

## Friction

**Friction** ( $\vec{F}_f$ ) is a force that opposes the motion between two surfaces that are in contact.

Friction acts:

- parallel to the surfaces that are in contact
- opposite to the direction of motion of the object

There are two kinds of frictional forces:

### 1. Static Friction

- force that opposes the start of motion
- exists between any two objects that are in contact
- has a **maximum value**
- when the applied force exceeds the maximum value, the object begins to move

### 2. Kinetic Friction

- force that opposes motion
- acts between any two objects that are in relative motion
- its magnitude is less than that of static friction for the same surfaces

The amount of friction that acts depends on two things:

1. The force pushing the surfaces together ( $\vec{F}_N$ ).
2. The nature of the surfaces in contact.

Mathematically, this can be expressed as:

$$F_f = \mu \cdot F_N$$

Where  $\mu$  (mu) is the **coefficient of friction**. The coefficient of friction is a constant that depends upon the nature of the two surfaces that are in contact.

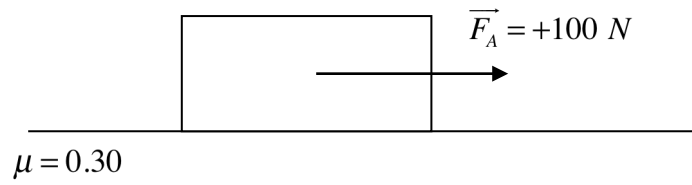
**Note:**

Static Friction	$F_f \leq \mu_s \cdot F_N$
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Kinetic Friction	$F_f = \mu_k \cdot F_N$
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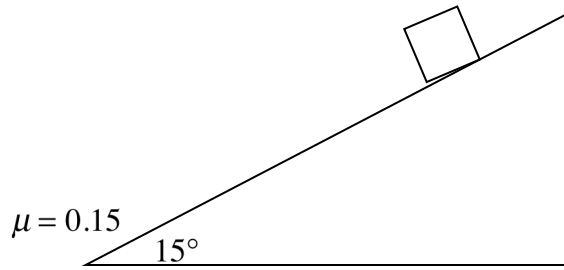
**Example 1**

Given the diagram of a  $25\text{ kg}$  mass, determine the velocity of the mass after  $3\text{ s}$  (assume it started from rest).



**Example 2**

Given the diagram of a  $15\text{ kg}$  mass, determine the time required to move down the  $10\text{ m}$  long ramp if the object started from rest.

