

Metabolic Equations for Estimating Gross VO₂ (ACSM 2000)

Exercise mode Gross VO ₂ (ml·kg ⁻¹ ·min ⁻¹)	Resting VO ₂ (ml·kg ⁻¹ ·min ⁻¹)	Comments
Walking VO₂ = (S^a x 0.1) + (S x G^b x 1.8)	+ 3.5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For speeds of 50-100 m·min⁻¹ (1.9-3.7 mph) 2. 0.1 ml·kg⁻¹·m⁻¹ = O₂ cost of walking horizontally 3. 1.8 ml·kg⁻¹·m⁻¹ = O₂ cost of walking on incline (% grade of treadmill)
Running VO₂ = (S^a x 0.2) + (S x G^b x 0.9)	+3.5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For speeds >134 m·min⁻¹ (>5.0 mph) 2. If truly jogging (not walking), this equations can also be used for speeds of 80-134 m·min⁻¹ (3-5 mph) 3. 0.2 ml·kg⁻¹·m⁻¹ = O₂ cost of running horizontally 4. 0.9 ml·kg⁻¹·m⁻¹ = O₂ cost of running on incline (% grade of treadmill)
Leg ergometry VO₂ = (W^c/M^d x 10.8) + 3.5	+3.5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For work rates between 50 and 200 W (300-1200 kgm·min⁻¹) 2. kgm·min⁻¹ = kg x m/rev x rev/min 3. Monark and Bodyguard = 6 m/rev; Tunturi = 3 m/rev 4. 10.8 ml·kg⁻¹·W⁻¹ = O₂ cost of cycling against external load (resistance) 5. 3.5 ml·kg⁻¹·min⁻¹ = O₂ cost of cycling with zero load
Arm ergometry VO₂ = (W^c/M^d x 18.0) + none	+3.5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For work rates between 25 and 125 W (150-750 kgm·min⁻¹) 2. kgm·min⁻¹ = kg x m/rev x rev/min 3. 18.0 ml·kg⁻¹·W⁻¹ = O₂ cost of cycling against external load (resistance) 4. None = due to small mass of arm musculature, no special term for unloaded (zero load) cycling is needed
Stepping VO₂ = (F^e x 0.2) + (F x ht^f x 1.8 x 1.33)	+3.5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appropriate for stepping rates between 12 and 30 steps/min and step heights between 0.04 m (1.6 in.) and 0.40 m (15.7 in.) 2. 0.2 ml·kg⁻¹·m⁻¹ = O₂ cost of moving horizontally 3. 1.8 ml·kg⁻¹·m⁻¹ = O₂ cost of stepping up (bench height) 4. 1.33 includes positive component of stepping up (1.0) + negative component of stepping down (0.33)

^a S= speed of treadmill in m·min⁻¹; 1 mph = 26.8 m·min⁻¹.

^b G= grade (% incline) of treadmill in decimal form; e.g., 10% = 0.10.

^c W= power output in watts; 1 W = 6 kgm·min⁻¹.

^d M= body mass in kilograms; 1 kg = 2.2 lb.

^e F= frequency of stepping in steps per minute.

^f ht= bench height in meters; 1 in. = 0.0254 m.