

to understand work and power







WORK

The more work that a force does, the more energy it transfers. The amount of work done is the amount of energy transferred.

The amount of energy transferred depends on two things:

- The size of the force
- The distance moved in the direction of the force



Calculating work done

Work done by a force = force x distance W = f x d

One joule is the energy transferred by a force of one newton when it moves through a distance of one metre in the direction of the force

1J = 1 Nm





Work done and energy transferred

When a force does work, it transfer energy to the object it is acting on. The amount of energy transferred is equal to the amount of work done.

We can write this as a simple equation:

 $W=\Delta E$ amount of work done = change in energy

Power

Power is the rate at which you do work. The more work you do, and the shorter the time in which you do it, the greater your power.

When you lift an object, you can increase your power by:

- Increasing the weight of the object
- Lifting the object more quickly



Calculating Power

Power is measured in **watts** (**W**). One watt is the power when one Joule of work is done in one second.

One watt is one joule per second.

1 W = 1 J/s 1000 W = 1kW 1000000 W = 1 MW



Solved questions

A crane lifts a crate upwards through a height of 20 m. the lifting force provided by the crane is 5 kN. How much work is done by the force? How much energy is transferred to the crate?

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F= 5 \text{ kN} = 5000 \text{ N}

d=20 \text{ m}

W = F \times d

= 5000 N x 20 m

= 100000 J
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A car of mass 800 kg accelerates from rest to a speed of 25 m/s in 10s. What is its power?

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k.e. = \frac{1}{2} mv<sup>2</sup>
     = \frac{1}{2} \times 800 \text{ kg} \times (25 \text{ m/s})^2
      = 250000J
power = work done
            time taken
         = W
         = 250000J
               10s
         = 25000 W = 25 kW
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