

Answer on Question #49183 – Physics - Mechanics | Kinematics | Dynamics

Suppose that you balance a 5 kg ball on the tip of your finger that has an area of 1 cm². What is the pressure on your finger?

Solution:

$m = 5\text{ kg}$ – mass of the ball;

$A = 1\text{ cm}^2 = 10^{-4}\text{ m}^2$ – area of the tip of the finger;

p – pressure on the finger;

Pressure is defined as force per unit area.

$$p = \frac{\text{Force}}{\text{Area}} = \frac{F}{A} = \frac{mg}{A} = \frac{5\text{ kg} \cdot 9.8 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{kg}}}{10^{-4}\text{ m}^2} = 490\text{ kPa}$$

Answer: pressure is equal to 490 kPa.