

Walking TinkerToy

Purpose:

Demonstrate the conversion of energy from potential to kinetic and how angles, distances, speed, mass and friction relate.

Materials:

TinkerToys (plastic)

- $2x = \frac{1}{4}$ " 28 x 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " allen-head bolt
- $4x \frac{1}{2}$ " #20 nut
- $4x \quad \frac{1}{4}$ flat washer
- $2x \frac{1}{4}$ " #28 nut

Steps:

Build according to diagram below. Note the dimensions are in centimeters and the brass strips were replaced with electrical tape.

(Reference: Coleman, M, Ruina, A. <u>An Uncontrolled Toy That Can Walk But Cannot Stand Still</u> (Tinkertoy Walker) Physical Review Letters April 1998, Vol 80, Issue 16 pp. 3658 – 3661)

