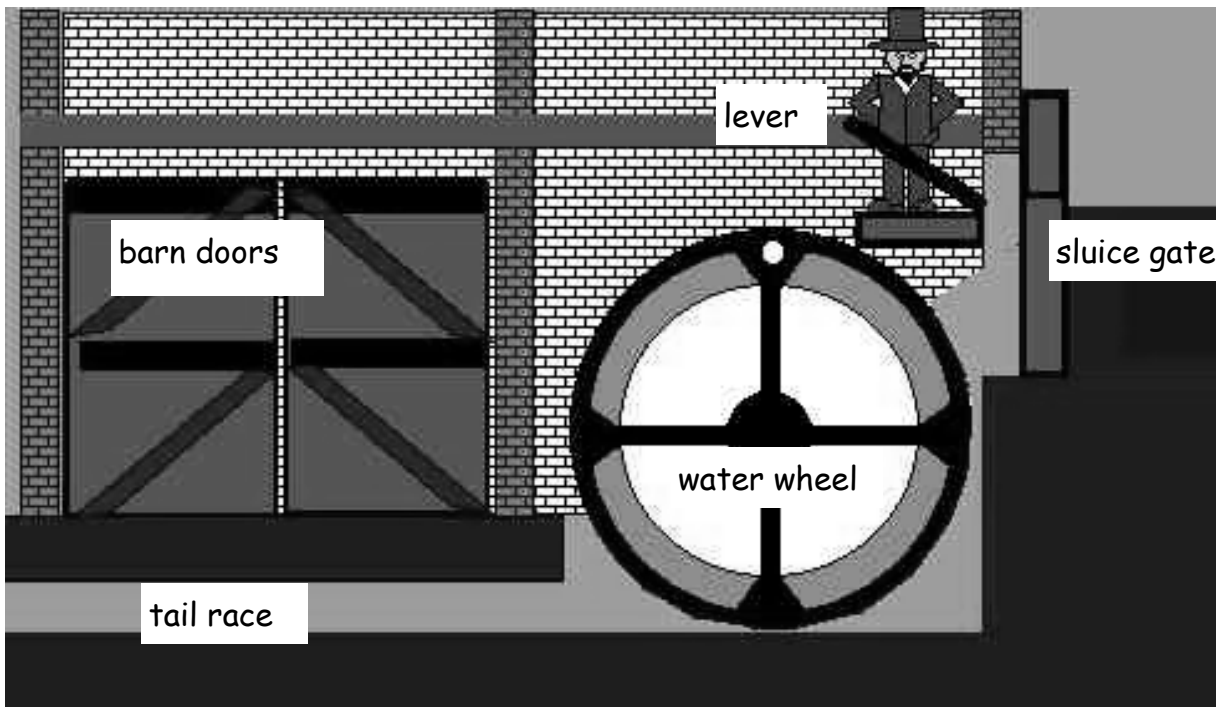


Turning the water wheel



This is a picture of the miller starting the water wheel.

The wheel is the shape of a cylinder and it's made from iron and elm (a hard wood).

As you can see, the water in the pond is higher than the tail race.

When he pulls up the lever, the sluice gate opens and the water pours out of the pond.

It's just like pulling the plug out of the bath!

It's the force of gravity that makes the water run downhill from the pond to the tail race.

As the water falls, it runs into buckets on the water wheel and the weight of the water pushing down on one side of the wheel makes it turn.

Questions:

What's the force that makes the water fall downwards?

What's the mathematical name for the shape of the water wheel?

What do you call the parts of the wheel that catch the water?

What materials are waterwheels made from?