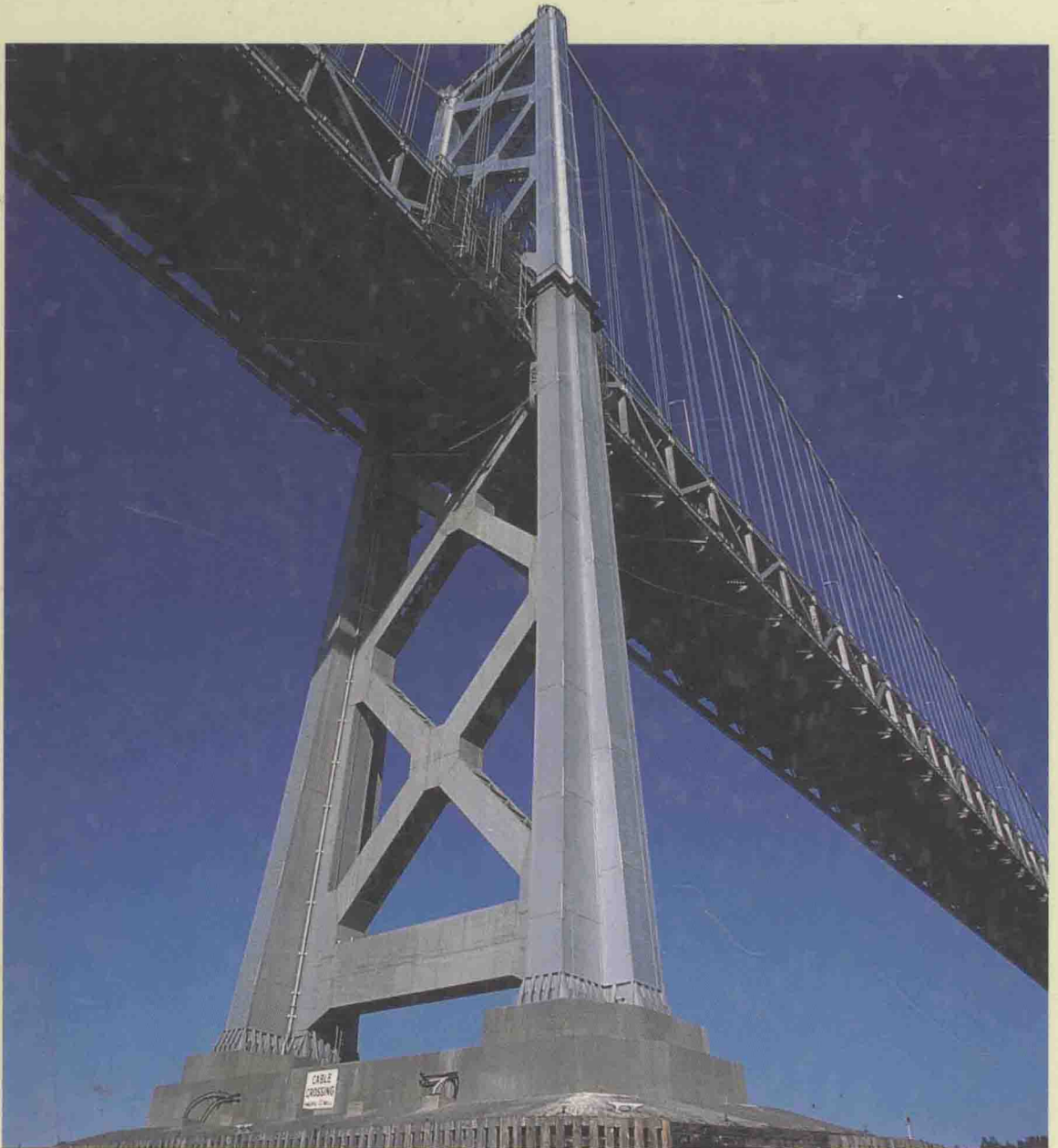


# ENGINEERING MECHANICS

## *STATICS*

Seventh Edition



R. C. HIBBELER

# **ENGINEERING MECHANICS**

## **Statics**

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**SEVENTH EDITION**

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# *Preface*

The main purpose of this book is to provide the student with a clear and thorough presentation of the theory and applications of engineering mechanics. To achieve this objective the author has by no means worked alone, for to a large extent this book has been shaped by the comments and suggestions of more than a hundred reviewers in the teaching profession as well as many of the author's students.

