Stuff you need for physics

1. Scientific (NOT GRAPHING) Calculator

Nothing fancy; I like the simple TI-30 (TI-30Xa?), but there are many on the market that do what we need them to. If you only have a graphing calculator, you should get a scientific calculator as well. Scientific calculators are allowed on tests, graphing calculators are not.

Scientific
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allowed on
physics tests.Image: Constraint of the second second

2. Three-ring binder(s)

Two 1- or 1¹/₂-inch binders (one for each semester). You will need a binder reserved only for physics each semester. Seriously! The good news is that you won't need to carry a textbook to and from class every day.

3. RULER AND PROTRACTOR

A small ruler and protractor. (We need to make measurements, draw straight lines, and determine angles from time to time.) The ruler-protractor combination is cheap and easy; some people prefer a separate ruler and protractor. Either way is OK for physics.

You would be wise to get one of those little zippered pencil pouches that can be attached in the three-ring binder. Those ruler-protractors can be pretty fragile.