

With what minimum speed does a baseball have to come off the bat to clear the Green Monster at Fenway Park? The wall is 115.5 m from home plate and 11.3 m high. Assume the batter makes contact 1.0 m off the ground at an angle of 65°.

- This problem is asking us to solve for the speed of the ball, v . What makes it challenging is that no velocities in any direction or time is given.
- We will start with our first principle equations and develop a formula that only has the variable v .
- First, list known information and equations in each direction.

x - direction	y - direction
$d_{ox} = 0 \text{ m}$	$d_{oy} = 1.0 \text{ m}$
$d_{fx} = 115.5 \text{ m}$	$d_{fy} = 11.3 \text{ m}$
eq1: $v_x = v \cos 65$ (horizontal component)	eq4: $v_{oy} = v \sin 65$ (vertical component)
eq2: $v_x = \frac{d_{fx} - d_{ox}}{t} = \frac{115.5 - 0}{t}$ (velocity formula)	eq5: $11.3 = 1.0 + v_{oy}t + \frac{1}{2}(-9.81)t^2$ (vertical position)
Eliminating v_x gives us:	We use the d_{fy} equation because it contains variables given in the question.
eq3: $v \cos 65 = \frac{115.5}{t}$	

- Now to do some equation manipulation. Remember the purpose is to create one equation with the only known variable the velocity, v .
 - There is nothing more we can do with the equations in the x -direction. We eliminated v_x and we are left with an equation with v and t . Let us move on to the y -direction.
 - We do not have, nor want to calculate, v_{oy} so we will eliminate it by substituting **eq4** into **eq5**:

eq6:
$$11.3 = 1.0 + (v \sin 65)t - 4.9t^2$$

- This helps solve the problem because now we have two equations and two unknowns (**eq3** & **eq6**):

eq3:
$$v \cos 65 = \frac{115.5}{t}$$

eq6:
$$11.3 = 1.0 + (v \sin 65)t - 4.9t^2$$

- One more substitution and we will have our final equation. Since we are trying to find velocity, v , we will eliminate the time variable, t , in **eq6**.
- First we need to rearrange **eq3** to solve for time, t :

eq3:
$$t = \frac{115.5}{v \cos 65}$$

- Now substitute **eq3** into **eq6** to eliminate time:

$$11.3 = 1.0 + (v \sin 65) \left(\frac{115.5}{v \cos 65} \right) - 4.9 \left(\frac{115.5}{v \cos 65} \right)^2$$

- The v -variable in the middle term divides out, a trig identity simplifies \sin and \cos and using exponent laws on the quadratic term gives:

$$11.3 = 1.0 + 115.5 \tan 65 - 4.9 \left(\frac{115.5^2}{v^2 (\cos 65)^2} \right)$$

- This now becomes easier to solve, just be careful with your math and you should get $v = 39.3 \text{ m/s}$