



Physics. *You work it out.*

[Home](#) [Gameboard](#) [Physics](#) [Mechanics](#) [Dynamics](#) [Gravitational Potential and Kinetic Energy 1.7](#)

# Gravitational Potential and Kinetic Energy 1.7



A worker at ground level throws a  $2.2\text{ kg}$  drinks bottle upwards to a thirsty colleague  $3.2\text{ m}$  above the ground. It just reaches him, but he fails to catch it, and it falls into an excavated trench  $1.6\text{ m}$  below ground level.

## Part A Initial speed of bottle

At what speed did the worker need to throw the bottle if she threw it from the waist,  $1.0\text{ m}$  above the ground?

## Part B Impact speed

How fast was it moving when it struck the base of the trench?

Gameboard:

[STEM SMART Physics 22 - Combining Energies](#)

All materials on this site are licensed under the [Creative Commons license](#), unless stated otherwise.



# Gravitational Potential and Kinetic Energy 1.10

A Level

P

P

P

How high would a ball bounce if it struck an efficiency  $\eta = 0.75$  surface at  $13 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ?

Gameboard:  
[STEM SMART Physics 22 - Combining Energies](#)

All materials on this site are licensed under the [Creative Commons license](#), unless stated otherwise.

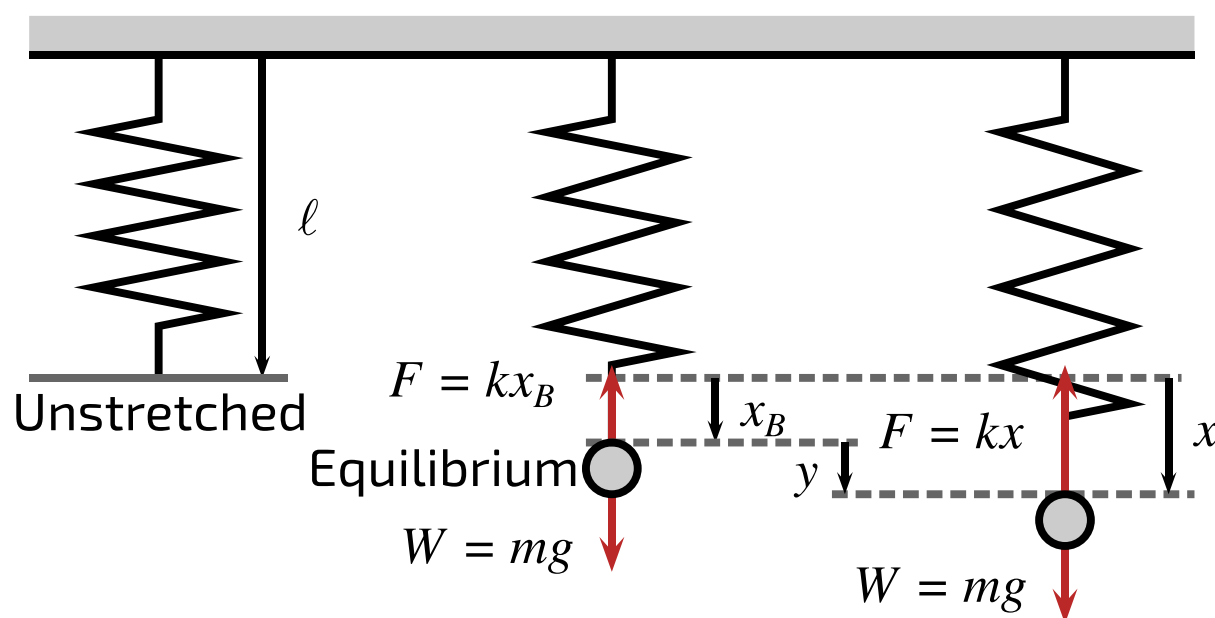


Physics. *You work it out.*

[Home](#) [Gameboard](#) [Physics](#) [Mechanics](#) [Dynamics](#) [Gravitational, Elastic and Kinetic Energy 2.1](#)

# Gravitational, Elastic and Kinetic Energy 2.1

A Level



**Figure 1:** Objects suspended from a spring exchange stores of kinetic, elastic potential and kinetic energy as they move up and down.

