

16.28. Model: The gas is assumed to be ideal and it expands isothermally.

Solve: (a) Isothermal expansion means the temperature stays unchanged. That is $T_2 = T_1$.

(b) The before-and-after relationship of an ideal gas under isothermal conditions is

$$\frac{p_1 V_1}{T_1} = \frac{p_2 V_2}{T_1} \Rightarrow p_2 = p_1 \frac{V_1}{V_2} = p_1 \left(\frac{V_1}{2V_1} \right) = \frac{p_1}{2}$$