

# Conservation of Energy

Problems involve moving from one place to another

$$E = K + U$$


$$E_i = E_f$$


changes to the total mechanical energy will occur if there are

NON-CONSERVATIVE forces  
(any force other than gravity)  
springs

$W_{nc} > 0$  Energy is added

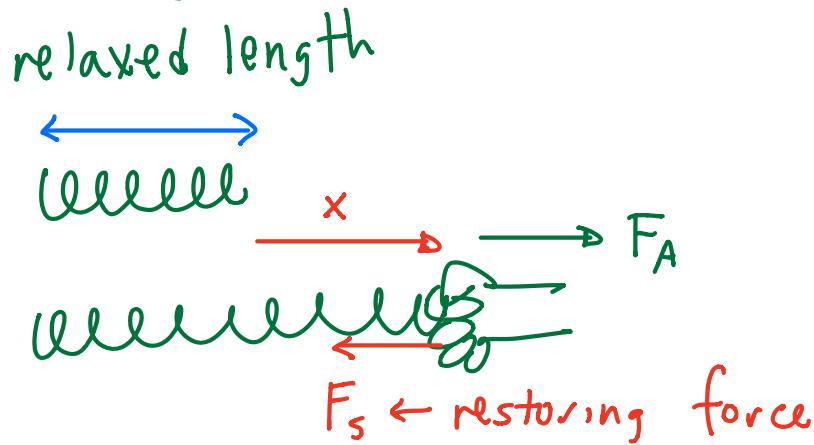
$W_{nc} < 0$  Energy removed

When including  $U_g$

make sure you know

where  $h=0$  is

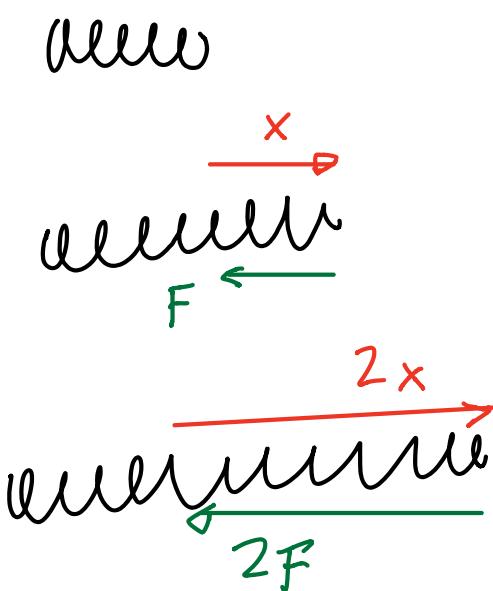
# Springs/elastics



$X$  = change in spring length from  
its relaxed length proportional to

Hooke's Law :  $F_s \propto -x$

*Spring force  
opposite direction  
if  $x$*



$$F = kx$$

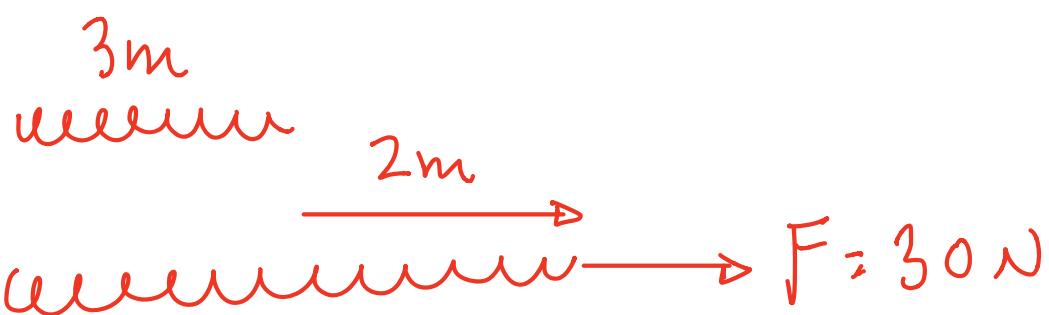
Force required to stretch or  
compress a spring

