

# DESCRIBING UNIFORM MOTION

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**Question**

- A car, starting at rest, experiences a constant acceleration (or increase in velocity) of  $5 \text{ m/s}^2$  for 10 sec.
  - How far has the car traveled?

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- We can NOT solve the previous problem using any of our current models or equations!
- BUT, we can make/derive some models that will!

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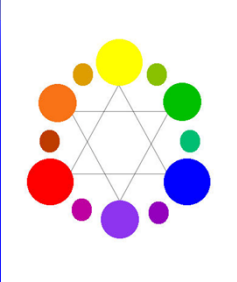
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### An Example From Art



In Art, there are 3 Primary Colors

They can be combined to form the 3 Secondary Colors

Etc...

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- The same sort of process can be done with our math models.
- Our simple models for speed, velocity and acceleration can be combined into 'Super'-models!

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### Limitation of our 'Super'-models

- These new models will **ONLY** work for objects that move at a constant acceleration!

WHY?

- Objects that experience a constant acceleration move in very predictable ways!

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**Kinematic Equations for Linear Motion**  
(For constant acceleration ONLY)

**\*\* To select the appropriate equation to solve a particular problem:**

- 1) List what quantities are given - (will be 3)
- 2) List what is being asked for - (will be 1)
- 3) Find the equation in the table that contains all 4 involved quantities.

Equation	Involved Quantities	Unneeded Quantity
1) $v_f = v_i + at$	$v_i, v_f, a, t$	$\Delta x$
2) $v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2a\Delta x$	$\Delta x, v_f, v_i, a$	$t$
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### After Working a Problem...

- Are my units ok?
- Is my magnitude reasonable?
- Is my direction reasonable?

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- Using our new kinematic (motion) models, we can answer our original question:
- A car, starting at rest, experiences a constant acceleration of  $5 \text{ m/s}^2$  for 10 sec.
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**Question**

- A driver traveling at a constant 112.6 km/hr (70 mph) drops his favorite CD on the floorboard. He takes his eyes off the road for 3 sec to retrieve it.
- How far does he travel (in m) while not paying attention to the road?

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### Question

- Spotting a state trooper on your way home for Thanksgiving break, you casually reduce your speed from 38 m/s (85 mph) to 31.3 m/s (70 mph) in 4 sec.
  - What is your acceleration?
  - How far did you travel while you were breaking?

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### Question

- While rock climbing, you look down to monitor your progress when your favorite pair of sunglasses fall off. You observe (in the midst of your sorrow) that they are accelerating away from you at a constant rate of 9.8 m/s<sup>2</sup> as they plummet toward the ground.
  - If it takes 5 sec to reach the ground, how high are you on the cliff?
  - What is the speed of the sunglasses just before shattering on the ground below?

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**Question**

- Randy Johnson can throw a baseball at 100 mph (44.7 m/s). A brave catcher acting as a target must bring the ball to a complete stop in just a few inches using a well padded glove.
- What is the acceleration of the ball as it comes to rest in the catcher's glove?

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What is the acceleration of the car (in mph/s)?

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