

Crash Math: May the Force(s) be with you!

Name _____ Hour _____ Score ____/31

Activity #1: Use the website LINK #1 to answer the following 5 questions. Use the top two "boxes".

Calculate the Force on the Car in a crash.

1. What is the formula for calculating kinetic energy? _____
2. What is the speed of the blue car as it crashes into the tree? _____
3. What is the mass of the blue car? _____
4. How much does the blue car crumple after it hit the tree? _____
5. How much force is generated in this collision? _____



Instructions: Use box #3 and input the variable that will calculate the FORCE.

Question#	Car type	Weight in lbs	Speed In mph.	Crumple Zone in ft.	Force of Collision in tons
6	Taurus	3500	30	1	
7	Taurus	3500	60	1	
8	Taurus	3500	60	1.5	
9	Suburban	6000	30	1	
10	Suburban	6000	60	1	
11	Suburban	6000	60	1.5	
12	Your car	?	30	1	
13	Your car	?	60	1	
14	Your car	?	60	1.5	
15	Partner car	?	30	1	
16	Partner car	?	60	1	
17	Partner car	?	60	1.5	

18. Explain the relationship between weight and force? _____

Use numbers or percentages to show relationship>

19. Explain the relationship between **speed** and **force**? _____

Use numbers or percentages to show relationship

20. Explain the relationship between **crumple zone** and **force**? _____

Use numbers to Use numbers or percentages to show relationship relationship>

21. When the speed was doubled from **30 mph to 60 mph** what happened to the force?

- A. cut in half B. doubled C. tripled D. quadrupled

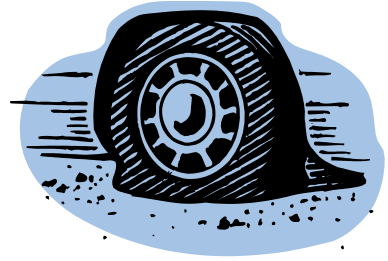
More on back

Activity #2 Use website LINK #2 for the next section.

Calculate the distance needed to stop a car.

22. What is the *coefficient of static friction* used in the website demonstration? _____

Question	Speed	Coefficient	Distance to stop
23	30	0.8	?
24	60	0.8	?
25	70	0.8	?
26	30	0.4	?
27	60	0.4	?
28	70	0.4	?



29. How does the speed of the car affect the distance needed to stop? _____

30. When the speed doubles, the distance needed to stop changes how much?

- A. cut in half B. doubled C. tripled D. quadrupled

31. Explain why tires are the number one safety device on a car? (*Assume the brakes are working properly.*)

Activity #3: How to Calculate the Force on the driver of a car in a crash.

Use website LINK #3



32. What is the difference between a stretching and a non-stretching seatbelt in a collision.

33. Now that you have computed the force on the car using various speeds, weight and crumple zones it is your turn to **compute the force exerted when wearing a seat belt**. **Create a table** similar to the first activity.

Activity web links:

LINK #1. Forces on a car : <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/carc.html>

LINK #2. Coefficient of friction <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/crstp.html> Activity

LINK #3. Forces on a driver of a car: <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/carc2.htm>