

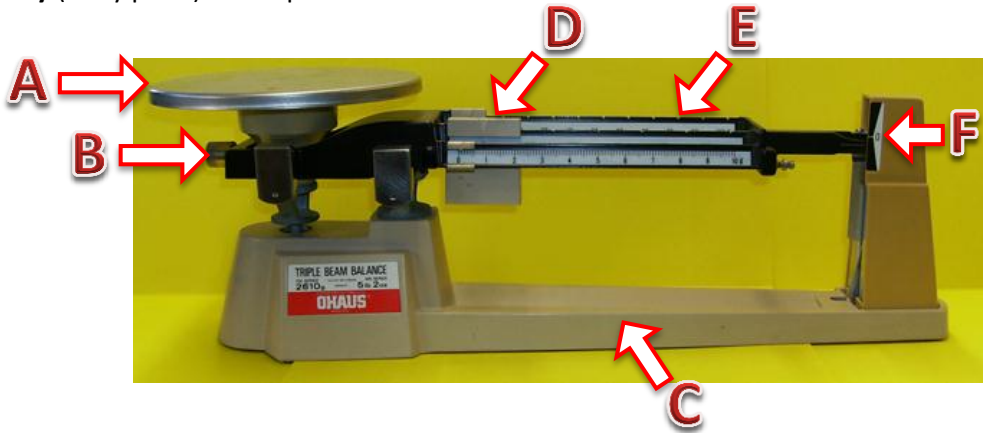
NAME:

PERIOD:

DATE:

HOW TO USE A TRIPLE BEAM BALANCE

Anatomy (body parts) of a triple beam balance:



A. pan – the flat surface where you put the object to be measured

B. adjustment knob – to calibrate the balance (set it to zero) turn this knob to raise or lower the beam

C. base – the bottom of the balance. When moving the balance, one hand should be here.

D. riders (weights) – the riders slide along the beam so that you can measure the object. The riders on the 10's and 100's beam need to be in the notches to get a quality measurement.

E. beams – the three beams have different markings for 10's, 100's, and 1's/tenths of a gram.

F. zero mark – when the end of the beam lines up with the zero mark, you have found the mass of your object.

How to get a triple beam balance ready to use:

1. Wipe off the pan. (If the pan is dirty, it can affect your measurements.)
2. Set all the riders (weights) on zero. (You can't calibrate the balance if you don't do this first.)
3. Calibrate the balance. (Turn the adjustment knob until the beam points at the zero mark.)

How to measure object on a triple beam balance:

1. Put the object on the pan. (Be gentle.)
2. Starting with the 100's rider (weight,) move the riders (weights) until the beam points at the zero mark.
3. Find out the numbers in the 100's, 10's, 1's, and 0.1's places and you have your measurement.