

Answer of question #78725 -Physics- Mechanics - Relativity

Find the value of the mass, m , such that the boxes move at constant speed. Assume that there is no friction in the pulley or the surface.

inclined plane = 40°

mass 1 = 15.6kg

mass 2 = m

Input Data:

Mass: $m_1 = 15.6kg$;

Inclined plane: $\alpha = 40^\circ$;

Solution:

The speed will become constant when the forces are balanced.

Since the job does not exactly determine where the masses **mass1** and **mass2** are located, we have 2 solutions:

- When the mass **m** is hanging on the block:

Tension force through the block: $T = mg$

The tension force created by the mass on the inclined plane is equal to: $T = m_1g * \sin \alpha$

$$mg = m_1g * \sin \alpha$$

$$m = m_1 * \sin \alpha = 15.6 * 0.643 = 10kg$$

- When the mass **m** is on an inclined plane:

Tension force through the block: $T = m_1g$

The tension force created by the mass on the inclined plane is equal to: $T = mg * \sin \alpha$

$$m_1g = mg * \sin \alpha$$

$$m_1 = m * \sin \alpha$$

$$m = \frac{m_1}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{15.6}{0.643} = 24.3kg$$

It is obvious that the mass on the inclined plane should be greater than the one that is thrown across the block.

Answer:

- $m=10kg$, when the mass **m** is hanging on the block
- $m=24.3kg$, when the mass **m** is on an inclined plane