

Answer on Question #43697 – Physics - Mechanics | Kinematics | Dynamics

a mass of 10 g moving with a speed of 100 cm/s strikes a pendulum bob of mass 10 g. the two masses stick together. The maximum height reached by the system now is?

Solution:

$V_1 = 1 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$ – initial speed of the object;

$m_1 = 0.01 \text{ kg}$ – mass of the object;

$V_2 = 0$ – initial speed of pendulum bob;

$m_2 = 0.01 \text{ kg}$ – mass of the pendulum bob;

V_3 – the speed of the joined masses after the collision;

H – maximum height reached by the system;

This is an inelastic collision, so momentum is conserved but some energy is lost to heat, etc. in the collision

Thus:

$$m_1 V_1 + m_2 V_2 = (m_1 + m_2) V_3$$
$$V_3 = \frac{m_1 V_1 + m_2 V_2}{(m_1 + m_2)} \quad (1)$$

Now the system (mass + pendulum bob) have a joint KE and they will swing upward until that KE is turned into GPE

$$\text{GPE} = \text{KE}$$
$$(m_1 + m_2)gH = \frac{(m_1 + m_2)V_3^2}{2} \quad (2)$$

(1) in (2):

$$H = \frac{\left(\frac{m_1 V_1 + m_2 V_2}{(m_1 + m_2)}\right)^2}{2g} = \frac{(m_1 V_1 + m_2 V_2)^2}{2g(m_1 + m_2)^2} = \frac{\left(0.1 \text{ kg} \cdot 1 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} + 0.1 \text{ kg} \cdot 0\right)^2}{2 \cdot 9.8 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{kg}} \cdot (0.1 \text{ kg} + 0.1 \text{ kg})^2} = 1.28 \text{ cm}$$

Answer: maximum height reached by the system now is 1.28 cm.

