



Simple Harmonic Motion

Chapter: Mechanics • Level ★★★ • Time: 30 min

SCORE

___ / 20

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

AFTER THIS WORKSHEET YOU CAN

- ✓ Understand: Defining Condition for SHM
- ✓ Understand: Mass on a Spring
- ✓ Understand: Simple Pendulum (Small Angles)
- ✓ Understand: Position, Velocity, and Acceleration in SHM



Section A • Concept Check

• BEGINNER

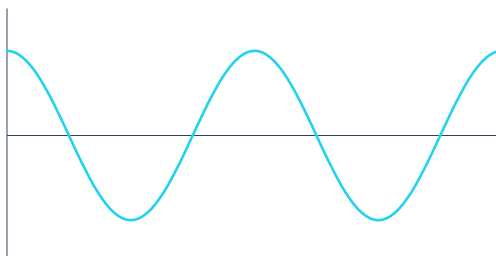
4 × 1 = 4

- 1 A 4 kg mass on a spring with $k=16$ N/m. Find the period.

- 2 Find the period of a pendulum with length 2.45m ($g=9.8$).

- 3 A spring's period is measured at 4s with a 2kg mass. Find its spring constant k .

- 4 Why does the period of a simple pendulum NOT depend on its mass?



SHM: displacement $x(t) = A \cos(\omega t)$



Section B • Problem Solving

• INTERMEDIATE

4 × 3 = 12

- 5 Why does the period of a mass-spring system depend on mass, but a pendulum's period does not?

- 6 At what point in SHM is potential energy at its maximum?

- 7 If a pendulum's length is quadrupled, how does its period change?

- 8 If a spring's spring constant k is quadrupled (mass unchanged), how does the period change?



9 What shape does a graph of position vs. time take for an object in SHM?

10 Why is SHM considered the most 'fundamental' type of oscillation in physics?

Reflection — the most useful thing I learned: _____

A ___/4 B ___/12 C ___/4 **Total ___/20**

Teacher's Signature

Parent's Signature

✂ ANSWER KEY — FOLD OR CUT BEFORE HANDING OUT

1 = $T = 2\pi\sqrt{4/16} = 2\pi \times 0.5 = \pi \approx 3.14\text{s}$ 2 = $T = 2\pi\sqrt{2.45/9.8} = 2\pi \times 0.5 = \pi \approx 3.14\text{s}$ 3 =
 $4 = 2\pi\sqrt{2/k}$, solve: $\sqrt{2/k} = 4/(2\pi) \approx 0.637$, $2/k \approx 0.405$, $k \approx 4.94\text{ N/m}$ 4 = Mass cancels out of the
pendulum equation $T = 2\pi\sqrt{L/g}$, leaving only length and gravity as factors | 5 = In a spring
system, inertia (mass) directly resists the spring's restoring force, while a pendulum's restoring
force is gravity acting on the same mass that provides the inertia, causing mass to cancel out 6 =
At the maximum displacement (the extremes of motion) 7 = It doubles, since period is proportional
to the square root of length 8 = It is halved, since period is inversely proportional to the square
root of k | 9 = A sine or cosine wave 10 = Its simple proportional relationship between force and
displacement makes it mathematically tractable and it appears as an approximation in many real
physical systems