

Student worksheet

7.5 Force equals mass × acceleration

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Newton's second law: *F*_{net} = *ma*

1 Describe Newton's second law.

2 What is the difference between mass and weight?

3 What formula can be used to calculate net force?

4 Complete the equation triangle for net force below and describe how it works.

Where necessary below, use g = 9.80 m s⁻². Unit conversions: 1000 grams = 1 kilogram and 1000 kilograms = 1 tonne.

5 How much horizontal net force is required to accelerate a 1200-kg car at 1.5 m s⁻²?



6 A net force of 16 N gives a bowling ball an initial acceleration of 2.5 m s⁻². What is the mass of the bowling ball?

7 A speed skater has a mass of 64 kg. She is providing a driving force of 400 N, and there is a frictional force of 240 N against her. Draw these two forces acting on her and then determine her acceleration.





Extend your understanding

8 A skydiver of mass 85 kg is falling through the air at terminal velocity (constant speed).



- a What is the weight force acting on the skydiver?
- b How much air resistance is acting on the skydiver?
- 9 The Airbus A380 has a mass at take-off of 575 tonnes. During take-off, its four engines provide a total thrust of 1300 kN. Its take-off speed is 270 km h⁻¹ and it takes 72 seconds from rest to reach this speed.





a What is the average acceleration of the A380 during its take-off run? Give your answer correct to two decimal places.

b What is the average total resistive force acting against the A380 during its take-off run?