

Physics 12

Momentum NOTES

- *Momentum is simply another property of an object that we can measure.*
- *Objects have **temperature, volume, mass** (properties we can measure)...*
- **Momentum** *is just another one of these properties*

Definition of Momentum:

Momentum is defined as an object's mass times its velocity

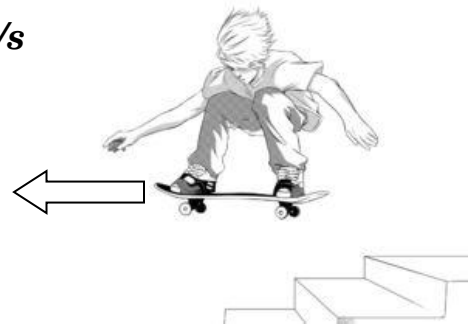
Momentum = mass x velocity

$$\vec{p} = m \times \vec{v}$$

p = momentum in **kg • m/s**

m = mass in **kg**

v = velocity in **m/s**



Momentum is a vector Quantity – it has a direction!

Question: Does momentum have a direction?

Answer:

Momentum can be an important and useful property of matter because it is a **conserved** quantity

This means an object's momentum will not change over time (if it is not subject to any external forces).

$$\text{Momentum}_{\text{before}} = \text{Momentum}_{\text{after}}$$

Example: the product of a baseball's mass and velocity will not change until it experiences an external force.



Conservation of momentum also applies to **systems of objects**.

If **a group** of objects does not come in contact with external forces (meaning they can apply forces to each other, but are not affected by external pushes or pulls) the net momentum of the group will remain constant.

$$\text{Momentum}_{\text{before}} = \text{Momentum}_{\text{after}}$$

Example:

Any **collision** or **explosion** demonstrates conservation of momentum among objects.

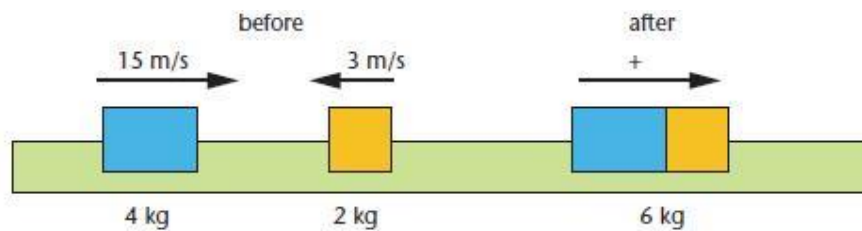
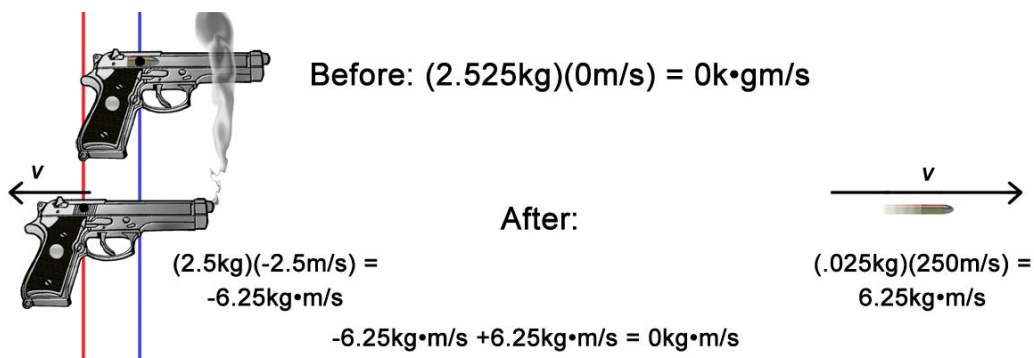


Fig. 9.13 Two objects colliding and sticking together.



