

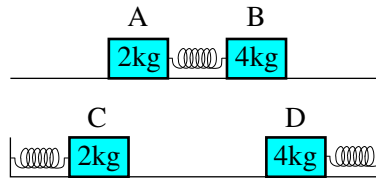
[mex206] When push comes to shove

Consider two situations in which blocks of unequal mass initially at rest on frictionless tracks are accelerated by springs of equal stiffness and with equal initial compression as shown.

(a) Which block, *A* or *B*, *C* or *D*, has acquired more momentum when the spring in contact with it has become fully relaxed?

(b) Which block, *A* or *B*, *C* or *D*, has acquired more kinetic energy when the spring in contact with it has become fully relaxed?

Justify your answers carefully.



Solution: