

Chapter 6, Solution 26.

Three capacitors, $C_1 = 5 \mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 10 \mu\text{F}$, and $C_3 = 20 \mu\text{F}$, are connected in parallel across a 150-V source. Determine:

- (a) the total capacitance,
- (b) the charge on each capacitor,
- (c) the total energy stored in the parallel combination.

Solution

(a) $C_{\text{eq}} = C_1 + C_2 + C_3 = \mathbf{35\mu\text{F}}$

(b) $Q_1 = C_1 v = 5 \times 150 \mu\text{C} = \mathbf{0.75\text{mC}}$
 $Q_2 = C_2 v = 10 \times 150 \mu\text{C} = \mathbf{1.5\text{mC}}$
 $Q_3 = C_3 v = 20 \times 150 = \mathbf{3\text{mC}}$

(c) $w = \frac{1}{2} C_{\text{eq}} v^2 = \frac{1}{2} \times 35 \times 150^2 \mu\text{J} = \mathbf{393.8\text{mJ}}$