

# FLUID MECHANICS LAWS SUMMARY

LAW / PRINCIPLE	GOVERNING EQUATION	KEY CONCEPT
<b>Pascal's Law</b>	$\hat{P} = \rho g (\hat{h})$	Pressure applied to an enclosed fluid is transmitted undiminished to every portion of the fluid and to the walls of the container.
<b>Archimedes' Principle</b>	$F_b = \rho_f V_{\text{displaced}} g$	The upward buoyant force exerted on a body immersed in a fluid is equal to the weight of the fluid that the body displaces.
<b>Continuity Equation</b>	$A_1 v_1 = A_2 v_2$	Conservation of mass in steady flow: the product of cross-sectional area and velocity remains constant for an incompressible fluid.
<b>Bernoulli's Principle</b>	$P + \frac{1}{2} \rho v^2 + \rho gh = \text{constant}$	Conservation of energy for flowing fluids: an increase in the speed of a fluid occurs simultaneously with a decrease in pressure.

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<b>Poiseuille's Law</b>	$Q = (\pi r^4 \Delta P) / (8 \mu L)$	Describes the volumetric flow rate of a viscous liquid through a cylindrical pipe in laminar flow.
<b>Stokes' Law</b>	$F_d = 6 \pi \mu r v$	Calculates the drag force exerted on spherical objects moving through a viscous fluid at low Reynolds numbers.
<b>Reynolds Number</b>	$Re = (\rho v L) / \mu$	A dimensionless quantity used to help predict flow patterns (laminar vs. turbulent) by comparing inertial and viscous forces.