

Pendulum Lab
Report Due:

Our task is to find how the period of a pendulum depends upon other properties of the pendulum. After some discussion, we have settled on the following three variables as suitable for study:

- the amplitude of the swing
- the length of the string
- the mass of the bob

Your class assignment is to conduct the measurements in a group and individually write such a report. You do not need to explain *why* the pendulum behaves as it does. Simply describe the behavior accurately and completely.

You have not been given a written procedure or format **ON PURPOSE!** You must determine what needs to be done on your own. Accuracy counts. The format of your lab report is also entirely up to you, but it must completely and succinctly explain your measurements and the effect and relative significance of each of the three variables.

Imagine the following...

You are sitting in your cubicle on your second day at a new job. Your boss walks into your cube and says, "I need some facts about pendulums. How much time does it take them to swing, and what variables affect the time? Which variables are most important? Which have no effect? Find out, but I want experimental facts about real pendulums, not what you think, or what you read somewhere.

Write up what you did and what you found. Convince me you've got it right. Make it worth reading.

Have your report on my desk first thing Wednesday."

Then she turns on her heel and leaves you to it.

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