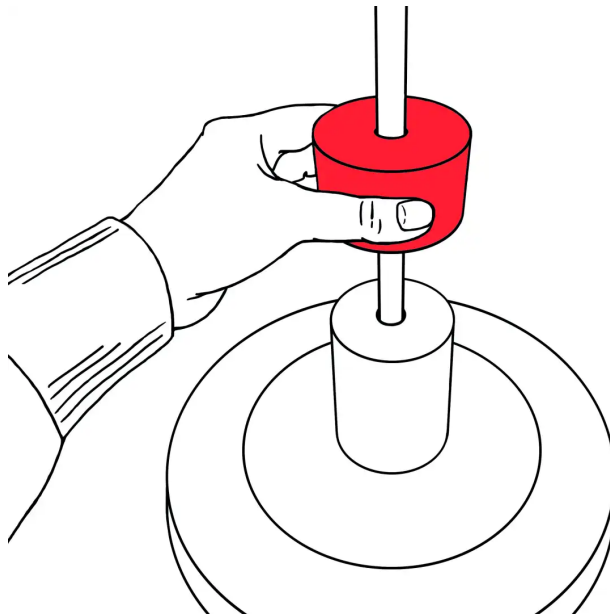


Less is more

Which is heavier: the small can on top or both cans together?



First lift the small can on top.

Pay attention to its weight.

Then lift both cans together.

Which is heavier?

Both cans together feel lighter than the small can by itself.

The small can is heavier than the larger can. Lifting both cans should feel heavier than the small can. When you lift both cans together, you expect them to weigh much more and lift them expecting to feel that weight and therefore using more force. This expectation makes the two cans together feel lighter than they actually are.

You can observe this phenomenon also for example when lifting a heavy book alone or wrapped in a large package.