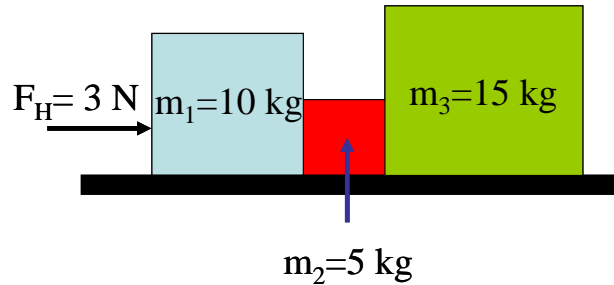


Problem Statement

Three blocks ($m_1=10\text{ kg}$, $m_2=5\text{ kg}$, $m_3=15\text{ kg}$) are in contact on a frictionless horizontal table (block with mass m_2 is in the middle). A constant horizontal force of magnitude $F_H=3\text{ N}$ is applied to block with mass m_1 . Find the forces exerted on m_1 by m_2 and on m_2 by m_3 .



Qualitative Analysis

- Redraw the picture provided if it helps you in solving the problem.
- Give names to all known and unknown numerical quantities
- Make reasonable physical assumptions
- Try to make predictions about the solution

Planning/Decision Making

- What physics principle applies here (or principles apply in different parts of the problem if you must divide the problem into sub-problems)?
- Choose the systems that may be helpful in solving for the unknowns (e.g., a single block or all the blocks together etc.).
- Draw a free-body diagram if helpful for each system you chose.

Implementation

Assessment and Reflection

- Does the solution have the right dimensions?
- Does the solution agree with your qualitative assessment?