

Two-Dimensional Motion and Vectors

Without air resistance, any object that is thrown or launched into the air and that is subject to gravitational force will follow a parabolic path. The water droplets in this fountain are one example. The velocity of any object in two-dimensional motion—such as one of these water droplets—can be separated into horizontal and vertical components, as shown in the diagram.



In this chapter, you will use vectors to analyze two-dimensional motion and to solve problems in which objects are projected into the air.

Why It Matters

After you know how to analyze two-dimensional motion, you can predict where a falling object will land based on its initial velocity and position.

CHAPTER PREVIEW

1 Introduction to Vectors

Scalars and Vectors Properties of Vectors

2 Vector Operations

Coordinate Systems in Two Dimensions Determining Resultant Magnitude and Direction

Resolving Vectors into Components Adding Vectors That Are Not Perpendicular

3 Projectile Motion

Two-Dimensional Motion

4 Relative Motion

Frames of Reference Relative Velocity