

# *Module 8: Impulse and Momentum*



## *Impulse & Momentum*

### OBJECTIVES:

1

Define and relate  
Impulse and  
Momentum

2

Explain the Law of  
Conservation of  
Momentum

3

Differentiate the  
two main types of  
collision

4

Solve problems  
involving impulse  
and momentum

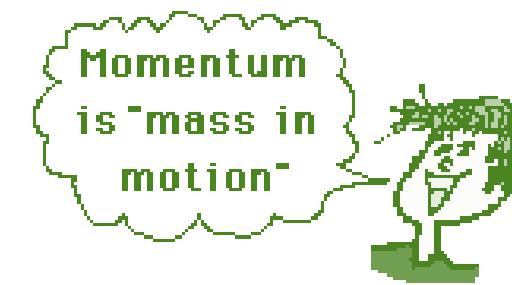
# Momentum

- Momentum is a quantity that describes an object's resistance to stopping (a kind of "moving inertia").
- It is represented by the symbol  $p$  (boldface) with a unit of kilogram-meter per second.
- It is the product of an object's mass and velocity.
- It is a vector quantity (since velocity is a vector and mass is a scalar).

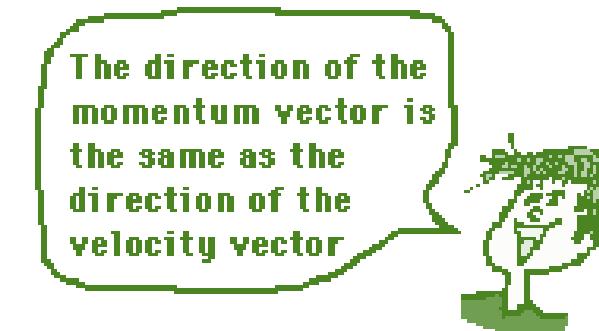
$$p = m v$$



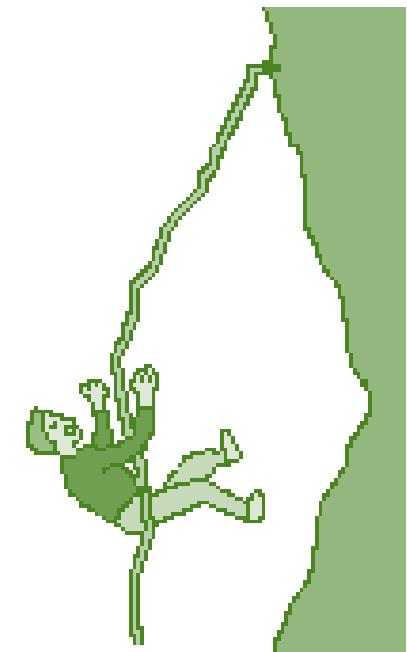
<https://www.physicsclassroom.com/class/momentum>



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Mountain climbers use nylon ropes to increase the stopping time and decrease the stopping force.

<https://www.physicsclassroom.com/class/momentum>



$$p \propto m$$

The **larger** the mass moving the same speed  
the **larger** the momentum.

The 5 kg car going 10 m/s:

- $p=mv$
- $p=(5)(10) = 50 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m/s}$  of momentum

The 35 kg car going 10 m/s:

- $p=mv$
- $p=(35)(10) = 350 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m/s}$  of momentum

$$p = mv$$

10 m/s

**least momentum**

10 m/s

**most momentum**



$$p \propto v$$

The 15 kg car going 0 m/s:

- $p=mv$
- $p=(15)(0) = 0 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m/s}$  of momentum

