

# Circular Motion Review Problems

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. During their physics field trip to an amusement park, Abbie and Natalie took a rider on the Whirligig. The Whirligig ride consists of long swings which spin in a circle at relatively high speeds. As part of their lab, Abbie and Natalie estimate that the riders travel through a circle with a radius of 6.5 m and make one turn every 5.8 seconds. Determine the speed of the riders on the Whirligig.  
[7.0 m/s]
2. The tallest Ferris wheel in the world is located in Singapore. Standing 42 stories high and holding as many as 780 passengers, the Ferris wheel has a diameter of 150 meters and takes approximately 30 minutes to make a full circle. Determine the speed of riders (in m/s and mi/hr) on the Singapore Flyer. (GIVEN: 1.00 m/s= 2.24 mi/hr)  
[0.26 m/s or 0.59 mi/hr]
3. During the spin cycle of a washing machine, the clothes stick to the outer wall of the barrel as it spins at a rate as high as 1800 revolutions per minute. The radius of the barrel is 26 cm.
  - a. Determine the speed of the clothes (in m/s) which are located on the wall of the spin barrel.
  - b. Determine the acceleration of the clothes.[a] 49 m/s b)  $9.2 \times 10^3$  m/s/s]
4. Elmira, New York boasts of having the fastest carousel ride in the world. The merry-go-round at Eldridge Park takes riders on a spin at 18 mi/hr (8.0 m/s). The radius of the circle about which the outside riders move is approximately 7.4 m.
  - a. Determine the time for outside riders to make one complete circle.
  - b. Determine the acceleration of the riders.[a] 5.8 s b) 8.7 m/s/s]
5. A manufacturer of CD-ROM drives claims that the player can spin the disc as frequently as 1200 revolutions per minute.
  - a. If spinning at this rate, what is the speed of the outer row of data on the disc; this row is located 5.6 cm from the center of the disc?
  - b. What is the acceleration of the outer row of data?[a] 7.0 m/s b) 880 m/s/s]
6. In the display window of the toy store at the local mall, a battery-powered plane is suspended from a string and flying in a horizontal circle. The 631-gram plane makes a complete circle every 2.15 seconds. The radius of the circle is 0.950 m. Determine the velocity of, acceleration of, and net force acting upon the plane.  
[v=2.78 m/s, a=8.11 m/s/s,  $F_{\text{net}}=5.12$  N]
7. In an effort to *rev up* his class, a teacher does a demonstration with a bucket of water tied to a 1.3-meter long string. The bucket and water have a mass of 1.8 kg. The teacher whirls the bucket in a vertical circle ("making Gravity"!! ???) such that it has a speed of 3.9 m/s at the top of the loop and 6.4 m/s at the bottom of the loop.

- a. Determine the acceleration of the bucket at each location.
- b. Determine the net force experienced by the bucket at each location.
- c. Draw a free body diagram for the bucket for each location and determine the tension force in the string for the two locations.

[a)  $t: 12 \text{ m/s/s}$   $b: 32 \text{ m/s/s}$  b)  $t: 21 \text{ N}$   $b: 57 \text{ N}$  c)  $t: 3.4 \text{ N}$   $b: 74 \text{ N}$ ]

8. A 76-kg pilot at an air show performs a loop de loop with his plane. At the bottom of the 52-m radius loop, the plane is moving at 48 m/s. Determine the normal force acting upon the pilot.  
[4100 N]
9. Mr. Braun is in his Toyota Echo and trying to make a turn off an highway at 19.0 m/s. The turning radius of the level curve is 35.0 m. His car has a mass of 1240 kg. Determine the acceleration, net force and minimum value of the coefficient of friction which is required to keep the car on the road.  
[1.05]
10. Dana ( $m=62 \text{ kg}$ ) is riding the Demon roller coaster ride. The turning radius of the top of the loop is 12 m. Sheila is upside down at the top of the loop and experiencing a normal force which is one-half of her weight. Draw a free body diagram and determine Sheila's speed.  
[13 m/s]
11. In 2002, professional skateboarder Bob Burnquist became the first to successfully navigate a  $360^\circ$  full pipe turn. Determine the minimum speed which would be required at the top of the circular loop to make it through the 1.8-m radius pipe.  
[4.2 m/s]
12. Josh is driving his 1500-kg Lamborghini through a horizontal curve on a level roadway at a speed of 23 m/s. The turning radius of the curve is 65 m. Calculate the minimum value of the coefficient of friction which would be required to keep Josh's car on the curve.  
[0.83]
13. A loop de loop track is built for a 938-kg car. It is a completely circular loop - 14.2 m tall at its highest point. The driver successfully completes the loop with an entry speed (at the bottom) of 22.1 m/s.
  - a. Using energy conservation, determine the speed of the car at the top of the loop.
  - b. Determine the centripetal acceleration of the car at the top of the loop.
  - c. Determine the normal force acting upon the car at the top of the loop.[a) 14.5 m/s b) 30 m/s/s c) 19000 N]

## REFERENCE

<http://www.physicsclassroom.com/calcpad/circgrav/problems.cfm>