues to coast straight ahead. (a) Does the horizontal momentum of the boat change? (b) Does the speed of the boat increase, decrease, or remain the same? Explain.
5. A 55-kg swimmer is standing on a stationary 210-kg floating raft. The swimmer then runs off the raft horizontally with a velocity of +4.6 m/s relative to the shore. Find the recoil velocity that the raft would have if there were no friction and resistance due to the water. (Cutnell 7.16) **-1.2 m/s**
6. Two friends, Al and Jo, have a combined mass of 168 kg. At an ice skating rink they stand close together on skates, at rest and facing each other, with a compressed spring between them. The spring is kept from pushing them apart because they are holding each other. When they release their arms, Al moves off in one direction at a speed of 0.90 m/s, while Jo moves off in the opposite direction at a speed of 1.2 m/s. Assuming that friction is negligible, find Al's mass. (Cutnell 7.18) **96 kg**
7. In a science fiction novel two enemies, Bonzo and Ender, are fighting in outer space. From stationary positions they push against each other. Bonzo flies off with a velocity of +1.5 m/s, while Ender recoils with a velocity of -2.5 m/s. (a) Without doing any calculations, decide which person has the greater mass. Give your reasoning. (b) Determine the ratio of the masses ($m_{\text{Bonzo}}/m_{\text{Ender}}$) of these two people. (Cutnell 7.17) **1.7**
8. Train cars are coupled together by being bumped into one another. Suppose two loaded train cars are moving toward one another, the first having a mass of 150,000 kg and a velocity of 0.300 m/s, and the second having a mass of 110,000 kg and a velocity of -0.120 m/s. (The minus indicates direction of motion.) What is their final velocity? (OpenStax 8.23) **0.122 m/s**
9. Suppose a clay model of a koala bear has a mass of 0.200 kg and slides on ice at a speed of 0.750 m/s. It runs into another clay model, which is initially motionless and has a mass of 0.350 kg. Both being soft clay, they naturally stick together. What is their final velocity? (OpenStax 8.24) **0.273 m/s**
10. Consider the following question: *A car moving at 10 m/s crashes into a tree and stops in 0.26 s. Calculate the force the seatbelt exerts on a passenger in the car to bring him to a halt. The mass of the passenger is 70 kg. Would the answer to this question be different if the car with the 70-kg passenger had collided with a car that has a mass equal to and is traveling in the opposite direction and at the same speed? Explain your answer.* (OpenStax 8.25)
11. What is the velocity of a 900-kg car initially moving at 30.0 m/s, just after it hits a 150-kg deer initially running at 12.0 m/s in the same direction? Assume the deer remains on the car. (OpenStax 8.26) **27.4 m/s**
12. A 1.80-kg falcon catches a 0.650-kg dove from behind in midair. What is their velocity after impact if the falcon's velocity is initially 28.0 m/s and the dove's velocity is 7.00 m/s in the same direction? (OpenStax 8.27) **22.4 m/s**