

Edexcel Physics A-Level

Topic 13 - Oscillations

Flashcards



What are the two conditions required for an object to oscillate with SHM?



What are the two conditions required for an object to oscillate with SHM?

1. The restoring force is directly proportional to the displacement.
2. The restoring force always acts towards the equilibrium position.



What is angular frequency?



What is angular frequency?

Angular frequency is a measure of the rate of rotation of an object.



Give **two** equations for angular frequency.



Give **two** equations for angular frequency.

$$\omega = 2\pi/T$$

$$\omega = 2\pi f$$



What are the two types of oscillations that an object can experience?



What are the two types of oscillations that an object can experience?

1. Free oscillations
2. Forced oscillations



What is the frequency of a freely oscillating object equal to?



What is the frequency of a freely oscillating object equal to?

Freely oscillating object will vibrate at their natural frequency.



What is resonance?



What is resonance?

Resonance is where the amplitude of oscillations of an object drastically increase due to gaining an increased amount of energy from the driving force.

This occurs when the driving frequency equals the natural frequency of the object.



What can be said about an object undergoing resonance?



What can be said about an object undergoing resonance?

The object will be oscillating at its maximum amplitude and the rate of energy transfer is at a maximum.



What is damping?



What is damping?

Damping occurs when energy is lost from an oscillating system due to an external force acting on it.



What are the three types of damping?



What are the three types of damping?

1. Light Damping
2. Critical Damping
3. Heavy Damping



What is critical damping?



What is critical damping?

Critical damping is when the damping causes the object to return to the equilibrium position in the quickest time possible without oscillating.



State the equation for the total energy stored in a simple harmonic oscillator.



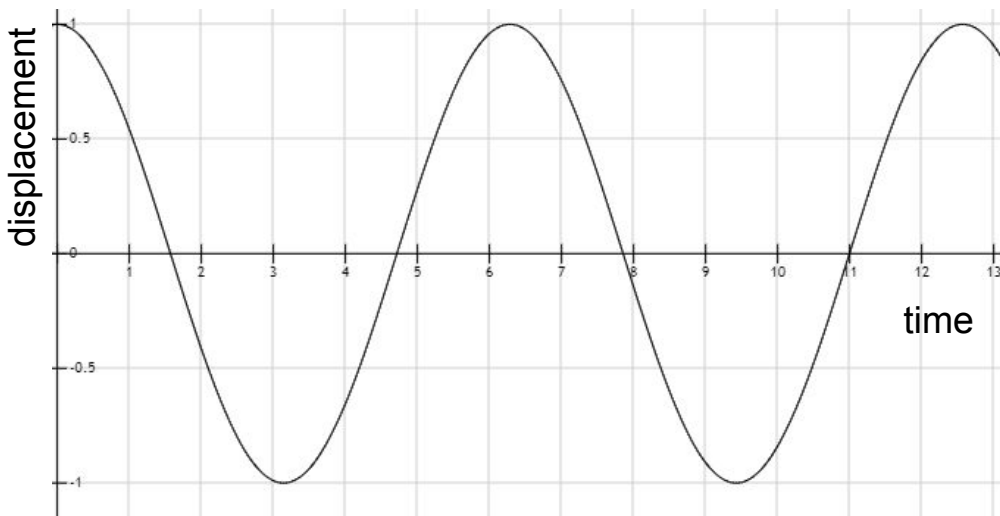
State the equation for the total energy stored in a simple harmonic oscillator.

$$\textit{Energy stored} = \frac{1}{2} kA^2$$

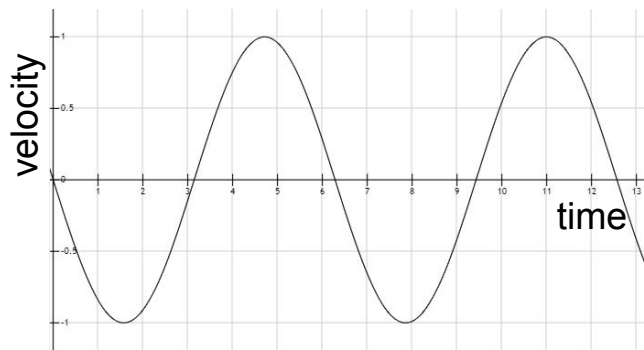
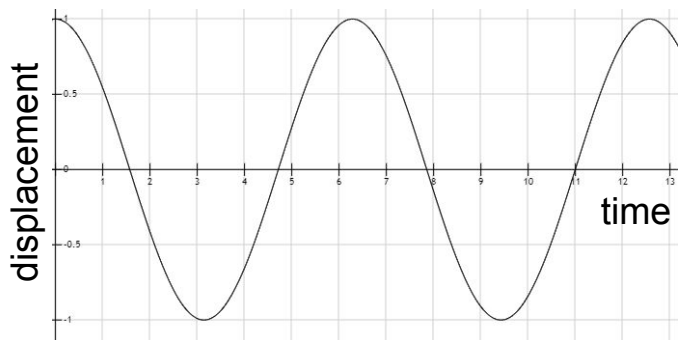
Where k is the spring constant, and A is the amplitude.



