Rules for writing mathematics

- write neatly
- use a sharp pencil not a pen
- organize your writing in a coherent and logical fashion
  - random equations splattered over the page are not acceptable
  - order your work from top to bottom and left to right
- write full equations, not just quantities
- do not erase large sections (lightly cross out) — erase only small mistakes
- use proper symbols, i.e., use ρ not D — case matters: use a not A
- subscripts are important, i.e., $a_x \neq ax$
- your *scientific* calculator must use proper scientific notation
  - keep all digits during computation, but truncate to 3 at the end
- separate factors with parentheses, not dots, i.e., use (5 m)(10 N) not 5 m $\cdot$ 10 N, and do not use crosses, i.e., not 5 m $\times$ 10 N.
  - also place parentheses correctly, i.e., $\left(15\frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right)^2$ not $\left(15\frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{s}}\right)$
- use horizontal lines for fractions, $\frac{5}{3}$ not 5/3
- solve for quantities without dividing, i.e., $\frac{52}{63} = \frac{63\,x}{63}$

Rules for solving physics problems

- start with a brief description (in words) of the physics and write the main formula (4 points)
  - Do not simply say, "Calculate t and v."
- solve for the desired quantity **algebraically** (3 points)
- plug in correct values **with units** (2 points)
- solve for (and box) final numerical answer (1 point) — note: $g = 9.81\ \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$