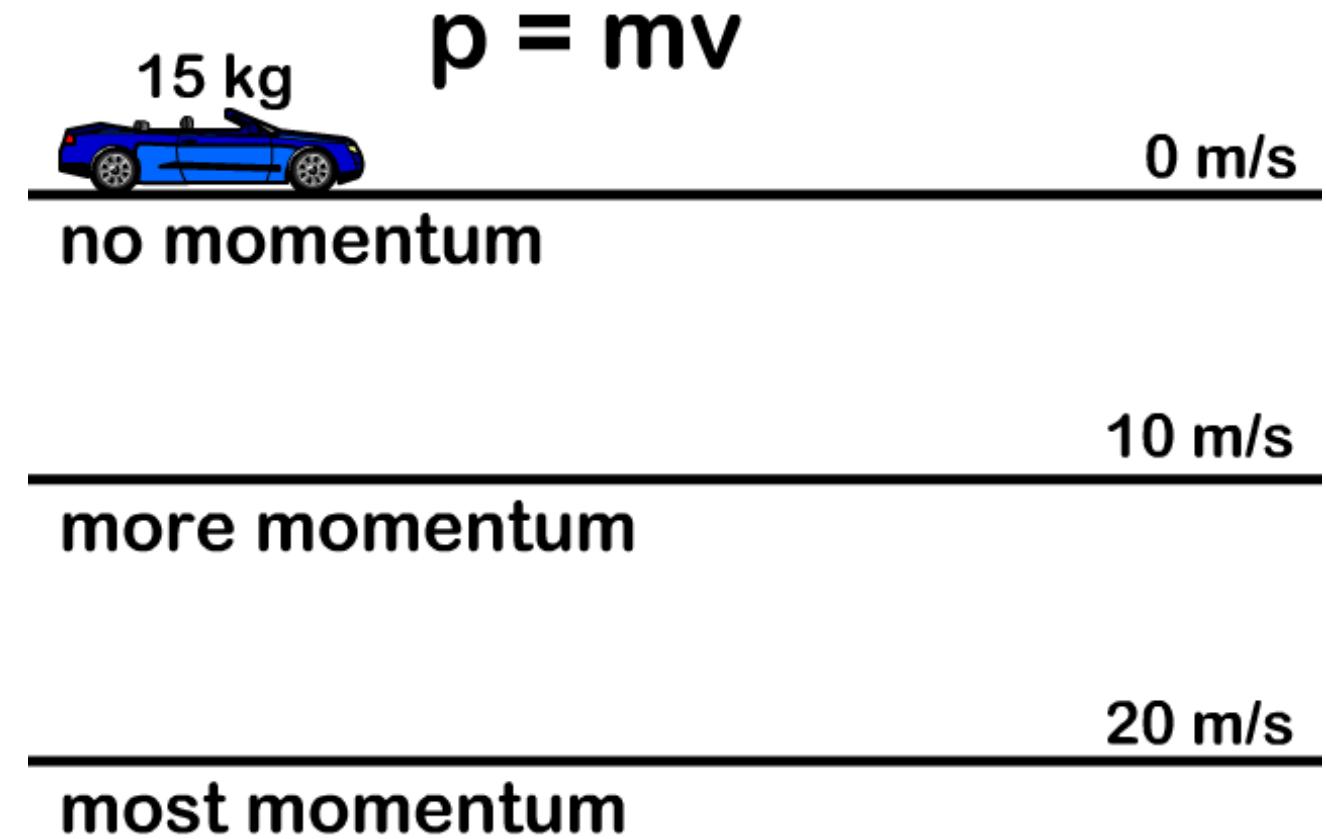
The 15 kg car going 10 m/s:

- $p=mv$
- $p=(15)(10) = 150 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m/s}$  of momentum

The 15 kg car going 20 m/s:

- $p=mv$
- $p=(15)(20) = 300 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m/s}$  of momentum

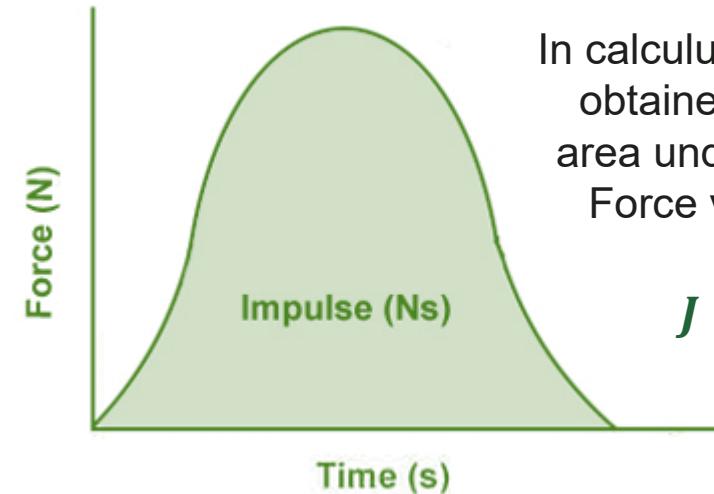
The same car going double the speed has double the momentum.



