

Answer on Question#39642 – Physics – Other

A steel ball of vol. 1 cm³ is recast in a hollow sphere to float in water. what should be the minimum volume of this sphere.

Solution:

$V_{\text{ball}} = 1 \text{ cm}^3$ – volume of the steel ball;

$\rho_{\text{steel}} = 7.8 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3}$ – density of the steel;

$\rho_{\text{water}} = 1 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3}$ – density of the water;

Minimum volume should be enough to satisfy the condition of buoyancy (Archimedes force compensates for the weight of the ball):

$$m_{\text{ball}}g = \rho_{\text{water}}gV_{\text{min}} \quad (1)$$

$$m_{\text{ball}} = V_{\text{ball}} \cdot \rho_{\text{steel}} \quad (2)$$

(2)in(1):

$$V_{\text{ball}} \cdot \rho_{\text{steel}} = \rho_{\text{water}}V_{\text{min}}$$

$$V_{\text{min}} = \frac{V_{\text{ball}} \cdot \rho_{\text{steel}}}{\rho_{\text{water}}} = \frac{1 \text{ cm}^3 \cdot 7.8 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3}}{1 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3}} = 7.8 \text{ cm}^3$$

Answer: minimum volume of this sphere is 7.8cm³