Example



A 3 kg mass is attached to a spring (k=24 N/m). It is stretched 5 cm. At time t=0 it is released and oscillates.

What is the total energy of the block spring system?

$$E = U + K$$

At
$$t=0$$
, $x = 5$ cm and $v=0$:

$$E = \frac{1}{2} k x^2 + 0$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (24 \text{ N/m}) (5 \text{ cm})^2$$

$$= 0.03 J$$