

Mechanical Waves

Enduring Understanding

Simple harmonic motion is motion that repeats about a point of stable equilibrium. Waves interact with their environment, exhibiting a variety of wave phenomena.

Essential Questions

1. What do all simple harmonic motion derivations have in common?
2. What does a negative sign mean?
3. Do mechanical and electromagnetic waves exhibit the same wave phenomena?
4. How does wavelength respond to wave speed and frequency?
5. What do waves do: bounce or pass through?
6. What do all standing wave patterns have in common?
7. How many different ways can wave phenomena be illustrated?
8. How does diffraction and interference differ?



SHM and Mechanical Waves AP Physics 1/2

