

# Chapter 4 Notes 

Mass, Weight and Density

## Mass

- The mass of a body is the amount of substance in the body
- Inertia: the ability to resist a change from its state of rest or motion is called inertia. The inertia of a body depends on its mass.


## Weight

- The weight (force) of a body is the pull of gravity on the body due to gravitational attraction (acceleration)
- Hence $\mathbf{F}=\mathbf{m a}$ becomes $\mathbf{W}=\mathbf{m g}$

$$
\underline{\boldsymbol{W}=\boldsymbol{m g} \quad \text { where } \mathrm{W}}=\begin{aligned}
& =\text { weight } \\
\mathrm{m} & =\text { mass } \\
\mathrm{g} & =\text { gravity }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Gravitational Field Strength, g

- Defined as gravitational force per unit mass
- Varies from place to place

Difference between Mass and Weight

|  | Mass | Weight |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Definition | the amount of <br> substance in a body | The gravitational pull <br> acting on a body |
| Dependent on <br> location? | No <br> The weight is same on <br> the Moon as on Earth | The weight is different <br> on the Moon from Earth |
| Measured using? | A beam balance | A spring balance |
| Unit | Kilogram | Newton |

## Chapter 4: Mass, Weight and Density

## Density

- The density of a substance is defined as its mass per unit volume.
- Density = Mass/Volume
- SI unit: $\mathrm{kg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$

