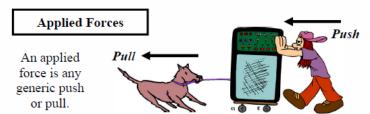
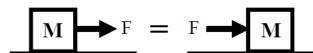
Name:

Period:

Types of Forces

This is not an exhaustive list of all possible forces, but the most common ones that are used in basic physics. Remember: all forces are measured in Newtons and are vectors, so they can be positive or negative.

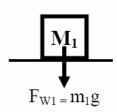




It doesn't matter whether you draw a force as a push or a pull—the effect is the same.

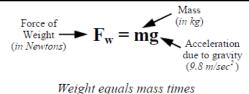
Force of Weight (F_W)

Weight is the force of gravity pulling down on any object.



Weight always pulls straight down and is usually in the negative y-direction.



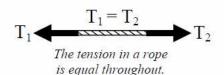


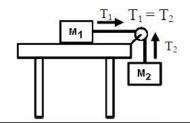
the acceleration due to gravity.

To make calculations easier, we often use $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$.

Tension (T)

Tension is the force due to a rope or string. Tension never pushes an object.





Even if the rope goes over a pulley, the tension at both ends is the same.

In this diagram, the tension pulling M₁ to the right is equal to the tension pulling up on M2.

Normal Force (F_N)

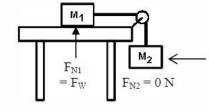
The normal force is the supporting force of a surface pushing up against an object. Without a normal force the object would break thru the surface.





the surface, even if the surface is tilted or vertical.

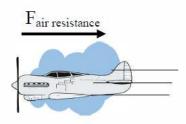




There is no normal force on hanging or dropped objects, since they are not touching any surface.

Friction

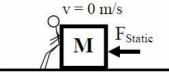
Friction resists motion and is always in the opposite direction the object is moving or opposite the direction a force is acting on it, if at rest.



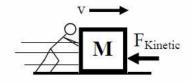
Air friction (also known as air resistance) is what slows moving cars and airplanes. Air friction increases with speed.

Surface friction occurs when surfaces touch each other.

Surface friction depends on the weight of the object and the roughness of the surface. There are two types of surface friction: static friction (F_s) and kinetic friction (F_k).



Static friction is gripping friction: the object is not sliding. If you push to the right, static friction resists, pushing to the left to keep it from sliding.



Kinetic friction is slipping friction: the object is sliding. If it is sliding to the right, kinetic friction acts to the left, trying to slow down and stop the object.