Quantities:

$x$  spring extension (m)

$x_B$  equilibrium  $x$  (m)

$v$  speed ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ )

$m$  mass (kg)

$E_K$  kinetic energy (J)

$E_T$  total energy (J)

$F$  spring tension (N)

$\ell$  spring natural length (m)

$y$  distance from equilibrium (m)

$k$  spring constant ( $\text{N m}^{-1}$ )

$g$  gravitational field strength ( $\text{N kg}^{-1}$ )

$E_{GP}$  gravitational potential energy (J)

$E_{EP}$  elastic potential energy (J)

$W$  weight (N)

Equations:

$$E_K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \quad E_{GP} = -mgx \quad E_{EP} = \frac{1}{2}kx^2 \quad F = -kx$$

$$E_T = E_K + E_{GP} + E_{EP} \quad W = mg \quad y = x - x_B$$

In the absence of air resistance, use the equations above to derive expressions for

**Part A    The total energy**

---

Derive an expression for the total energy,  $E_T$ , in terms of  $x$  and  $v$ .

The following symbols may be useful:  $E_B$ ,  $E_{EP}$ ,  $E_{GP}$ ,  $E_T$ ,  $g$ ,  $k$ ,  $m$ ,  $v$ ,  $x$ ,  $x_B$ ,  $y$

---

**Part B    The value of  $x$  where the forces balance**

---

Derive an expression for the value of  $x$  where the forces balance (we will call this  $x_B$ ).

The following symbols may be useful:  $E_B$ ,  $E_{EP}$ ,  $E_{GP}$ ,  $E_T$ ,  $g$ ,  $k$ ,  $m$ ,  $v$ ,  $x$ ,  $x_B$ ,  $y$

---

**Part C     $E_{GP} + E_{EP}$  at the point where the forces balance**

---

Derive an expression for  $E_{GP} + E_{EP}$  at the point where the forces balance (we will call this  $E_B$ ).

The following symbols may be useful:  $E_B$ ,  $E_{EP}$ ,  $E_{GP}$ ,  $E_T$ ,  $g$ ,  $k$ ,  $m$ ,  $v$ ,  $x$ ,  $x_B$ ,  $y$

---

**Part D    The greatest value of  $x$**

---

Derive an expression for the greatest value of  $x$  if you hold the mass at  $x = 0$  and let go.

The following symbols may be useful:  $E_B$ ,  $E_{EP}$ ,  $E_{GP}$ ,  $E_T$ ,  $g$ ,  $k$ ,  $m$ ,  $v$ ,  $x$ ,  $x_B$ ,  $y$

---

**Part E**     $E_{\text{GP}} + E_{\text{EP}}$  in terms of  $y = x - x_{\text{B}}$

Derive an expression for the value of  $E_{\text{GP}} + E_{\text{EP}}$  in terms of  $y = x - x_{\text{B}}$ . You may find it simplifies the algebra if you give your answer in the form  $E_{\text{B}} + \dots$

The following symbols may be useful:  $E_{\text{B}}$ ,  $E_{\text{EP}}$ ,  $E_{\text{GP}}$ ,  $g$ ,  $k$ ,  $m$ ,  $y$

---

Gameboard:

**STEM SMART Physics 22 - Combining Energies**

All materials on this site are licensed under the **Creative Commons license**, unless stated otherwise.