# Impulse

- It is a vector quantity that describes the **effect of a net force acting on an object** (a kind of "moving force").
- Impulse is represented by the symbol **J** (boldface) with a unit of Newton-second.
- It is mathematically defined as the **product of the average net force acting on an object and its duration**.

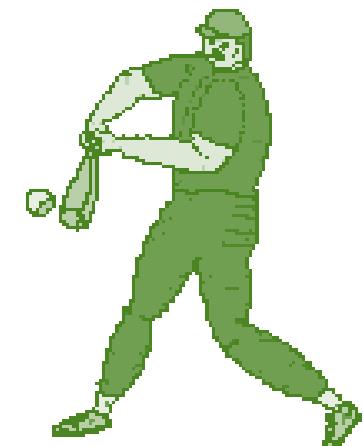
$$J = F \Delta t$$



<https://www.physicsclassroom.com/class/momentum>

In calculus, Impulse can be obtained by getting the area under the curve of a Force vs. Time graph.

$$J = \int F dt$$



A real life example would be a baseball player hitting a ball in different amount of time.

<https://www.physicsclassroom.com/class/momentum>

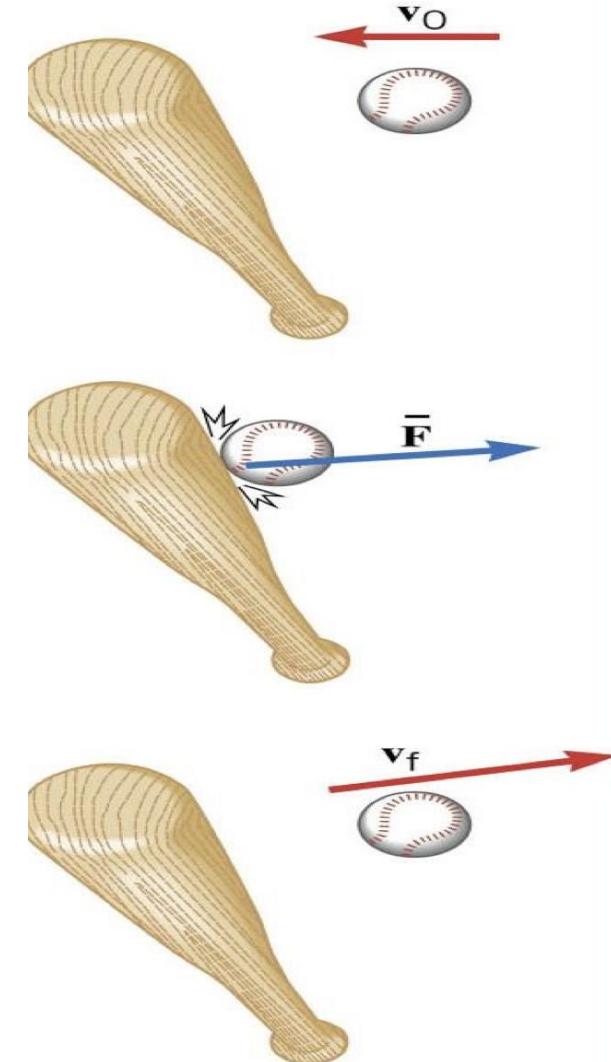
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# Impulse

- IMPULSE is required to change the momentum of an object.
- A net force acting for some time will cause an object to change its momentum.
- Impulse=change in momentum
- We assume that the net force is constant throughout the duration of changing momentum. (Usually use average net force.)
- An **impulse (J)** is a force applied for a time, which results in a change of momentum.

