

# Unit 2 Worksheet 3 Pvtn Problems

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Pd \_\_\_\_\_

## Unit 2 Worksheet 3 – PVTn Problems

On each of the problems below, start with the given P, V, T, or n; then make a decision as to how a change in P, V, T, or n will affect the starting quantity, and then multiply by the appropriate factor. Draw particle diagrams of the initial and final conditions.

1. A sample of gas occupies 150 mL at 25 °C. What is its volume when the temperature is increased to 50°C? (P and n = constant)

	P	T	V	n
Initial	--	298K	150mL	--
Final	--	323K	?	--
Effect	--	↑	↑	--

$$V_2 = 150\text{mL} \times \frac{323\text{K}}{298\text{K}} = 163\text{mL} \rightarrow 160\text{mL}$$

2. The pressure in a bicycle tire is 105 psi at 25°C here in Fresno. You take the bicycle up to Huntington, where the temperature is - 5°C. What is the pressure in the tire? (V and n = constant)

	P	T	V	n
Initial	105psi	298K	--	--
Final	?	268K	--	--
Effect	↓	↓	--	--

$$P_2 = 105\text{psi} \times \frac{268\text{K}}{298\text{K}} = 94.4\text{psi}$$

3. What would be the new pressure if 250 cm<sup>3</sup> of gas at standard pressure is compressed to a volume of 150 cm<sup>3</sup>? (T, n = constant)

	P	T	V	n
Initial	1atm	--	250cm <sup>3</sup>	--
Final	?	--	150cm <sup>3</sup>	--
Effect	↑	--	↓	--

$$P_2 = 1\text{atm} \times \frac{250\text{cm}^3}{150\text{cm}^3} = 1.7\text{atm}$$

or 1300mmHg  
or 170kPa  
or 25psi

## Conquering Unit 2 Worksheet 3: Mastering PV=nRT Problems

Are you grappling with Unit 2, Worksheet 3, and those pesky PV=nRT problems? Feeling overwhelmed by ideal gas law calculations? You're not alone! Many students find these problems challenging, but with the right approach and understanding, they become manageable - even enjoyable. This comprehensive guide breaks down the common hurdles encountered in Unit 2, Worksheet 3, focusing specifically on PV=nRT problems. We'll cover essential concepts, provide step-by-step solutions, and offer strategies to help you ace those calculations. Prepare to conquer your worksheet and master the ideal gas law!

# Understanding the Ideal Gas Law: $PV=nRT$

Before diving into the specific problems, let's solidify our understanding of the Ideal Gas Law equation:  $PV = nRT$ . This equation describes the behavior of ideal gases, relating four key variables:

P: Pressure (usually in atmospheres, atm)

V: Volume (usually in liters, L)

n: Number of moles (mol)

R: Ideal gas constant (0.0821 L·atm/mol·K)

T: Temperature (always in Kelvin, K)

Understanding the units is crucial for accurate calculations. Always ensure consistent units throughout your problem-solving. Converting units is a frequent source of error, so practice this diligently.

## Common Challenges in Unit 2 Worksheet 3 $PV=nRT$ Problems

Unit 2, Worksheet 3 problems often present variations requiring specific problem-solving strategies. Let's address some common challenges:

### #### 1. Unit Conversions:

Perhaps the most frequent source of errors lies in unit conversions. Remember:

Temperature: Always convert Celsius ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) to Kelvin (K) using the formula:  $K = ^{\circ}\text{C} + 273.15$

Pressure: Common units include atmospheres (atm), kilopascals (kPa), and millimeters of mercury (mmHg). Conversion factors are essential here.

Volume: While liters (L) are common, you might encounter milliliters (mL) or cubic centimeters ( $\text{cm}^3$ ). Remember  $1\text{ L} = 1000\text{ mL} = 1000\text{ cm}^3$ .

### #### 2. Solving for Different Variables:

The  $PV=nRT$  equation can be rearranged to solve for any of the five variables. This requires algebraic manipulation. Practice rearranging the equation to solve for P, V, n, or T.

### #### 3. Multi-Step Problems:

Many problems in Unit 2, Worksheet 3 aren't simply plug-and-chug exercises. They often require multiple steps, perhaps involving stoichiometry or other concepts. Breaking these problems down into smaller, manageable parts is key.

### #### 4. Understanding Gas Law Relationships:

The ideal gas law allows us to explore relationships between variables. For example, if the number of moles and temperature remain constant, pressure and volume are inversely proportional (Boyle's

Law). Understanding these relationships can simplify problem-solving.

## Step-by-Step Solution Approach for $PV=nRT$ Problems

Here's a general approach to solving  $PV=nRT$  problems:

1. Identify the knowns: Write down all the given values, ensuring consistent units.
2. Identify the unknown: Determine which variable you need to solve for.
3. Rearrange the equation: Manipulate the  $PV=nRT$  equation algebraically to isolate the unknown variable.
4. Plug in the values: Substitute the known values into the rearranged equation.
5. Calculate the answer: Perform the calculation and report the answer with the correct units and significant figures.
6. Check your work: Does your answer make sense in the context of the problem?

## Advanced $PV=nRT$ Problems and Strategies

Some problems may involve more complex scenarios, such as:

Gas mixtures: Problems involving multiple gases require calculating the total pressure or partial pressures.

Limiting reactants: Stoichiometric calculations may be needed if the problem involves chemical reactions.

Real gases vs. ideal gases: Understand the limitations of the ideal gas law and when deviations from ideal behavior might occur.

## Conclusion

Mastering  $PV=nRT$  problems in Unit 2, Worksheet 3 is achievable with consistent practice and a structured approach. By understanding the equation, practicing unit conversions, and breaking down complex problems into smaller steps, you can build confidence and improve your problem-solving skills. Remember to always check your work and ensure your answers are reasonable within the context of the problem.

## FAQs

1. What if I get a negative value for temperature or pressure? A negative temperature or pressure usually indicates an error in your calculations or unit conversions. Double-check your work and ensure your units are consistent.
2. How do I handle problems with gas mixtures? Use Dalton's Law of Partial Pressures, which states that the total pressure of a gas mixture is the sum of the partial pressures of the individual gases.
3. When is the ideal gas law not accurate? The ideal gas law is a simplification and doesn't work perfectly for all gases under all conditions. High pressure and low temperature conditions often require more complex equations.
4. Where can I find more practice problems? Your textbook, online resources (like Khan Academy or Chegg), and additional worksheets from your instructor are excellent sources of practice.
5. What if I'm still struggling after practicing? Don't hesitate to seek help from your teacher, tutor, or classmates. Working through problems collaboratively can be very beneficial.

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