

#### **CHAPTER 15**

# 15.1 What Are Waves?

 Mechanical waves are produced when a source of energy causes a medium to vibrate.



### 15.1 What Are Waves?

 Mechanical waves are classified by how they move. There are two types of mechanical waves: transverse waves and longitudinal waves.





#### • A DISTURBANCE THAT TRANSFERS ENERGY FROM PLACE TO PLACE.



#### energy

#### • The ability to do work or cause change.



## medium

#### • The material through which a wave travels.



### mechanical wave

 A wave that needs a medium through which to travel.



# vibration

A repeated back and forth or up and down motion.



#### transverse wave

 A wave that moves the medium in a direction perpendicular to the direction in which the wave travels.



crest

#### The highest part of a transverse wave



# trough

• The lowest part of a transverse wave.



# longitudinal wave

 A wave that moves a medium in a direction parallel to the direction in which the wave travels.



#### compression

 The part of a longitudinal wave where the particles of the medium are close together



#### rarefaction

• The part of a longitudinal wave where the particles of the medium are farther apart.



# **15.2 Properties of Waves**

 The basic properties of waves are amplitude, wavelength, frequency, and speed



#### **15.2 Properties of Waves**

 The speed, wavelength, and frequency of a wave are related to one another by a mathematical formula:

#### Speed = Wavelength × Frequency

# amplitude

 The maximum distance the particles of a medium move away from their rest positions as a wave passes through the medium.



### wavelength

The distance between two corresponding parts of a wave.





• The number of complete waves that pass a given point in a certain amount of time.



# hertz (Hz)

- Unit of measurement of frequency
- 1 Hz = 1 wave/second



• When an object or a wave hits a surface through which it cannot pass, it bounces back.



 When a wave enters a new medium at an angle, one side of the wave changes speed before the other side, causing the wave to bend.



 When a wave moves around a barrier or through an opening in a barrier, it bends and spreads out.



 There are two types of interference: constructive and destructive



 If the incoming wave and a reflected wave have just the right frequency, they produce a combined wave that appears to be standing still.



# reflection

 The bouncing back of an object or a wave when it hits a surface through which it cannot pass.



### law of reflection

• The rule that the angle of reflection equals the angle of incidence.



## refraction

 The bending of waves as they enter a medium at an angle.



# diffraction

 The bending of waves as they move around a barrier or pass through an opening



# interference

• The interaction of waves that meet.



#### constructive interference

 The interference that occurs when waves combine to make a wave with a larger amplitude.



#### destructive interference

 The interference that occurs when two waves combine to make a wave with a smaller amplitude.



# standing wave

 A wave that appears to stand in one place, even though it is really two waves interfering as they pass through each other.

#### node

A point of zero amplitude on a standing wave.



#### antinode

A point of maximum amplitude on a standing wave.



#### resonance

 The increase in the amplitude of a vibration that occurs when external vibrations match an object's natural frequency.



#### 15.4 Seismic Waves

 Seismic waves include P waves, S waves, and surface waves.



### 15.4 Seismic Waves

 A seismograph records the ground movements caused by seismic waves as they move through Earth.



#### seismic wave

#### • A wave produced by an earthquake.











(D)

#### P wave

#### • A longitudinal seismic wave.



#### S wave

• A transverse seismic wave.



#### surface wave

 A combination of a longitudinal wave and a transverse wave that travels along the surface of a medium.



#### tsunami

• A huge surface wave on the ocean caused by an underwater earthquake.



# seismograph

 An instrument used to detect and measure earthquake waves.

