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Lenses and Refraction Formulas

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List of 24 Lenses and Refraction Formulas

Lenses and Refraction ↗

Lenses ↗

1) Focal Length of Concave Lens given Image and Object Distance ↗

fx $f_{\text{concave lens}} = \frac{u \cdot v}{v + u}$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

ex $0.207692\text{m} = \frac{0.90\text{m} \cdot 0.27\text{m}}{0.27\text{m} + 0.90\text{m}}$

2) Focal Length of Concave Lens given Radius ↗

fx $f_{\text{concave lens}} = \frac{r_{\text{curve}}}{n - 1}$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

ex $0.242857\text{m} = \frac{0.068\text{m}}{1.280 - 1}$

3) Focal Length of Convex Lens given Object and Image Distance ↗

fx $f_{\text{convex lens}} = -\frac{u \cdot v}{u + v}$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

ex $-0.207692\text{m} = -\frac{0.90\text{m} \cdot 0.27\text{m}}{0.90\text{m} + 0.27\text{m}}$



4) Focal Length of Convex Lens given Radius ↗

fx $f_{\text{convex lens}} = -\frac{r_{\text{curve}}}{n - 1}$

Open Calculator ↗

ex $-0.242857m = -\frac{0.068m}{1.280 - 1}$

5) Focal Length using Distance Formula ↗

fx $f = \frac{f_1 + f_2 - w}{f_1 \cdot f_2}$

Open Calculator ↗

ex $2.239583m = \frac{0.40m + 0.48m - 0.45m}{0.40m \cdot 0.48m}$

6) Lens Makers Equation ↗

fx $f_{\text{thinlens}} = \frac{1}{(\mu_l - 1) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2} \right)}$

Open Calculator ↗

ex $0.234509m = \frac{1}{(10 - 1) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{1.67m} - \frac{1}{8m} \right)}$

7) Magnification of Concave Lens ↗

fx $m_{\text{concave}} = \frac{v}{u}$

Open Calculator ↗

ex $0.3 = \frac{0.27m}{0.90m}$



8) Magnification of Convex Lens ↗

fx $m_{\text{convex}} = -\frac{v}{u}$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

ex $-0.3 = -\frac{0.27m}{0.90m}$

9) Object Distance in Concave Lens ↗

fx $u_{\text{concave}} = \frac{v \cdot f_{\text{concave lens}}}{v - f_{\text{concave lens}}}$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

ex $0.771429m = \frac{0.27m \cdot 0.20m}{0.27m - 0.20m}$

10) Object Distance in Convex Lens ↗

fx $u_{\text{convex}} = \frac{v \cdot f_{\text{convex lens}}}{v - (f_{\text{convex lens}})}$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

ex $-0.114894m = \frac{0.27m \cdot -0.20m}{0.27m - (-0.20m)}$

11) Power of Lens ↗

fx $P = \frac{1}{f}$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

ex $0.44843 = \frac{1}{2.23m}$



12) Power of Lens using Distance Rule 

$$fx \quad P = P_1 + P_2 - w \cdot P_1 \cdot P_2$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 0.4484 = 0.15 + 0.32 - 0.45m \cdot 0.15 \cdot 0.32$$

13) Total Magnification 

$$fx \quad m_t = m^2$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 0.25 = (0.5)^2$$

Refraction **14) Angle of Deviation** 

$$fx \quad D = i + e - A$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 9^\circ = 40^\circ + 4^\circ - 35^\circ$$

15) Angle of Deviation in Dispersion 

$$fx \quad D = (\mu - 1) \cdot A$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 9.8^\circ = (1.28 - 1) \cdot 35^\circ$$

16) Angle of Emergence 

$$fx \quad e = A + D - i$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 4^\circ = 35^\circ + 9^\circ - 40^\circ$$