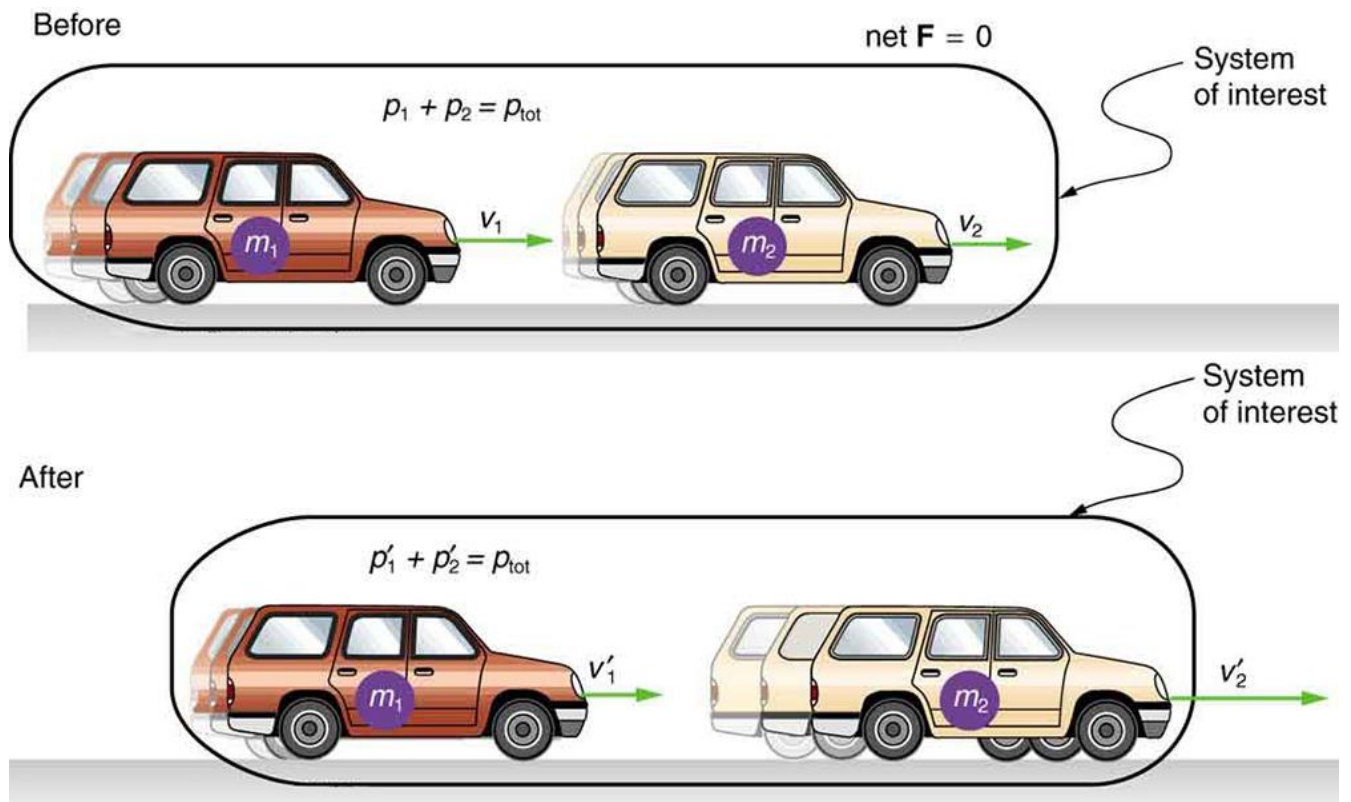
Conservation of Momentum

Momentum before = Momentum after

p before = p after

$$m_1 v_1 + m_2 v_2 = m_1 v_1' + m_2 v_2'$$

The symbol ' is called "prime" it means after



IMPULSE NOTES:

- When an external force is applied to an object, its momentum will change.
- Impulse is a measurement of change in momentum. It therefore has the same units as momentum. (**kg • m/s**)
- As an external force is applied to an object, the following is true:

$$F \cdot \Delta t = \Delta p$$

In other words, if one applies a force to an object for a certain amount of time (Δt) then the object's momentum will change.

More force...more change in momentum

More time....more change in momentum

*The symbol for impulse is capital **I** or sometimes **J**...*

$$\text{Impulse} = I$$

$$I = F \cdot \Delta t = \Delta p$$

$$\Delta p = mv_2 - mv_1$$

$$F \cdot \Delta t = mv_2 - mv_1$$

Impulse is a Vector Quantity!