

# Re: The kilogram's average weight is about 8.9 N, the world around

*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2004-06/6847.html>

---

*From:* Donald G. Shead ([dcshead\\_at\\_charter.net](mailto:dcshead_at_charter.net))

*Date:* 06/29/04

Date: 29 Jun 2004 12:42:12 -0700

David, Tom. and a host of otherwise intelligent scientific types wrote:

- > *What's your joke? I don't get it. Are you really just an idiot*
- > *obsessed with mass and inertia and force being a fundamental unit? Or*
- > *is there some history to your stupidity that I am not familiar with.*

The history of all this relates back to the fact that I made, and am still making a pretty good living, from having been a self educated bridge designer:

During this self education I had a few obstacles to resolve:

First "they" wouldn't let me take physics in my senior year of high school because I hadn't taken algebra, and everybody knows you can't understand or do physics without having taken algebra as a prerequisite(;^! Well it's plain enough to see that the concepts of physics are just ratios and proportions; which I'd understood quite well back in grammar school.

Then when I finally did take a night course at the local tech school, they, and the textbook tried to tell me that the fundamental quantities of physics are arbitrary: That is you can choose between Length, Mass, and Time; or Length, Force, and Time, and all other units can be derived from either of these three.

That's a crock and any idiot over thirty should know it; that the three fundamental quantities are Length; Force and Time, and together they make up the derived quantity called inertia; which is the quantity measure of how much matter is in an object; body or mass of it.

Anyways, starting as a Junior Draftsman, I eventually was allowed – under close supervision – to design a few minor bridges, and eventually achieved the title of Highway Senior Engineer (Bridge Design).

sci.math: Re: The kilogram's average weight is about 8.9 N, the world around

The pay wasn't bad, and I loved the work; so I stuck with it, through thick and thin until I retired about twenty years ago.

\_One\_ reason for retiring was that I wanted to continue and further develop my "wild" ideas regarding physics, math and science in general:

That's what I'm doing, and having more fun than ever: If you are all too vain, and jealous to listen, that's your problem(;^D~~~