Catalog of Forces

This is a list of the most common examples of forces you are likely to encounter in problems, along with the usual symbols used to identify them. If you are unable to describe a force in a problem as one of these, be cautious, you could be inventing up a force.



Gravitational Force

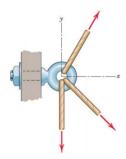
(aka gravity, aka weight)

$$\vec{F}_{\scriptscriptstyle G},\ \vec{F}_{\scriptscriptstyle g},\ \vec{w},\ m \vec{g}$$



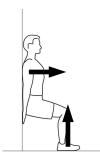
Spring Force

 \vec{F}_{sp}



Tension

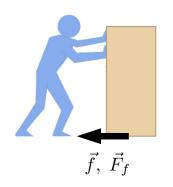
 $\vec{T}, \vec{F}_T, \vec{F}_t$



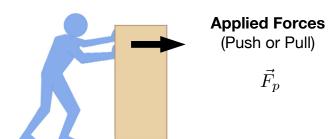
Normal Force

 $\vec{n}, \ \vec{F}_N, \ \vec{F}_n$

Friction and Drag (Air resistance)



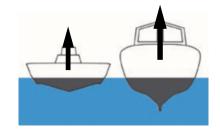




Other Forces



Thrust



Buoyant Force