

## Motion With Constant Acceleration

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### I. Velocity With Average Acceleration

Examples: - Free-falling objects  
- Projectiles

1. Use the following equation to find the derivatives.

$$\bar{a} \equiv \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} = \frac{(v_f - v_i)}{(t_f - t_i)}$$

1.  $\Delta v = \bar{a} \Delta t$        $v_f - v_i = \bar{a} \Delta t$   
 2.  $v_f = v_i + \bar{a} \Delta t$

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2. Write out the equation for determining **Final Velocity With Average Acceleration.**

$$v_f = v_i + \bar{a} \Delta t$$

$\bar{a}$  can be substituted with "a" for constant acceleration

3. Besides final velocity, what else can this equation be used to determine?

1. Time (with constant acceleration at a given velocity)
2. Initial Velocity (with final velocity and time given)

$$v = v_0 + at$$

$$v_i = v_f - at$$

$$t = \frac{v_f - v_i}{a}$$

### II. Position With Constant Acceleration

1. Use the following equation to find the derivatives.

$$\bar{v} = \Delta d / \Delta t$$

1.  $\Delta d = \bar{v} \Delta t$

2. What do each of the following variables represent on a v-t graph?

$v =$  Height of the plotted line above the t-axis (y-axis)  
 $\Delta t =$  Width of the shaded rectangle (x-axis)

3. The area under the v-t graph is equal to the object's **displacement.**

Circle One :       True       False

4. Derive  $d_f$  from the following equations, which determine area under a v-t graph.

$$\Delta d_{\text{rectangle}} = v_i \Delta t$$

$$\Delta d_{\text{triangle}} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta v \Delta t$$

$$\Delta d_{\text{triangle}} \text{ (substituting } \Delta v = \bar{a}t) = \frac{1}{2} (a \Delta t) \Delta t \text{ or } \frac{1}{2} a (\Delta t)^2$$

$$\Delta d = \Delta d_{\text{rectangle}} + \Delta d_{\text{triangle}} = v_i \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} a (\Delta t)^2$$

$$d_f = d_i + v_i t_f + \frac{1}{2} a t_f^2$$

$$\Delta d = d_f - d_i$$

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Area

$$\text{Rectangle} = lw$$

$$\text{Triangle} = \frac{1}{2} bh$$

5. Write the formula for determining **Position With Average Acceleration.**

$$x = v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2 \quad d_f = d_i + v_i t_f + \frac{1}{2} \bar{a} t_f^2$$

**III. An Alternate Expression**

## 1. Use the following equation to find the derivatives.

$$v_f = v_i + \bar{a} t_f$$

$$1. t_f = \frac{v_f - v_i}{\bar{a}}$$

2. Using the equation  $d_f = d_i + v_i t_f + \frac{1}{2} \bar{a} t_f^2$ , substitute  $t_f$  with the previous derivative.

$$d_f = d_i + v_i \left( \frac{v_f - v_i}{\bar{a}} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{a} \left( \frac{v_f - v_i}{\bar{a}} \right)^2$$

3. Write out the formula for determining **Velocity With Constant Acceleration.**

$$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2\bar{a}(d_f - d_i)$$

4. The equation for velocity with constant acceleration is useful to relate position, velocity, and constant acceleration without including time.

## 5. Complete the following table.

Equations of Motion for Constant Acceleration		
Equation	Variables To Derive	Initial Conditions Present
$v_f = v_i + \bar{a} t$	$t_f, v_f, \bar{a}$	$v_i$
$d_f = d_i + v_i t_f + \frac{1}{2} \bar{a} t_f^2$	$t_f, d_f, \bar{a}$	$d_i, v_i$
$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2\bar{a}(d_f - d_i)$	$d_f, v_f, \bar{a}$	$d_i, v_i$

## 6. Identify the equation describing a particular aspect of motion with constant acceleration.

Equation1. Velocity as a function of time

$$v_f = v_i + \bar{a} t$$

2. Displacement as a function of time

$$d_f = d_i + v_i t_f + \frac{1}{2} \bar{a} t_f^2$$

3. Velocity as a function of displacement

$$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2\bar{a}(d_f - d_i)$$