*A bat creates an impulse when force is applied for a time period changing a baseball's momentum.*



# *Impulse from Momentum*

From Newton's second law:

$$\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a}$$

We combined it with the definition of acceleration ( $a = \text{change in velocity / time}$ ), the following equalities result:

$$\mathbf{F} = m \frac{\Delta v}{t}$$

$$J = m\Delta v = p$$

**Impulse = Change in momentum**

And since momentum is *force times time*, we change the left-hand side of the equation to:

$$\mathbf{F} * t = m \frac{\Delta v}{t}$$

Therefore,  $J = m\Delta v = p$



# *Impulse-Momentum Theorem*

The impulse-momentum theorem states that the change in momentum of an object equals the impulse applied to it.

$$J = \Delta p$$

If mass is constant, then...

$$F\Delta t = m\Delta v$$

If mass is changing, then...

$$F dt = m dv + v dm \text{ (*calculus based*)}$$

The impulse-momentum theorem is logically equivalent to Newton's second law of motion (the force law).



Two crucial concepts in the impulse-momentum theorem:

1. Impulse is a vector quantity

$$-(10 \text{ N} \cdot \text{s}) \neq +(10 \text{ N} \cdot \text{s})$$

2. An impulse does not cause momentum; rather, it causes a change in the momentum of an object. Thus, you must subtract the final momentum from the initial momentum



# Example

A 0.145-kg baseball is moving at 35 m/s when it is caught by a player.

- a) Find the change in momentum of the ball.
- b) If the ball is caught with the mitt held in a stationary position so that the ball stops in 0.050 s, what is the average force exerted on the ball?
- c) If, instead, the mitt is moving backward so that the ball takes 0.500 s to stop, what is the average force exerted by the mitt on the ball?





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## *Example*

**A 50.0 kg object is moving at 18.2 m/s when a 200 N force is applied opposite the direction of the object's motion, causing it to slow down to 12.6 m/s. How long was this force applied?**



# *Example*

A 1,000 kg car is moving at 20 m/s when it crashes into a wall. The driver is wearing a seatbelt, and the airbag deploys, stopping the car in 0.8 seconds.

- a) What is the impulse experienced by the car?
- b) What force does the airbag exert on the car?



# *Conservation of Momentum and Collisions*

Action: Reaction  
same force  
 $\mathbf{F}_1 = -\mathbf{F}_2$

but:  $m_1 \neq m_2$   
so:  $\mathbf{a}_1 \neq \mathbf{a}_2$

with:  $m_1 \neq m_2$   
then:  $\Delta\mathbf{v}_1 \neq \Delta\mathbf{v}_2$

Conservation of Momentum  
 $\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_2 = \text{constant}$

$$\Delta\mathbf{p}_1 = \Delta\mathbf{p}_2$$

though:  
 $m\Delta\mathbf{v}_1 = m\Delta\mathbf{v}_2$



# *Conservation of Momentum*

“When no net force acts on a system, the total momentum remains constant in magnitude and direction.”

$$p_1 + p_2 = \text{constant}$$

Note:

Rightward direction is (+)

Leftward direction is (-)

conservation of momentum in any collision, including elastic collision  
elastic collision

