

MEASURING

Using a Triple-Beam Balance

1. First, zero the balance. It's zeroed if the pointer is at zero when the pan is empty and the riders are at their zero points. Use the adjustment knob at the base of the balance to zero it if necessary.
2. Place the object you want to measure on the pan.
3. Slide the riders one notch at a time away from the pan. Begin with the largest rider. If moving the largest rider one notch brings the pointer below zero, begin measuring with the next smaller rider.
4. Change the positions of the riders until they balance the mass on the pan and the pointer points to zero. Then add the readings from the three beams to determine the mass of the object.

300 g	position of largest rider
90 g	position of middle rider
+ 3 g	position of smallest rider
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393 g	mass of beaker

