

Key word	Definition
air resistance	The force on an object moving through the air that causes it to slow down (also known as drag).
balanced	Forces acting on an object that are the same size but act in opposite directions.
compress	To squash into a smaller space.
contact force	A force that acts when an object is in contact with a surface, air, or water.
deform	To change shape.
drag force	The force acting on an object moving through air or water that causes it to slow down.
driving force	The force that is pushing or pulling something.
elastic limit	The point beyond which a spring will not return to its original length when the force is removed.
electrostatic force	The force acting between two charged objects.
equilibrium	Balanced.
extension	The amount by which an object gets longer when a force is applied.
field	A region where something feels a force.
friction	The force that resists movement because of contact between surfaces.
gravity	A non-contact force that acts between two masses.
Hooke's Law	The law that says that if you double the force on an object the extension will double.
interaction pair	When two objects interact there is a force on each one that is the same size but in opposing directions.
kilogram (kg)	A unit of mass, symbol kg.
lubrication	A substance that reduces friction between surfaces when they rub together.
magnetic force	The force between two magnets, or a magnet and a magnetic material.
mass	The amount of matter (stuff) a thing is made up of.
newton (N)	The unit of force, symbol N.

newtonmeter	A piece of equipment used to measure weight in newtons.
non-contact force	A magnetic, electrostatic, or gravitational force that acts between objects not in contact.
pull	A type of force.
push	A type of force.
reaction	The support force provided by a solid surface like a floor.
resistive forces	Any forces that act to slow down a moving object.
streamlined	Shaped to reduce resistance to motion from air or water.
tension	A stretching force.
unbalanced	Opposing forces on an object that are unequal.
water resistance	The force on an object moving through water that causes it to slow down (also known as drag).
weight	The force of the Earth on an object due to its mass.