$$m_1 v_1 + m_2 v_2 = m_1 v'_1 + m_2 v'_2,$$

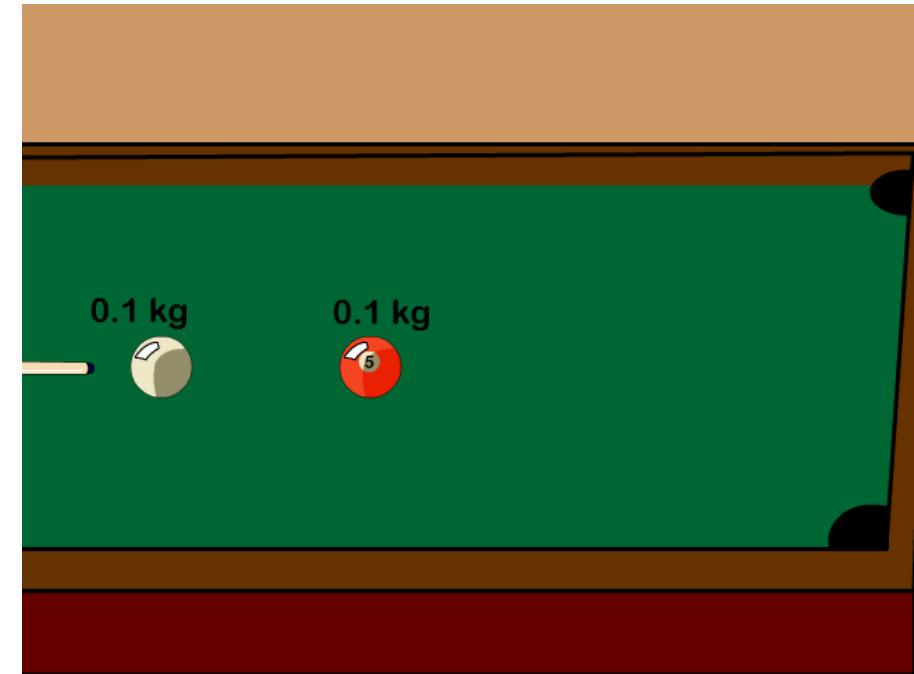
conservation of momentum in a perfectly inelastic collision

$$m_1 v_1 + m_2 v_2 = (m_1 + m_2) v'$$



# *Conservation of Momentum*

- ❑ Momentum can be transferred from one object to another and shared between multiple objects remaining in contact.
- ❑ Conservation of momentum can be used to calculate the effects on a baseball player and baseball when thrown.
- ❑ Elastic collisions occur when two objects collide but maintain their form.
- ❑ Inelastic collisions include scenarios where two objects travel together.



## Collision between two objects

$$J = \Delta P$$

$$J = p_{initial} - p_{final}$$

$$J = (m_1 v_{i1} + m_2 v_{i2}) - (m_1 v_{f1} + m_2 v_{f2})$$

$$0 = (m_1 v_{i1} + m_2 v_{i2}) - (m_1 v_{f1} + m_2 v_{f2})$$

$$(m_1 v_{i1} + m_2 v_{i2}) = (m_1 v_{f1} + m_2 v_{f2})$$

$v_{i1}$  &  $v_{f1}$  are initial and final velocity of object 1

$v_{i2}$  &  $v_{f2}$  are initial and final velocity of object 2



# *Conservation of Momentum*

**Conservation of Momentum: within a system  
momentum is conserved**

- Reminder: momentum is the product of mass and velocity ( $\mathbf{p=mv}$ )

$$\mathbf{p_1i + p_2i = p_{1f} + p_{2f}}$$

Momentum Before  
Equals

$$\mathbf{m_1v_{1i} + m_2v_{2i} = m_1v_{1f} + m_2v_{2f}}$$



$m_1$  : first object mass

$v_{1i}$  : first object initial velocity

$v_{1f}$  : first object final velocity

$m_2$  : second object mass

$v_{2i}$  : second object initial velocity

$v_{2f}$  : second object final velocity



# Types of Collision

## □ Elastic Collision

- Momentum and kinetic energy are conserved within the system
- The original objects that collide maintain their form and do not release heat in a **perfect elastic collision**
- **(objects maintain form and keep separate)**

