

A car moving with a velocity of 36 km/h is brought to rest in 5 seconds. Calculate its deceleration?

Solution.

$$v_i = 36 \frac{km}{h}, t = 5s;$$

$$a = ?$$

A velocity of the car:

$$v = v_i - at.$$

v_i – the initial velocity;

v – the final velocity;

a – the deceleration;

t – the time.

Converting the initial velocity to meters per hour:

$$v_i = 36 \frac{km}{hour} \left(\frac{1000m}{1km} \right) = 36000 \frac{m}{hour}.$$

Converting the initial velocity to meters per second:

$$v_i = 36000 \frac{km}{hour} \left(\frac{1hour}{3600second} \right) = 10 \frac{m}{second}.$$

$$v_i = 10 \frac{m}{s}.$$

A car is brought to rest then:

$$v = 0.$$

$$0 = v_i - at;$$

$$v_i = at;$$

$$a = \frac{v_i}{t}.$$

A deceleration is:

$$a = \frac{10 \frac{m}{s}}{5s} = 2 \frac{m}{s^2}.$$

Answer: A deceleration is $a = 2 \frac{m}{s^2}$.