

Kinetic energy is the energy of motion. We say motion has energy because moving objects have the ability to do work. (e.g. a hammer hitting a nail, a baseball bat hitting a ball)

Kinetic energy is measured in Joules (J).

Work:

$W = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta \vec{d} \rightarrow$ This is a force through a displacement. Note: work is the dot product between the force in Newtons (N) and the displacement in meters (m). The result is a scalar.

Or

$W = F \cdot \Delta d \cos \theta \rightarrow$ Where F is the force in Newtons (N), Δd is the displacement in meters (m) and θ is the angle between the Force and the displacement.

Note: $W = 0J$ if $\vec{F} \perp \Delta \vec{d}$

Deriving Kinetic Energy:

Work is defined as the change in kinetic energy

$W = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta \vec{d} \quad (1) \rightarrow$ From momentum we know $\vec{F} = \frac{\Delta \vec{p}}{\Delta t} \quad (2)$

sub (2) into (1)

$$W = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta \vec{d}$$

$$W = \frac{\Delta \vec{p}}{\Delta t} \cdot \Delta \vec{d}$$

$$W = \frac{\Delta \vec{p}}{\Delta t} \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2}{2} \right) \Delta t \quad \leftarrow \text{From kinematics remember } \Delta \vec{d} = \left(\frac{\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2}{2} \right) \Delta t$$

$$W = \frac{(m \Delta \vec{v})}{\Delta t} \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2}{2} \right) \Delta t \quad \leftarrow \Delta \vec{p} = m \Delta \vec{v}$$

$$W = \frac{m(\vec{v}_2 - \vec{v}_1)}{\Delta t} \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2}{2} \right) \Delta t$$

$$W = \frac{m(\vec{v}_2 - \vec{v}_1)(\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2) \Delta t}{2 \Delta t} \quad \leftarrow \text{Notice we drop the vector notation. This is because when multiplying through the brackets, we are working with the dot products, which render a scalar result.}$$

$$W = \frac{m(v_2^2 - v_1^2)}{2}$$

$$W = \frac{mv_2^2}{2} - \frac{mv_1^2}{2}$$

$$\therefore W = E_{k_2} - E_{k_1}$$

$$\therefore W = \Delta E_k$$

In general

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

EX: You push a 10kg block for 15m with a constant force of 20N.

- How much work did you do?
- If the block started from rest, how fast is it moving at the 15m mark?

We can relate E_k to momentum using algebraic manipulation

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \quad (1) \quad \text{and} \quad p = mv \rightarrow v = \frac{p}{m} \quad (2)$$

Sub (2) into (1)

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}m\left(\frac{p}{m}\right)^2$$

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2} \frac{mp^2}{m^2}$$

$$\boxed{E_k = \frac{p^2}{2m}}$$

or

$$\boxed{p = \sqrt{2mE_k}}$$

Conservation of Energy and Conservation of Momentum

Conservation of energy implies that energy cannot be created or destroyed. It only transformed into another forms.

Conservation of momentum implies that the total momentum within a system is constant.

With respect to collisions

- Momentum is **ALWAYS** conserved
- Kinetic energy is **NOT** conserved **unless** the collision is **ELASTIC**

With **elastic collisions** the two colliding objects **DO NOT**

- Stick together
- Permanently deform
- Radiate energy in other forms

In reality most collisions are **not** elastic, but some collision are approximately elastic, meaning that one can use the assumption of conservation of energy for some types of situations that approximate an elastic collision.