$$m_1v_{1i} + m_2v_{2i} = m_1v_{1f} + m_2v_{2f}$$

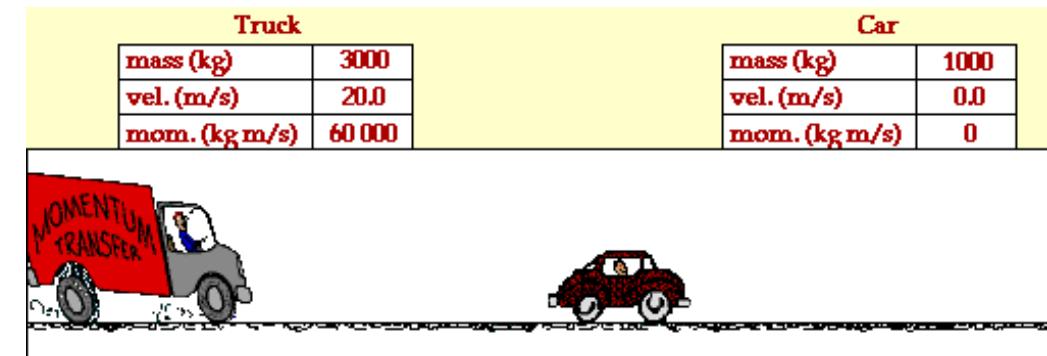
Momentum Before  
Equals



## □ Inelastic Collision

- Momentum but there is lost in kinetic energy is conserved within the system
- **(objects combine and stick together)**

$$m_1v_{1i} + m_2v_{2i} = v_f(m_1 + m_2)$$



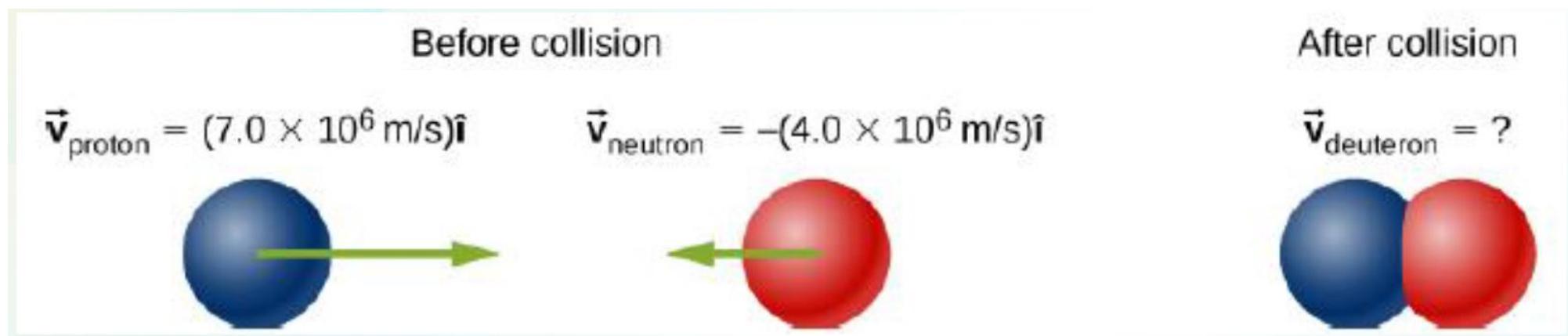
## *Example of Conservation of Momentum*

A 0.80 kg firecracker is traveling through the air at 12 m/s to the right when it explodes. After the explosion, a 0.30 kg piece of it is flying to the left at 6.0 m/s. What is the mass of the other piece and how fast is it flying?



## *Example of Conservation of Momentum*

A proton (mass  $1.67 \times 10^{-27}$  kg) collides with a neutron (with essentially the same mass as the proton) to form a particle called a deuteron. What is the velocity of the deuteron if it is formed from a proton moving with velocity  $7.0 \times 10^6$  m/s to the left and a neutron moving with velocity  $4.0 \times 10^6$  m/s to the right?



# *Example of Conservation of Momentum*



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## *Example of Conservation of Momentum*

A 0.05 kg dart traveling 16 m/s hits a 0.15 kg movable target and sticks to it. How fast is the dart in the target moving together after the collision?



## *Example of Conservation of Momentum*

A 0.1 kg pool ball traveling 2.5 m/s hits another 0.1 kg at rest. If the first ball stops after the elastic collision, how fast is the second now moving?



## *Example of Conservation of Momentum*

- A 0.02 kg bullet is fired at 300 m/s into a 2 kg wooden block at rest. The bullet embeds itself in the block, and they move together after impact. What is their velocity after impact?
  
- How fast is an 85 kg receiver traveling 6 m/s to the right going after catching a 0.43 kg football traveling at 30 m/s right?
  
- A 95 kg pitcher at rest throws a 0.15 kg baseball 40 m/s to the right. How fast would the pitcher be going after the throw on a frictionless surface?



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*Got any questions???*

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