$k$  = Spring constant

unit: N/m

a measure of stiffness

stiffer = larger  $k$

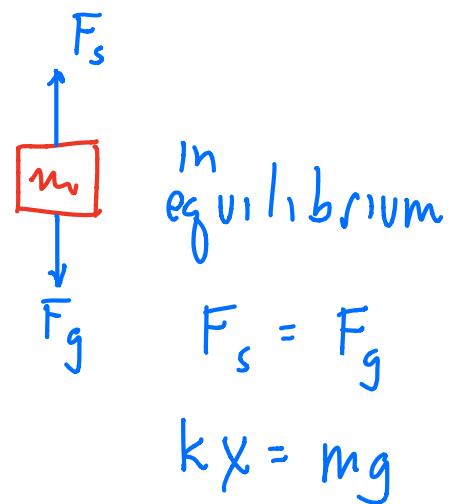
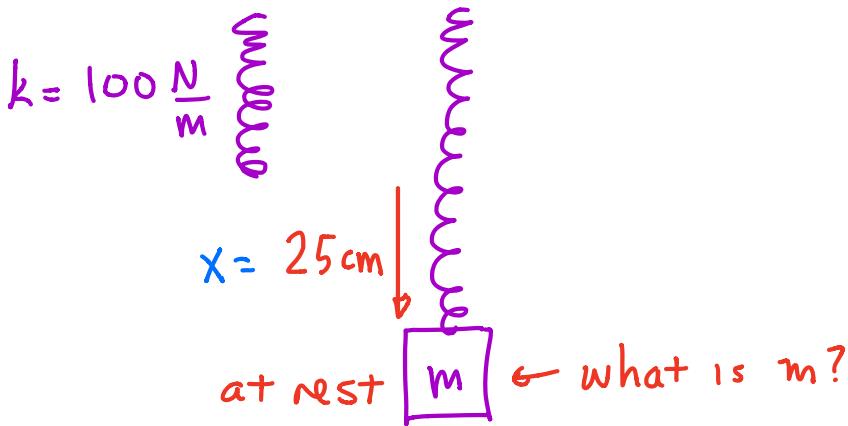


What is the spring constant?

$$F = kx$$

$$30N = k(2m)$$

$$k = 15N/m$$



Same question

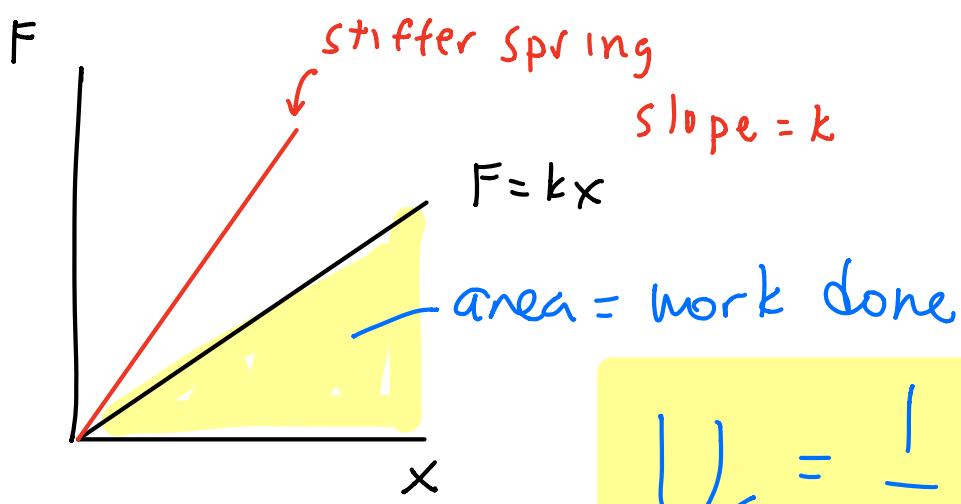
$$100 \frac{N}{m} \times 0.25 \text{ m} = m \cdot 10 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$m = 2.5 \text{ kg}$$