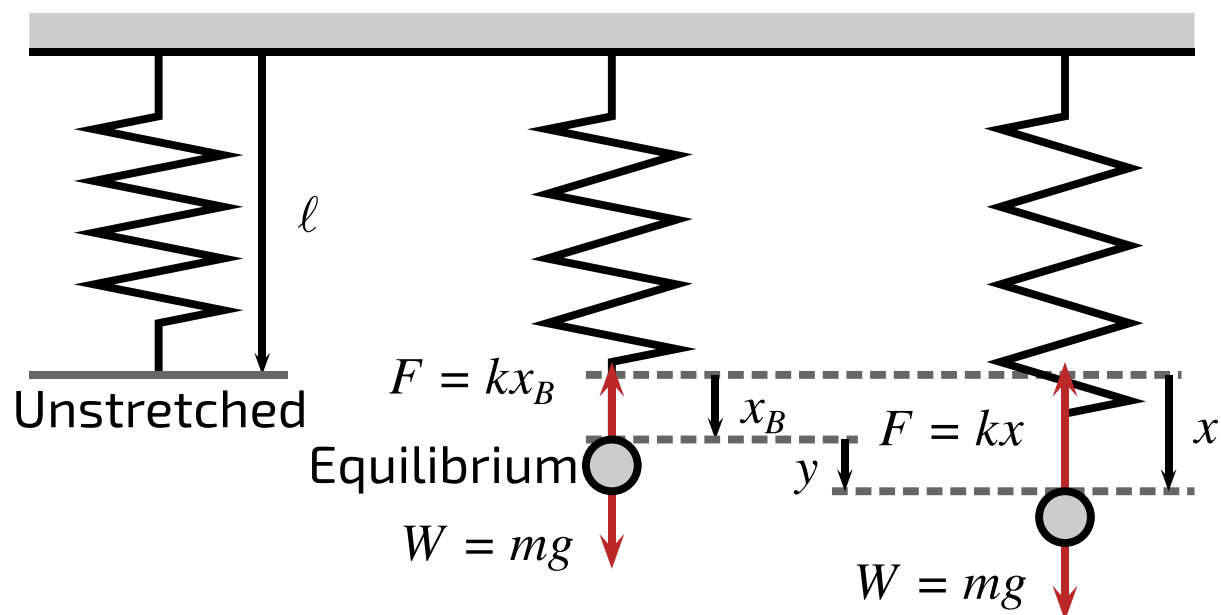
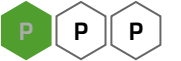


Physics. *You work it out.*

[Home](#) [Gameboard](#) [Physics](#) [Mechanics](#) [Dynamics](#) [Gravitational, Elastic and Kinetic Energy 2.2](#)

## Gravitational, Elastic and Kinetic Energy 2.2

A Level



**Figure 1:** Objects suspended from a spring exchange stores of kinetic, elastic potential and kinetic energy as they move up and down.

Using the diagram above, calculate the energies  $E_{GP}$ ,  $E_{EP}$ ,  $E_K$  and  $E_T$  for a 2.5 kg mass when  $x = 0.055$  m and speed  $v = 0.25$  m s<sup>-1</sup> if  $k = 600$  N m<sup>-1</sup>.

### Part A Calculate $E_{GP}$

Calculate the gravitational potential energy  $E_{GP}$  for a 2.5 kg mass when  $x = 0.055$  m and  $v = 0.25$  m s<sup>-1</sup> if  $k = 600$  N m<sup>-1</sup>.

### Part B Calculate $E_{EP}$

Calculate the elastic potential energy  $E_{EP}$  for a 2.5 kg mass when  $x = 0.055$  m and  $v = 0.25$  m s<sup>-1</sup> if  $k = 600$  N m<sup>-1</sup>.

**Part C    Calculate  $E_K$** 

Calculate the kinetic energy  $E_K$  for a 2.5 kg mass when  $x = 0.055$  m and  $v = 0.25$  m s<sup>-1</sup> if  $k = 600$  N m<sup>-1</sup>.

---

**Part D    Calculate  $E_T$** 

Calculate the total energy  $E_T$  for a 2.5 kg mass when  $x = 0.055$  m and  $v = 0.25$  m s<sup>-1</sup> if  $k = 600$  N m<sup>-1</sup>.

---

Gameboard:

**STEM SMART Physics 22 - Combining Energies**

All materials on this site are licensed under the **Creative Commons license**, unless stated otherwise.

