

# Potential energy of a planet



## Overview

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Gravitational potential energy is a fundamental concept in physics that describes the energy an object possesses due to its position within a gravitational field. We now develop an expression that works over distances such that  $g$  is not constant. This is necessary to correctly calculate the energy needed to place satellites in. How do you work out the gravitational potential of planets in the solar system?

Do orbiting planets have gpe?

And what would it be relative to?

The equation I know for it is  $mgh$ . Examples of kinetic energy are all around us. We might imagine. If  $r$  is the radius of the Earth,  $m_1$  is the mass of the Earth, and  $m_2$  is the mass of something being lifted, then. is the acceleration due to gravity on the Earth's surface.

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### [Potential Energy - Physics 131: What Is Physics?](#)

Experiments show that these three factors all contribute equally: mass, height, and gravitational strength are all of equal importance to the gravitational potential energy of an object-planet system.

### [Gravitational Potential Energy](#)

Gravitational potential energy is energy an object possesses because of its position in a gravitational field. The most common use of gravitational potential energy is for an object near the surface of the ...



### [Gravitational Potential Energy & Work Done in Gravitational Field](#)

All masses possess gravitational potential energy due to its position in a gravitational field. It is also defined as the potential amount of work done by the force of gravity over a certain displacement.



### [Gravitational Potential Energy - The Physics Hypertextbook](#)

Newton's law of universal gravitation can be used to derive an equation for gravitational potential energy that is useful for astronomical problems.



### [Gravitational Potential Energy - The Physics Hypertextbook](#)

Introduction  
Small Distance Approximation  
Escape Velocity  
Event Horizon  
Cosmic Expansion  
A black hole is a star that has collapsed down to a point. Within a certain radius, known as the event horizon, the escape velocity is greater than the speed of light. Since nothing can exceed the speed of light, anything crossing over the event horizon becomes trapped forever within a black hole. Black holes destroy volume, but not mass, energy, a See more on physics Science Ready



## **Gravitational Potential Energy & Work Done in ...**

All masses possess gravitational potential energy due to its position in a gravitational field. It is also defined as the potential amount of work done by the ...

### [13.3 Gravitational Potential Energy and Total Energy . University](#)

The total energy of a system is the sum of kinetic and gravitational potential energy, and this total energy is conserved in orbital motion. Objects must have a minimum velocity, the escape velocity, to leave a ...



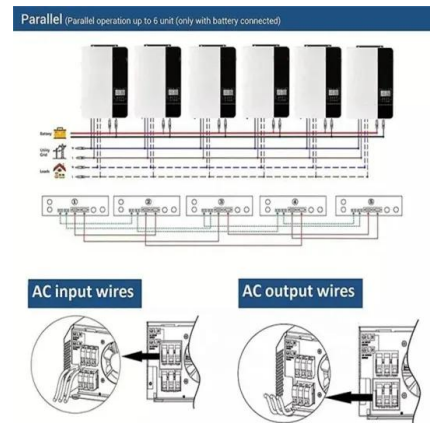
### 13.4: Gravitational Potential Energy and Total Energy

We studied gravitational potential energy in Potential Energy and Conservation of Energy, where the value of  $g$  remained constant. We now develop an expression that works over ...



### Gravitational Potential Energy and Energy Changes in ...

Explore gravitational potential energy and energy changes in space for HSC Physics. Learn key concepts, formulas, and solve practical problems.



### **Preliminary Remark**

We first briefly review the familiar subject of gravitational potential energy near the Earth's surface, such as in a room. The gravitational force is of course vertically downwards.

### Gravitational potential of planets

To find the potential energy due to gravity, you essentially want to calculate the negative of the work done in order to "put" the planet where it is in orbit. Work is just the integral of force from ...



### Potential and Kinetic Energy

In astronomy, we encounter many examples of kinetic energy and gravitational potential energy. Every object moving in space has kinetic energy and everything that is subject to the gravity force of a star ...



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