Continued improvements have been made to this the seventh edition. Previous users of the book may first notice that the art work has been enhanced in a multi-color presentation in order to provide the reader with a more realistic and understandable sense of the material. Also, the problem sets have been greatly expanded. Often, several problem statements refer to the same drawing, so that the instructor can reinforce concepts discussed in class. The problem sets also provide a wider variation in the degree of difficulty in problem solutions, and instructors can now select problems that focus on design rather than on analysis.

Although the contents of the book have remained in the same order, the details of some topics have been expanded, some examples have been changed and others have been replaced with new ones. Also, the explanation of many topics has been improved by a careful rewording of selected sentences. The hallmarks of the book, however, remain the same: where necessary, a strong emphasis is placed on drawing a free-body diagram, and the importance of selecting an appropriate coordinate system and associated sign convention for vector components is stressed when the equations of mechanics are applied.

**Organization and Approach.** The contents of each chapter are organized into well-defined sections. Selected groups of sections contain an expla-

nation of specific topics, illustrative example problems, and a set of homework problems. The topics within each section are placed into subgroups defined by boldface titles. The purpose of this is to present a structured method for introducing each new definition or concept, and to make the book convenient for later reference and review.

A “procedure for analysis” is given at the end of many sections of the book in order to provide the student with a review or summary of the material and a logical and orderly method to follow when applying the theory. As in the previous editions, the example problems are solved using this outlined method in order to clarify its numerical application. It is to be understood, however, that once the relevant principles have been mastered and enough confidence and judgment have been obtained, the student can then develop his or her own procedures for solving problems. In most cases, it is felt that the first step in any procedure should require drawing a diagram. By doing so, the student forms the habit of tabulating the necessary data while focusing on the physical aspects of the problem and its associated geometry. If this step is correctly performed, applying the relevant equations of mechanics becomes somewhat methodical, since the data can be taken directly from the diagram. This step is particularly important when solving problems involving equilibrium, and for this reason, drawing a free-body diagram is strongly emphasized throughout the book.

Since mathematics provides a systematic means of applying the principles of mechanics, the student is expected to have prior knowledge of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and, for complete coverage, some calculus. Vector analysis is introduced at points where it is most applicable. Its use often provides a convenient means for presenting concise derivations of the theory, and it makes possible a simple and systematic solution of many complicated three-dimensional problems. Occasionally, the example problems are solved using more than one method of analysis so that the student develops the ability to use mathematics as a tool whereby the solution of any problem may be carried out in the most direct and effective manner.

**Problems.** The majority of problems in the book depict realistic situations encountered in engineering practice. It is hoped that this realism will both stimulate the student’s interest in engineering mechanics and provide a means for developing the skill to reduce any such problem from its physical description to a model or symbolic representation to which the principles of mechanics may be applied. As in the previous edition, an effort has been made to include some problems which may be solved using a numerical procedure executed on either a desktop computer or a programmable pocket calculator. Suitable numerical techniques along with associated computer programs are given in Appendix B. The intent here is to broaden the student’s capacity for using other forms of mathematical analysis *without* sacrificing the time needed to focus on the application of the principles of mechanics. Problems of

this type which either can or must be solved using numerical procedures are identified by a “square” symbol (■) preceding the problem number.

Throughout the text there is an approximate balance of problems using either SI or FPS units. Furthermore, in any set, an attempt has been made to arrange the problems in order of increasing difficulty.\* The answers to all but every fourth problem are listed in the back of the book. To alert the user to a problem without a reported answer, an asterisk (\*) is placed before the problem number.