## Energy stored in a spring

$U_s$  (or  $PE_s$ )



$$U_s = \frac{1}{2} k x^2$$

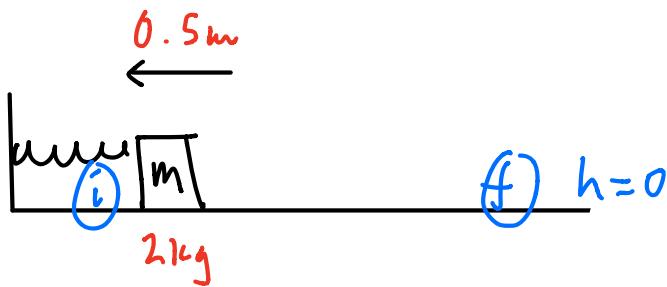
$\nearrow > 0$        $\nearrow > 0$

$$E_i = E_f$$

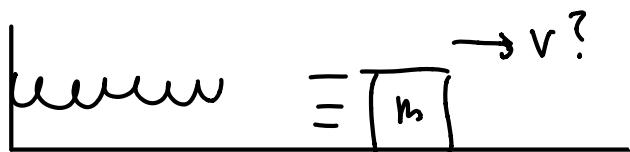
$$K_i + U_{gi} + U_{si} = K_f + U_{gf} + U_{sf}$$

$k = 100 \text{ N/m}$

$$U_{si} = K_f$$



$$\frac{1}{2}kx^2 = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$



$$V^2 = \frac{k}{m} x^2$$

$$V = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} X$$

$$V = \sqrt{\frac{100}{2}} \cdot 0.5$$

if compression is doubled

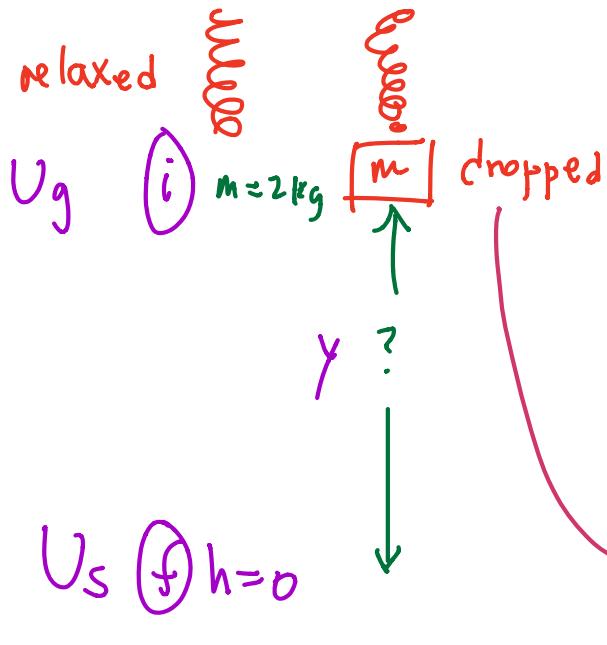
$$V = 3.5 \text{ m/s}$$

how would the speed  
be different?

also doubled

(energy is quadrupled)

$$k = 100 \text{ N/m}$$



$$U_{gi} = U_{sf}$$

$$mg y = \frac{1}{2} k y^2$$

$$y = \frac{2mg}{k} = \frac{2 \cdot 2 \text{ kg} \cdot 10 \text{ m/s}^2}{100 \text{ N/m}}$$

$$y = 0.4 \text{ m}$$

Why didn't we use  $mg = kx$  at bottom?  
just because the block was at rest doesn't  
mean equilibrium. The forces at the  
bottom are NOT balanced

In general

$$\underline{F = kx}$$

object at  
rest and  
remains at rest  
or question is  
asking about  
acceleration

$$\underline{U = \frac{1}{2} kx^2}$$

"action!"  
energy into  
or out of  
the spring