

Friction fair test: which surface slows a car most?

energy-forces

What you need: toy car · ramp board (about 50–80 cm) · shared long run-out surface stations (carpet, wood, sandpaper, tile/laminate), each long enough that the car stops on that surface (about 1 m or more) · metre stick · masking tape

Words to use

Friction · Fair test · Middle value

Our question

Which surface slows a toy car the most?

I predict...because...

One extra keep-the-same we will check on every run

The order we will visit the four surfaces

How far did the car roll each time? (in cm)

Surface	Try 1	Try 2	Try 3	Our middle value	Class middle value
Carpet					
Wood					
Sandpaper					
Tile					

Finding the middle value

Write your three tries in the order you did them. Then put the three numbers in order, smallest to biggest, and the one in the middle is your middle value.

Which surface slowed the car most? What does that tell us about friction?

Did the evidence match our predictions?