

Manipulating Variables and Constants EXERCISES

Directions: For each of the following equations, solve for the variable in **bold** print. Be sure to show each step you take to solve the equation for the **bold** variable.

$$1. v = \mathbf{a}t$$

$$2. P = \frac{F}{\mathbf{A}}$$

$$3. \lambda = \frac{\mathbf{h}}{p}$$

$$4. F(\Delta t) = m\Delta v$$

$$5. U = \frac{G\mathbf{m}_1\mathbf{m}_2}{r}$$

$$6. C = \frac{5}{9}(\mathbf{F} - 32)$$

$$7. v^2 = v^2 + 2\mathbf{a}\Delta x$$

$$8. K = \frac{1}{2}m\mathbf{v}^2$$

$$9. v_{rms} = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{\mathbf{M}}}$$

$$10. F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Kq_1q_2}{\mathbf{r}^2}$$

$$11. x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}t^2$$

$$12. n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

Part II: Factor-Label Method for Converting Units (Dimensional Analysis)

A very useful method of converting one unit to an equivalent unit is called the factor-label method of unit conversion. You may be given the speed of an object as 25 **km/h** and wish to express it in **m/s**. To make this conversion, you must change **km** to **m** and **h** to **s** by multiplying by a series of factors so that the units you do not want will cancel out and the units you want will remain. Conversion factors: 1000 **m** = 1 **km** and 3600 **seconds** = 1 **hour**

$$\left(\frac{25 \text{ km}}{\text{h}}\right) \left(\frac{1000 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ km}}\right) \left(\frac{1 \text{ h}}{3600 \text{ s}}\right) = 6.94 \text{ m/s}$$

What is the conversion factor to convert km/h to m/s?

What is the conversion factor to convert m/s to km/h?

Do the following conversions using the factor-label method. Show all of your work!

1. How many seconds are in a year?

2. Convert 28 km to cm.

3. Convert 450 g to kg.

4. Convert 85 cm/min to m/s

5. Convert 6 grams to kg.

6. Convert 823 nm to m.