**Contents.** The book is divided into 11 chapters, in which the principles introduced are first applied to simple situations. Most often, each principle is applied first to a particle, then to a rigid body subjected to a coplanar system of forces, and finally to the general case of three-dimensional force systems acting on a rigid body.

The text begins in Chapter 1 with an introduction to mechanics and a discussion of units. The notion of a vector and the properties of a concurrent force system are introduced in Chapter 2. This theory is then applied to the equilibrium of particles in Chapter 3. Chapter 4 contains a general discussion of both concentrated and distributed force systems and the methods used to simplify them. The principles of rigid-body equilibrium are developed in Chapter 5 and then applied to specific problems involving the equilibrium of trusses, frames, and machines in Chapter 6, and to the analysis of internal forces in beams and cables in Chapter 7. Applications to problems involving frictional forces are discussed in Chapter 8, and topics related to the center of gravity and centroid are treated in Chapter 9. If time permits, sections concerning more advanced topics, indicated by stars (★), may be covered. Most of these topics are included in Chapter 10 (area and mass moments of inertia) and Chapter 11 (virtual work and potential energy). Note that this material also provides a suitable reference for basic principles when it is discussed in more advanced courses.

At the discretion of the instructor, some of the material may be presented in a different sequence with no loss in continuity. For example, it is possible to introduce the concept of a force and all the necessary methods of vector analysis by first covering Chapter 2 and Sec. 4.1. Then, after covering the rest of Chapter 4 (force and moment systems), the equilibrium methods in Chapters 3 and 5 can be discussed.

**Acknowledgments.** I have endeavored to write this book so that it will appeal to both the student and instructor. Through the years many people have helped in its development and I should like to acknowledge their valued suggestions and comments. Specifically, I wish to personally thank the following individuals who have contributed to this edition, namely, William Palm, University of Rhode Island, James R. Matthews, University of New Mexico, J. K.

\*Review problems, at the end of each chapter, are presented in random order.

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Many thanks are also extended to all my students, a colleague, Bob Wang, and to members of the teaching profession who have freely taken the time to send me their suggestions and comments. Since the list is too long to mention, it is hoped that those who have given help in this manner will accept this anonymous recognition. Lastly, I should like to acknowledge the assistance of my wife, Conny, during the time it has taken to prepare the manuscript for publication.

*Russell Charles Hibbeler*

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# Statics

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Although computers are often used in engineering, the design and analysis of any structural or mechanical part requires a fundamental understanding of the principles of engineering mechanics.



# 1

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## General Principles

This chapter provides an introduction to many of the fundamental concepts in mechanics. It includes a discussion of models or idealizations that are used to apply the theory, a statement of Newton's laws of motion, upon which this subject is based, and a general review of the principles for applying the SI system of units. Standard procedures for performing numerical calculations are then discussed. At the end of the chapter we will present a general guide that should be followed for solving problems.

### 1.1 Mechanics

---

*Mechanics* can be defined as that branch of the physical sciences concerned with the state of rest or motion of bodies that are subjected to the action of forces. In general, this subject is subdivided into three branches: *rigid-body mechanics*, *deformable-body mechanics*, and *fluid mechanics*. This book treats only rigid-body mechanics, since it forms a suitable basis for the design and analysis of many types of structural, mechanical, or electrical devices encountered in engineering. Also, rigid-body mechanics provides part of the necessary background for the study of the mechanics of deformable bodies and the mechanics of fluids.

Rigid-body mechanics is divided into two areas: statics and dynamics. *Statics* deals with the equilibrium of bodies, that is, those that are either at rest or move with a constant velocity; whereas *dynamics* is concerned with the accelerated motion of bodies. Although statics can be considered as a special case of dynamics, in which the acceleration is zero, statics deserves separate treatment in engineering education, since many objects are designed with the intention that they remain in equilibrium.

