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Balance Type

Analytical

- Highly sensitive laboratory balances that require careful calibration
- Used for accurate measurements of very small samples
- Air currents may impact measurement accuracy (draft shields are required)
- May offer automatic internal calibration or manual calibration, easy open/hands-free draft shields, differential weighing, density measurement, pipette calibration, and sample management

Precision

- Also known as top-loading balances
- Typically provide higher capacity than analytical balances, but with lower readability
- May offer dynamic, interval, and formulation weighing, and automatic or manual calibration

Portable

- Battery-powered scales that do not rely on electrical connections
- May offer adaptable power, connectivity, overload protection, RF protection, and variable units

Mechanical

- Most common type are triple beam balances
- Typically contain a spring, plus a rigid beam that acts as a fulcrum between the counterbalance and the weighing pan
- Offer precise readings, do not require electricity, and provide comparative weighing

Important Considerations

Readability

What is the smallest change in weight you need to detect?

Weight range

What size samples do you need to measure?

Calibration types

Do you prefer manual or automatic internal calibration?

Common Features

- Parts counting
- Percent, differential, and mole weighing
- Custom unit factor entry
- Check and dynamic weighing
- Gross/net/tare
- Totalization
- Statistics
- Filling
- Density determination
- Pipette calibration
- High point
- Display hold
- Formulation
- Ingredient costing
- Battery power
- Backlight LCD
- Color graphics display, touchscreen, and keys
- Multiple languages
- RS232
- USB host and device
- Ethernet
- GLP/time/date
- Bluetooth
- Below balance weighing
- NTEP-certified or Canada approved

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