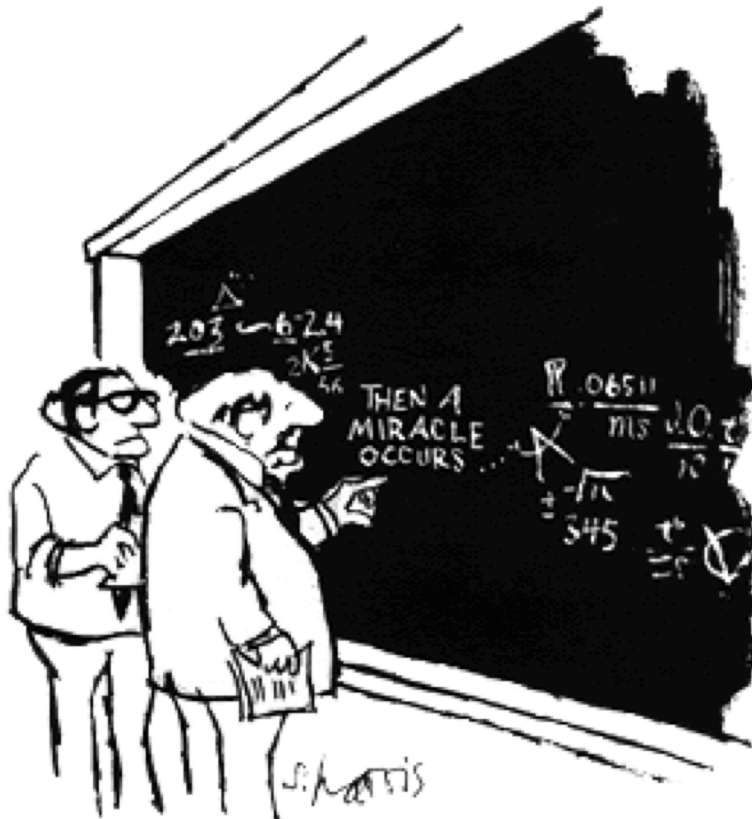




## Dynamics Worksheet #1

1. A horizontal force of  $50\text{ N}$  is required to pull an  $8.0\text{ kg}$  block of aluminum at a uniform velocity across a horizontal wooden desk. What is the coefficient of kinetic friction? (0.64)
2. A force of  $40\text{ N}$  accelerates a  $5.0\text{ kg}$  block at  $6.0\text{ m/s}^2$  along a horizontal surface.
  - a. How large is the frictional force? ( $-10\text{ N}$ )
  - b. What is the coefficient of friction? (0.20)
3. Rachel pulls her  $18\text{ kg}$  suitcase at a constant speed by pulling on a handle that makes an angle  $\theta$  with the horizontal. The frictional force on the suitcase is  $27\text{ N}$  and Rachel exerts a  $43\text{ N}$  force on the handle.
  - a. What angle does the handle make with the horizontal? ( $51^\circ$ )
  - b. What is the normal force exerted on the suitcase? ( $143\text{ N}$ )
4. A  $20\text{ kg}$  box is dragged across a level floor with a force of  $100\text{ N}$ . The force is applied at an angle of  $40^\circ$  above the horizontal. If the coefficient of kinetic friction is 0.32, what is the acceleration of the box? ( $1.72\text{ m/s}^2$ )
5. You place a box weighing  $215\text{ N}$  on an inclined plane that makes a  $35^\circ$  angle with the horizontal. Compute the component of the gravitational force acting down the inclined plane. ( $123\text{ N}$ )
6. A  $6\text{ kg}$  mass slides down a frictionless inclined plane. The plane makes a  $25^\circ$  angle with the horizontal. Calculate the acceleration of the mass. ( $4.14\text{ m/s}^2$ )
7. A  $200\text{ kg}$  crate rests on an inclined plane inclined  $40^\circ$  to the horizontal. What is the force of friction? ( $-1260\text{ N}$ )
8. A boy on a toboggan is sliding down a snow-covered hillside. The boy and toboggan together have a mass of  $50\text{ kg}$ , and the slope is at an angle of  $30^\circ$  to the horizontal. Find the boy's acceleration if the coefficient of kinetic friction is 0.15. ( $3.6\text{ m/s}^2$ )
9. You slide a  $325\text{ N}$  trunk up a  $20^\circ$  inclined plane with a constant velocity by exerting a force of  $211\text{ N}$  parallel to the inclined plane.
  - a. What is the component of the trunk's weight parallel to the plane? ( $111\text{ N}$  [DTS])
  - b. What is the sum of your applied force, friction, and the parallel component of the trunk's weight? Why? (0)
  - c. What is the size and direction of the friction force? ( $100\text{ N}$  [DTS])
  - d. What is the coefficient of friction? (0.33)
10. What force would you have to exert on the trunk in Problem 9 so that it would slide down the plane with a constant velocity? What would be the direction of the force? ( $11\text{ N}$  [UTS])

11. A  $2.5 \text{ kg}$  block slides down a  $25^\circ$  inclined plane with constant acceleration. The block starts from rest at the top. At the bottom, its velocity reaches  $0.65 \text{ m/s}$ . The length of the incline is  $1.6 \text{ m}$ .
- What is the acceleration of the block? ( $0.13 \text{ m/s}^2$ )
  - What is the coefficient of friction between the plane and the block? ( $0.45$ )
  - Does the result of either a or b depend on the mass of the block?



"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."