

$$F = \frac{G M_1 M_2}{R^2}$$

What are these variables?

F = force in newtons

m<sub>1</sub>, m<sub>2</sub> = mass in kg

r = distance in meters

G = a constant 6.67 E -11

When the problem mentions the word force or weight, you will be using this equation!!!!

Another formula often used is

$$g = \frac{G m(\text{big object})}{r^2}$$

When the problem mentions the word gravity, you should almost always use this equation!!!!

Make sure the mass used in this equation is the largest mass mentioned in the problem. Usually, this is the mass of the planet

In either formula, you must be careful with the distance. Anytime the problem involves a planet, you must add the radius to the planet to the distance you are above the planet!

