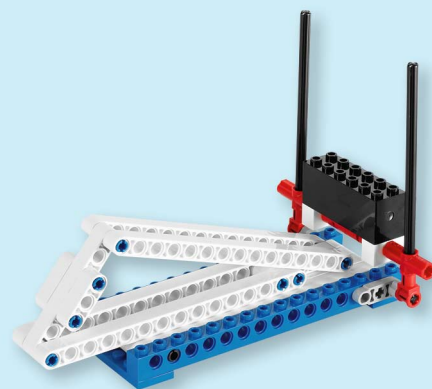




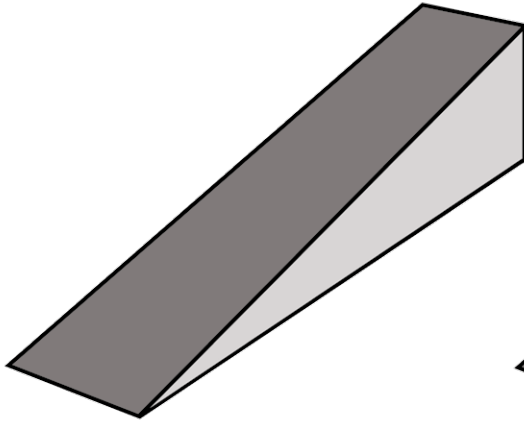
education



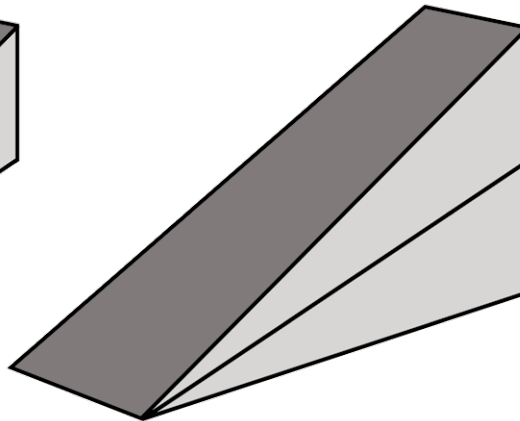
Wedge

## Simple Machines: Wedge

A wedge is a modification of the inclined plane. Unlike an inclined plane a wedge can move.



Single wedge



Double wedge

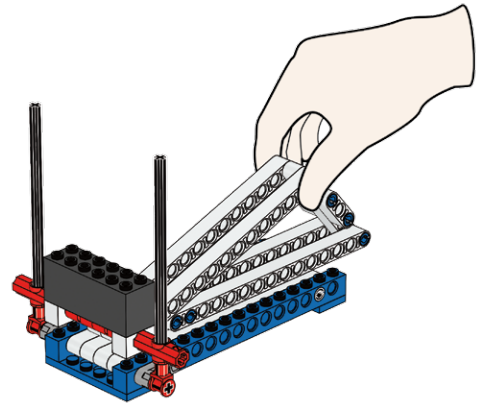
A wedge can have a single or two sloping surfaces. The effort you need depends on the relationship between the length and width of the wedge and consequently the sloping surface.

Common examples of wedges include axes, knives and doorstops.

**Did you know?**  
Wedges are used to split granite!  
A simple device called a wedge and feather can split huge granite blocks.

**E1**

This model shows a single wedge with a long sloping surface. The wedge needs a small effort to lift the load as the wedge has a small angle.

**E2**

This model shows a single wedge with a short sloping surface. The steep angle of the sloping surface needs a greater effort to lift the load compared to the previous wedge. But it also travels a shorter distance.