**Historical Development.** The subject of statics developed very early in history, because the principles involved could be formulated simply from measurements of geometry and force. For example, the writings of Archimedes (287–212 B.C.) deal with the principle of the lever. Studies of the pulley, inclined plane, and wrench are also recorded in ancient writings—at times when the requirements of engineering were limited primarily to building construction.

Since the principles of dynamics depend on an accurate measurement of time, this subject developed much later. Galileo Galilei (1564–1642) was one of the first major contributors to this field. His work consisted of experiments using pendulums and falling bodies. The most significant contributions in dynamics, however, were made by Isaac Newton (1642–1727), who is noted for his formulation of the three fundamental laws of motion and the law of universal gravitational attraction. Shortly after these laws were postulated, important techniques for their application were developed by Euler, D’Alembert, Lagrange, and others.

## 1.2 Fundamental Concepts

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Before beginning our study of rigid-body mechanics, it is important to understand the meaning of certain fundamental concepts and principles.

**Basic Quantities.** The following four quantities are used throughout rigid-body mechanics.

**Length.** *Length* is needed to locate the position of a point in space and thereby describe the size of a physical system. Once a standard unit of length is defined, one can then quantitatively define distances and geometric properties of a body as multiples of the unit length.

**Time.** *Time* is conceived as a succession of events. Although the principles of statics are time independent, this quantity does play an important role in the study of dynamics.

**Mass.** *Mass* is a property of matter by which we can compare the action of one body with that of another. This property manifests itself as a gravitational attraction between two bodies and provides a quantitative measure of the resistance of matter to a change in velocity.

**Force.** In general, *force* is considered as a “push” or “pull” exerted by one body on another. This interaction can occur when there is direct contact between the bodies, such as a person pushing on a wall, or it can occur through a distance when the bodies are physically separated. Examples of the latter type include gravitational, electrical, and magnetic forces. In any case, a force is completely characterized by its magnitude, direction, and point of application.



**Idealizations.** Models or idealizations are used in mechanics in order to simplify application of the theory. A few of the more important idealizations will now be defined. Others that are noteworthy will be discussed at points where they are needed.

**Particle.** A *particle* has a mass but a size that can be neglected. For example, the size of the earth is insignificant compared to the size of its orbit, and therefore the earth can be modeled as a particle when studying its orbital motion. When a body is idealized as a particle, the principles of mechanics reduce to a rather simplified form, since the geometry of the body will not be involved in the analysis of the problem.

**Rigid Body.** A *rigid body* can be considered as a combination of a large number of particles in which all the particles remain at a fixed distance from one another both before and after applying a load. As a result, the material properties of any body that is assumed to be rigid will not have to be considered when analyzing the forces acting on the body. In most cases the actual deformations occurring in structures, machines, mechanisms, and the like are relatively small, and the rigid-body assumption is suitable for analysis.

**Concentrated Force.** A *concentrated force* represents the effect of a loading which is assumed to act at a point on a body. We can represent this effect by a concentrated force, provided the area over which the load is applied is very small compared to the overall size of the body.

**Newton's Three Laws of Motion.** The entire subject of rigid-body mechanics is formulated on the basis of Newton's three laws of motion, the validity of which is based on experimental observation. They apply to the motion of a particle as measured from a nonaccelerating reference frame and may be briefly stated as follows.

**First Law.** A particle originally at rest, or moving in a straight line with constant velocity, will remain in this state provided the particle is *not* subjected to an unbalanced force.

**Second Law.** A particle acted upon by an *unbalanced force*  $\mathbf{F}$  experiences an acceleration  $\mathbf{a}$  that has the same direction as the force and a magnitude that is directly proportional to the force.\* If  $\mathbf{F}$  is applied to a particle of mass  $m$ , this law may be expressed mathematically as

$$\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a} \quad (1-1)$$

**Third Law.** The mutual forces of action and reaction between two particles are equal, opposite, and collinear.

\*Stated another way, the unbalanced force acting on the particle is proportional to the time rate of change of the particle's linear momentum.