

Homework Guidelines for Honors Physics

Or, how to use homework effectively for learning...and get full credit!

Basic info:

- Most days you'll have a few problems to tackle that either (1) apply information that we learned in class that day or recently, and/or (2) introduce you to some new ideas that we will use during the next class.
- You need to do this homework each day it's assigned. While late credit is possible, you will get the most out of the homework -- and therefore class -- by doing a little bit each day to train your brain.
- For these problems, the solutions will almost always be available for you to reference and/or check your work. What matters more is HOW you solve a problem, and whether you can apply the concepts and techniques to other, never-before-seen problems. Showing work is key!
- Don't get stuck! If you're spinning your wheels on a question for more than 5-10 minutes, leave some blank space on the page and move on to the next question. Come back to it later, or ask a friend/teacher for help.
- Please always include the following information at the top of your sheet to ensure you get correct and timely credit for assignments:
 - Your name
 - Class/period
 - Date due
 - Late
 - List of problems

How to do homework:

- Note that there are both conceptual questions (CQ) and problems (P) at the end of each chapter. Pay attention to which one(s) are being assigned!
- Please number questions to match the assigned problems. Do not just write 1, 2, 3...
 - For example, if you are assigned conceptual questions 1.1, 1.2, and problem 1.3, label each solution:
 - CQ 1.1 [your solution]
 - CQ 1.2 [your solution]
 - P 1.3 [your solution]
- You should attempt every question, whether it's right or not. That could be a complete attempt at an answer/solution, the start of a solution, a sketch, whatever. Do your best to try the problem on your own, then ask for help if needed.
- AFTER attempting each problem, THEN check your work against the posted solutions.
 - If you need to make corrections, always do so in **another color** pen.
 - Write down any questions in that color as well, to ask in class or at Extra Help.
 - Do NOT erase incorrect work; put a line through in the new color and then write the correction(s).

- Don't just X out a wrong answer or write the correct final answer -- use this as a chance to figure out WHY and HOW you went wrong so that you learn from it.

Example homework assignment:

[Here is a link to a well-done example](#) of a homework assignment.

[Here is a link to a not-so-well-done](#) homework assignment (black and red ink). Purple notes on the second page explain why it would not get full credit.

Homework grading:

Each assignment will generally be worth 4 points, and scored as follows:

Score	Criteria
4/4	Homework turned in complete and on-time (e.g. at the start of the next day of class as assigned on MyPoly), with corrections, checkmarks, or questions about the problems written in a different color, as needed.
3/4	Homework turned in late or incomplete, up until the day of the test on that unit.
2/4	Homework turned in after the test on that unit
0/4	Homework never turned in