Example: A 3-kg block is attached to a cable and to a spring as shown. The constant of the spring is k = 1400 N/m and the tension in the cable is 15 N. If the cable is cut, determine (a) the maximum displacement of the block, (b) the maximum velocity of the block.





Initial position
Maximum displacement
Uncompressed position

The spring is compressed in both positions 1 and 2

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Datum

$$\frac{1}{2}k(x+x_o)^2 - mgx + \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}kx_o^2 + 0 + 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2}k(x+x_o)^2 - mgx + \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}kx_o^2 + 0 + 0$$

Velocity *v* is a function of position *x*. Maximum velocity occurs when dv/dx = 0



$$\frac{1}{2}k(x+x_o)^2 - mgx + \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}kx_o^2 + 0 + 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2}k(x^2 + 2xx_o + x_o^2) - mgx + \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}kx_o^2$$



$$v = fn(x)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}k(x^2 + 2xx_o + y_o) - mgx + \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}kx_o^2$$

$$v^{2} = -\frac{k}{m}(x^{2} + 2xx_{o}) + 2gx$$



For maximum velocity,

$$\frac{dv^2}{dx} = -\frac{k}{m}(2x + 2x_o) + 2g = 0$$
$$x_{\text{max vel}} = \frac{gm}{k} - x_o = 0.0107 \text{ m}$$