SUMMARY

The magnetic force that acts on a charge q moving with a velocity $\mathbf{v}$ in a magnetic field $\mathbf{B}$ is

$$\mathbf{F}_B = q\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} \tag{29.1}$$

The direction of this magnetic force is perpendicular both to the velocity of the particle and to the magnetic field. The magnitude of this force is

$$F_B = |q|vB \sin \theta \tag{29.2}$$

where θ is the smaller angle between $\mathbf{v}$ and $\mathbf{B}$. The SI unit of $\mathbf{B}$ is the **tesla** (T), where $1 \text{ T} = 1 \text{ N/A} \cdot \text{m}$.

When a charged particle moves in a magnetic field, the work done by the magnetic force on the particle is zero because the displacement is always perpendicular to the direction of the force. The magnetic field can alter the direction of the particle's velocity vector, but it cannot change its speed.

If a straight conductor of length L carries a current I, the force exerted on that conductor when it is placed in a uniform magnetic field $\mathbf{B}$ is

$$\mathbf{F}_B = I\mathbf{L} \times \mathbf{B} \tag{29.3}$$

where the direction of $\mathbf{L}$ is in the direction of the current and $|\mathbf{L}| = L$.

If an arbitrarily shaped wire carrying a current I is placed in a magnetic field, the magnetic force exerted on a very small segment $d\mathbf{s}$ is

$$d\mathbf{F}_B = I\, d\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{B} \tag{29.4}$$

To determine the total magnetic force on the wire, one must integrate Equation 29.4, keeping in mind that both $\mathbf{B}$ and $d\mathbf{s}$ may vary at each point. Integration gives for the force exerted on a current-carrying conductor of arbitrary shape in a uniform magnetic field

$$\mathbf{F}_B = I\mathbf{L}' \times \mathbf{B} \tag{29.7}$$

where $\mathbf{L}'$ is a vector directed from one end of the conductor to the opposite end. Because integration of Equation 29.4 for a closed loop yields a zero result, the net magnetic force on any closed loop carrying a current in a uniform magnetic field is zero.

The **magnetic dipole moment** $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ of a loop carrying a current I is

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = I\mathbf{A} \tag{29.10}$$

where the area vector $\mathbf{A}$ is perpendicular to the plane of the loop and $|\mathbf{A}|$ is equal to the area of the loop. The SI unit of $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ is $\text{A} \cdot \text{m}^2$.

The torque $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ on a current loop placed in a uniform magnetic field $\mathbf{B}$ is

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\mu} \times \mathbf{B} \tag{29.11}$$

and the potential energy of a magnetic dipole in a magnetic field is

$$U = -\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{B} \tag{29.12}$$

If a charged particle moves in a uniform magnetic field so that its initial velocity is perpendicular to the field, the particle moves in a circle, the plane of which is perpendicular to the magnetic field. The radius of the circular path is

$$r = \frac{mv}{qB} \tag{29.13}$$