

# Newton's Second Law

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Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law: IF an unbalanced force

acts on a body it will accelerate.

The rate of acceleration is directly proportional to the force and inversely proportional to the mass.

$$a = \frac{F}{m}$$

Note: Usually written as  $F = ma$

Reminder: Units  $F = m \cdot a$

$$\begin{array}{c} \leftarrow \text{force} \rightarrow \\ N = \text{kg} \cdot \text{m/s}^2 \\ \begin{array}{cc} \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \text{mass} & \text{acceleration} \end{array} \end{array}$$

Exercises

Ex. Dead Jeff is swept off the floor with a force of 50N. DS is 53kg. What acceleration does he experience being swept across the floor?

$$\begin{array}{l} F = 50N \\ m = 53kg \\ a = ? \end{array}$$

$$\frac{F}{m} = \frac{ma}{m}$$

$$a = \frac{F}{m} = \frac{50N}{53kg} = 0.94 \text{ m/s}^2$$

What is the force of gravity on a 3kg thing.

Ex

$$\begin{array}{l} F = ? \\ m = 3kg \\ a = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \end{array}$$

$$F = m \cdot a = 3 \times 9.8 = 29.4N$$

sig figs  $\rightarrow 29N$

Andy (cat) throws a 25g toy mouse into the air with a 3N force. What is the toy's

x  
N

acceleration.

$$F = 3N \rightarrow kg \cdot m/s^2$$

$$m = 25g \Rightarrow kg = 0.025kg$$

a:

$$F = ma \quad a = \frac{F}{m} = \frac{3}{0.025} = 120m/s^2$$

Net Force  $\rightarrow$  The vector sum of all forces.

$$F_{Net} = m \cdot a$$

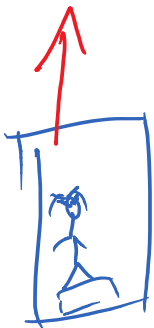
$$F_{Net} = \sum F$$

sigma  
sum  
(addition)

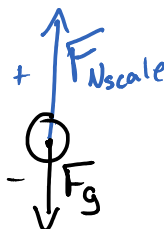
Elevator problem:

Jenna is standing on a scale that reads **650N** in an elevator (on Earth). The elevator is currently at rest. The elevator can accelerate at a rate of  $1.35m/s^2$ .

a) What does the scale read when the elevator is moving upward?



Jenna  $\rightarrow$



$$\textcircled{1} F_{Net} = m \cdot a$$

$$\textcircled{2} F_{Net} = F_g + F_{Nscale}$$

$$F_{Net} =$$

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Substitute  $\textcircled{1}$  into  $\textcircled{2}$

$$F_{net} =$$

$$F_g = -650 N$$

$$F_{Nscale} =$$

$$m = 66.3 kg$$

$$a = 1.35 m/s^2$$

Substitute (1) into (2)

$$m \cdot a = F_g + F_{Nscale}$$

$$(66.3 kg)(1.35 m/s^2) = -650 N + F_{Nscale}$$

$$89.505 N = -650 N + F_{Nscale}$$

$$F_{Nscale} = 739.505 N$$

The scale would read 740 N.

b) What does the scale read when the elevator goes down?

$$560.494 N$$

Practice  
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