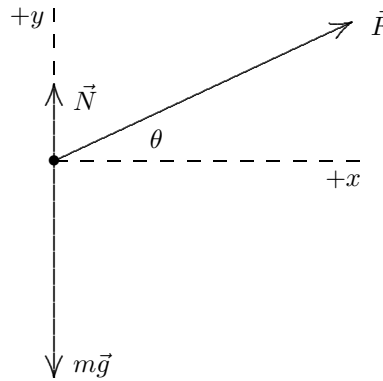


49. The force diagram (not to scale) for the block is shown below. \vec{N} is the normal force exerted by the floor and $m\vec{g}$ is the force of gravity.

- (a) The x component of Newton's second law is $F \cos \theta = ma$, where m is the mass of block and a is the x component of its acceleration. We obtain

$$a = \frac{F \cos \theta}{m} = \frac{(12.0 \text{ N}) \cos 25.0^\circ}{5.00 \text{ kg}} = 2.18 \text{ m/s}^2.$$

This is its acceleration provided it remains in contact with the floor. Assuming it does, we find the value of N (and if N is positive, then the assumption is true but if N is negative then the block leaves the floor). The y component of Newton's second law becomes $N + F \sin \theta - mg = 0$, so $N = mg - F \sin \theta = (5.00)(9.8) - (12.0) \sin 25.0^\circ = 43.9 \text{ N}$. Hence the block remains on the floor and its acceleration is $a = 2.18 \text{ m/s}^2$.



- (b) If F is the minimum force for which the block leaves the floor, then $N = 0$ and the y component of the acceleration vanishes. The y component of the second law becomes $F \sin \theta - mg = 0$, so

$$F = \frac{mg}{\sin \theta} = \frac{(5.00)(9.8)}{\sin 25.0^\circ} = 116 \text{ N}.$$

- (c) The acceleration is still in the x direction and is still given by the equation developed in part (a):

$$a = \frac{F \cos \theta}{m} = \frac{116 \cos 25^\circ}{5.00} = 21.0 \text{ m/s}^2.$$