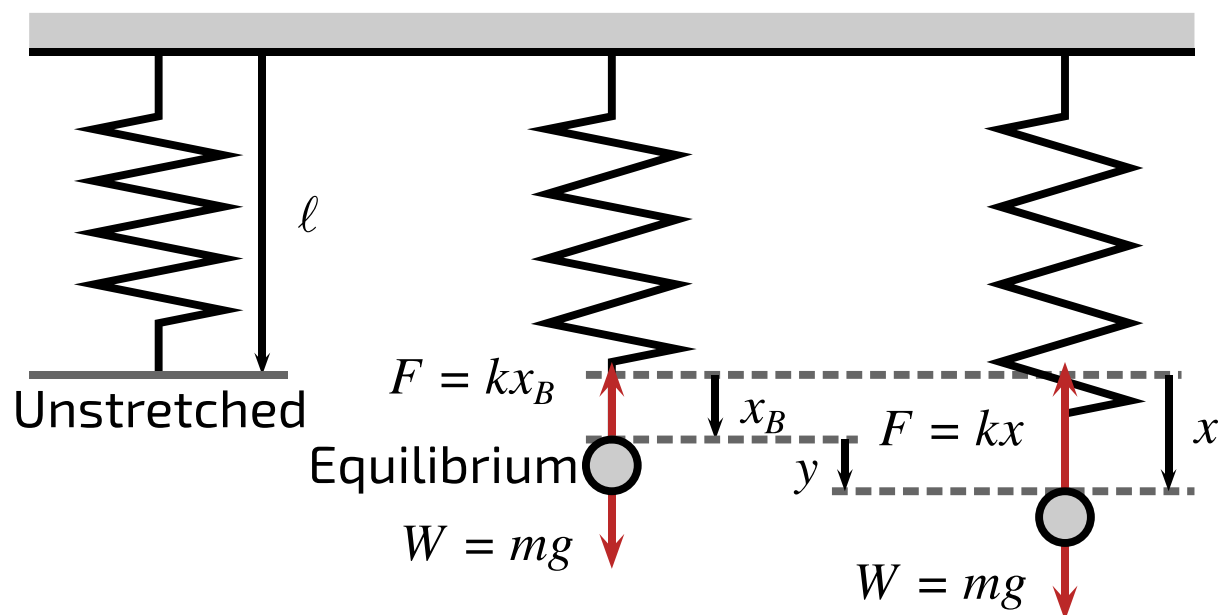


Physics. *You work it out.*

[Home](#) [Gameboard](#) [Physics](#) [Mechanics](#) [Dynamics](#) [Gravitational, Elastic and Kinetic Energy 2.3](#)

## Gravitational, Elastic and Kinetic Energy 2.3

A Level



**Figure 1:** Objects suspended from a spring exchange stores of kinetic, elastic potential and kinetic energy as they move up and down.

Using the diagram above, calculate  $x_B$  (the extension of the spring at the equilibrium point) for a 100 N weight hanging from a  $k = 5.0 \text{ kN m}^{-1}$  spring.

Gameboard:

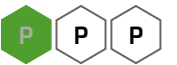
[STEM SMART Physics 22 - Combining Energies](#)

All materials on this site are licensed under the [Creative Commons license](#), unless stated otherwise.





## A Level



(This question is about the system shown in the Example in the notes page, which is shown below.)

A 60 kg bungee jumper falls 12 m before their bungee is taut. The spring constant  $k = 200 \text{ N m}^{-1}$ .

**Part A** The bungee has stretched 5.0 m

Calculate the speed of bungee jumper when the bungee has stretched 5.0 m.

### Part B The bungee becomes slack on the way up

Calculate the speed of bungee jumper when the bungee becomes slack on the way up.

Gameboard:

## STEM SMART Physics 22 - Combining Energies

All materials on this site are licensed under the **Creative Commons license**, unless stated otherwise.



# Gravitational, Elastic and Kinetic Energy 2.7

A Level

C

C

C

(This question is about the system shown in the Example in the [notes page](#), which is shown below.)

A 60 kg bungee jumper falls 12 m before their bungee is taut. The spring constant  $k = 200 \text{ N m}^{-1}$ .

Calculate how far the bungee jumper falls before they first come to rest. You may assume that the *total* potential energy of the jumper relative to the equilibrium position is given by  $\frac{1}{2}ky^2$ .

Gameboard:  
[STEM SMART Physics 22 - Combining Energies](#)

All materials on this site are licensed under the [Creative Commons license](#), unless stated otherwise.



# Pop-up Toy

A Level

C

C

C

A pop-up toy consists of a head and sucker of combined mass  $m$  stuck to the top of a light spring of natural length  $l_0$  and spring constant  $k$ . The spring is compressed to length  $l_1$  when the pop-up is stuck to the ground.

To what height above the ground does the bottom of the unstretched spring jump to when it is smoothly released?

The following symbols may be useful:  $g$ ,  $k$ ,  $l_0$ ,  $l_1$ ,  $m$

All materials on this site are licensed under the [Creative Commons license](#), unless stated otherwise.