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5-1 Newton's First and Second Laws (12 of 20)
Newton's Second Law: The net force on a body is equal to the product of the body's mass and its acceleration.
• As an equation, we write:
$\vec{F}_{net} = m\vec{a}$ Equation (5-1)
• Identify the body in question, and only include forces that act on that body!
• Separate the problem axes (they are independent):
$F_{\text{net}, x} = ma_x$, $F_{\text{net}, y} = ma_y$, and $F_{\text{net}, z} = ma_z$. Equation (5-2)
The acceleration component along a given axis is caused only by the sum of the force components along that same axis, and not by force components along any other axis.
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5-2 Some Particular Forces (5 of 15)

Example To relate weight to mass, consider an apple in free fall. The only force on the apple is the gravitational force which results in an acceleration of *g*. Applying Newton's 2nd Law

$$F_{\text{net}} = ma$$
 where $F_{\text{net}} = F_g = W$ and $a = g$
 $F_g = W = mg$

Thus,

W = mg (mass – weight relationship)

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5-2 Some Particular Forces (10 of 15)

Checkpoint 3

In Fig. 5-7, is the magnitude of the normal force \vec{F}_N greater than, less than, or equal to mg if the block and table are in an elevator moving upward (a) at constant speed and (b) at increasing speed?

Answer:

(a) equal to *mg* (no acceleration)

(b) greater than *mg* (see 5-13, with positive acceleration)

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