

Mr. Schneider presents...

Wave Formulae

| Concepts | Formula | Units |
|---|--|--|
| Frequency = $\frac{1}{\text{period}}$ | $f = \frac{1}{T}$ | hertz = $\frac{1}{\text{sec}}$ note: T is period |
| Wave velocity = (wavelength)(frequency) | $v = \lambda f$ | $\left(\frac{\text{meters}}{\text{sec}}\right) = (\text{meters})(\text{hertz}) = (\text{meters})\left(\frac{1}{\text{sec}}\right)$ |
| Speed of sound = speed@0°C + (temp adj)(temp) | $v_T = v_{0^\circ\text{C}} + kT$ | $v_{\text{sound}} = 331 \frac{\text{meters}}{\text{sec}} + \left(0.60 \frac{\text{meters}}{(\text{sec})(^\circ\text{C})}\right)(T)$ note: T is temp |
| Beat frequency = frequency ₁ - frequency ₂ | $f_{\text{beat}} = f_1 - f_2 $ | hertz = hertz |
| Index of refraction = $\frac{\text{light speed in vacuum}}{\text{light speed in medium}}$ | $n = \frac{c}{v}$ | [no units] = $\frac{\left(\frac{\text{meters}}{\text{sec}}\right)}{\left(\frac{\text{meters}}{\text{sec}}\right)}$ |
| Photon energy = (Planck's constant)(frequency) | $E = hf$ | joules = (joule · seconds)(hertz) |
| De Broglie wavelength = $\frac{\text{Planck's constant}}{\text{momentum}}$ | $\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mv}$ | meters = $\frac{(\text{joule} \cdot \text{seconds})}{\left(\text{kg} \cdot \frac{\text{meters}}{\text{sec}}\right)} = \frac{\left(\text{kg} \cdot \frac{\text{meters}^2}{\text{sec}^2}\right)(\text{sec})}{\left(\text{kg}\right)\left(\frac{\text{meters}}{\text{sec}}\right)}$ |
| $\left(\frac{\text{momentum}}{\text{error}}\right)\left(\frac{\text{position}}{\text{error}}\right) \geq \frac{\text{Planck's constant}}{2\pi}$ | $\Delta p \Delta x \geq \hbar \left[= \frac{h}{2\pi} \right]$ | $\left(\text{kg} \cdot \frac{\text{meters}}{\text{sec}}\right)(\text{meters}) \geq \frac{(\text{joule} \cdot \text{sec})}{1} = \left(\text{kg} \cdot \frac{\text{meters}^2}{\text{sec}^2}\right)(\text{sec})$ |

And for those of you who are algebraically challenged...

| Basic Formula | Alternate Forms |
|-------------------------|--|
| $f = \frac{1}{T}$ | $T = \frac{1}{f}$ |
| $v = \lambda f$ | $\lambda = \frac{v}{f}$ or $f = \frac{v}{\lambda}$ |
| $n = \frac{c}{v}$ | $v = \frac{c}{n}$ or $c = nv$ |
| $E = hf$ | $f = \frac{E}{h}$ |
| $\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$ | $p = \frac{h}{\lambda}$ or $h = p\lambda$ |