

Answer on Question #41350 – Physics – Other

When a 2 kg mass is hung from a vertically supported spiral spring, it stretches the spring by 10 cm. What mass must be hung on the spring if its to oscillate with a period of 1 s?

- a. 4.96 kg
- b. 3.47 kg
- c. 1.76 kg
- d. 5.44 kg

Solution:

$m = 2\text{kg}$ – mass of the weight that initially hangs on a spring;

k – spring constant;

$\Delta x = 10\text{cm} = 0.1\text{m}$ – initial stretching of the spring;

$T = 1\text{s}$ – period of oscillations;

M – unknown mass;

Equilibrium equation for the mass in initial position along Y-axis:

$$y: mg - F_{\text{spring}} = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$F_{\text{spring}} = k \cdot \Delta x \quad (2)$$

(2)in(1):

$$k \cdot \Delta x = mg$$

$$k = \frac{mg}{\Delta x} \quad (3)$$

Equation for the period of oscillations of the spring with unknown mass M :

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{M}{k}}$$

$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2 M}{k}$$

$$M = \frac{T^2 k}{4\pi^2} \quad (4)$$

(3)in(4):

$$M = \frac{T^2 mg}{4\pi^2 \Delta x} = \frac{(1\text{s})^2 \cdot 2\text{kg} \cdot 9.8 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{kg}}}{4 \cdot 3.14^2 \cdot 0.1\text{m}} = 4.96\text{kg}$$

Answer: a. 4.96 kg.