17) Angle of Incidence 

fx $i = D + A - e$

Open Calculator 

ex $40^\circ = 9^\circ + 35^\circ - 4^\circ$

18) Angle of Prism 

fx $A = i + e - D$

Open Calculator 

ex $35^\circ = 40^\circ + 4^\circ - 9^\circ$

19) Coefficient of Refraction using Boundary Angles 

fx $\mu = \frac{\sin(i)}{\sin(r)}$

Open Calculator 

ex $1.280161 = \frac{\sin(40^\circ)}{\sin(30.14^\circ)}$

20) Coefficient of Refraction using Critical Angle 

fx $\mu = \cos ec(i)$

Open Calculator 

ex $1.555724 = \cos ec(40^\circ)$



21) Coefficient of Refraction using Depth ↗

$$fx \quad \mu = \frac{d_{\text{real}}}{d_{\text{apparent}}}$$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

$$ex \quad 1.280956 = \frac{1.5m}{1.171m}$$

22) Coefficient of Refraction using Velocity ↗

$$fx \quad \mu = \frac{[c]}{v_m}$$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

$$ex \quad 1.280617 = \frac{[c]}{234100000m/s}$$

23) Number of Images in Kaleidoscope ↗

$$fx \quad N = \left(\frac{2 \cdot \pi}{A_m} \right) - 1$$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

$$ex \quad 5 = \left(\frac{2 \cdot \pi}{60^\circ} \right) - 1$$

24) Refractive Index ↗

$$fx \quad n = \frac{\sin(i)}{\sin(r)}$$

[Open Calculator ↗](#)

$$ex \quad 1.280161 = \frac{\sin(40^\circ)}{\sin(30.14^\circ)}$$



Variables Used

- **A** Angle of Prism (*Degree*)
- **A_m** Angle between Mirrors (*Degree*)
- **D** Angle of Deviation (*Degree*)
- **d_{apparent}** Apparent Depth (*Meter*)
- **d_{real}** Real Depth (*Meter*)
- **e** Angle of Emergence (*Degree*)
- **f** Focal Length of Lens (*Meter*)
- **f_1** Focal Length 1 (*Meter*)
- **f_2** Focal Length 2 (*Meter*)
- **$f_{\text{concave lens}}$** Focal Length of Concave Lens (*Meter*)
- **$f_{\text{convex lens}}$** Focal Length of Convex Lens (*Meter*)
- **f_{thinlens}** Focal Length of Thin Lens (*Meter*)
- **i** Angle of Incidence (*Degree*)
- **m** Magnification
- **m_{concave}** Magnification of Concave Lens
- **m_{convex}** Magnification of Convex Lens
- **m_t** Total Magnification
- **n** Refractive Index
- **N** Number of Images
- **P** Power of Lens
- **P_1** Power of First Lens
- **P_2** Power of Second Lens



- r Angle of Refraction (Degree)
- R_1 Radius of Curvature at Section 1 (Meter)
- R_2 Radius of Curvature at Section 2 (Meter)
- r_{curve} Radius (Meter)
- u Object Distance (Meter)
- u_{concave} Object Distance of Concave Lens (Meter)
- u_{convex} Object Distance of Convex Lens (Meter)
- v Image Distance (Meter)
- v_m Velocity of Light in Medium (Meter per Second)
- w Width of Lens (Meter)
- μ Coefficient of Refraction
- μ_l Lens Refractive Index



Constants, Functions, Measurements used

- **Constant:** **pi**, 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288
Archimedes' constant
- **Constant:** **[c]**, 299792458.0
Light speed in vacuum
- **Function:** **cosec**, cosec(Angle)
The cosecant function is a trigonometric function that is the reciprocal of the sine function.
- **Function:** **sec**, sec(Angle)
Secant is a trigonometric function that is defined ratio of the hypotenuse to the shorter side adjacent to an acute angle (in a right-angled triangle); the reciprocal of a cosine.
- **Function:** **sin**, sin(Angle)
Sine is a trigonometric function that describes the ratio of the length of the opposite side of a right triangle to the length of the hypotenuse.
- **Measurement:** **Length** in Meter (m)
Length Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Speed** in Meter per Second (m/s)
Speed Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Angle** in Degree ($^{\circ}$)
Angle Unit Conversion 



Check other formula lists

- Lenses and Refraction Formulas 

- Mirrors Formulas 

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