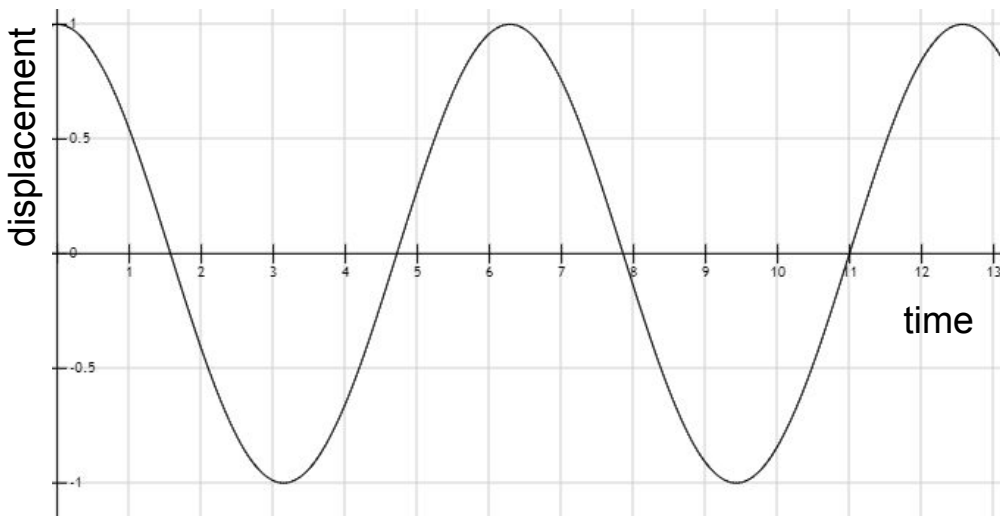
If the following graph shows displacement against time, what would the velocity-time graph look like?



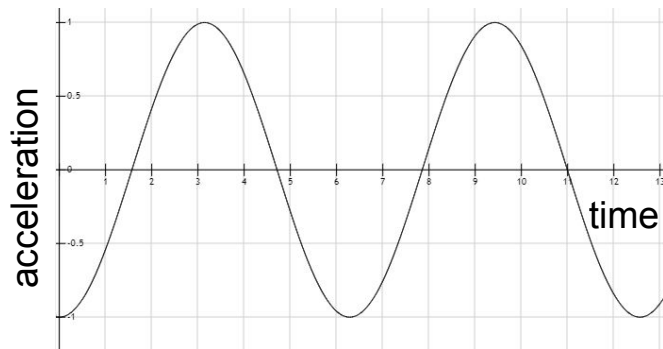
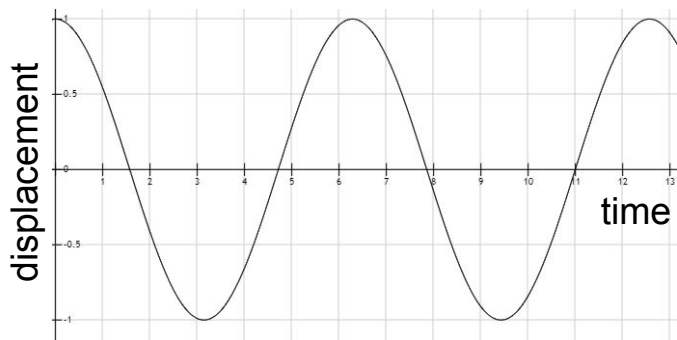
If the following graph shows displacement against time, what would the velocity-time graph look like?



If the following graph shows displacement against time, what would the acceleration-time graph look like?



If the following graph shows displacement against time, what would the velocity-time graph look like?



What is the difference between free and forced oscillations?



What is the difference between free and forced oscillations?

When an object oscillates without any external forces being applied, it oscillates at its natural frequency. This is known as free oscillation. Forced oscillation occurs when a periodic driving force is applied to an object, which causes it to oscillate at a particular frequency.



How can time period be calculated for a mass-spring system and a pendulum respectively?



How can time period be calculated for a mass-spring system and a pendulum respectively?

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$$

For a mass-spring system where m is mass/kg and k is the spring constant/ Nm^{-1}

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$$

For a pendulum where l is the string length/m and g is the gravitational field strength/ ms^{-2}

