



INDUSTRY PIPING FORMULAS

Pressure Rating

$$P = \frac{2St}{D-t} \quad S = \frac{P(D-t)}{2t}$$

P is the pressure rating in psi.

S is the Hydrostatic Design Basis (usually 4000 psi) divided by the safety factor (which is 2 for the three standards).

DR is the Dimension Ratio for D2241 and C905 but is OD/t for D1785

Where:

P = pressure, psi

S = circumferential stress, psi

D = outside diameter of pipe, inches

d = inside diameter of pipe, inches (average based on mean wall)

t = average wall thickness, inches

Volume capacity-gallons per ft. length = VG = V x 0.004329

Volume capacity-cubic inches per ft. length = V = 0.7854 x d² x 12

Outside pipe surface, sq. ft per ft. length = AO = $\frac{D^2 \pi}{12}$

Inside pipe surface, sq. ft. per ft. length = A_I = $\frac{d \pi}{12}$

Cross-sectional plastic area, sq. in. = A = $\frac{(D^2 - d^2) \pi}{4}$

Cross sectional flow area, sq. in. = A_F = $\frac{d^2 \pi}{4}$

Weight of PVC pipe, lb. per ft. length = W_{PVC} = .632 x A

Weight of CPVC pipe, lb. per ft. length = W_{CPVC} = .705 x A

Weight of water in pipe, lb. per ft. length = W_W = 0.433 A_F

Weight of water filled pipe, lb. per ft. length = W_{WFP} = W_{PVC} (or W_{CPVC}) + W_W

Radius of gyration, inches = r_g = $\sqrt{\frac{D^2 + d^2}{4}}$

Moment of inertia, inches fourth = I = Ar_g² .0491 (D⁴ - d⁴)

Section modulus, inches cube = Z = $\frac{2I}{D} = 0.0982 \times \frac{(D^4 - d^4)}{D}$

Thermal Expansion and Contraction

$$\Delta L = yL (\Delta T)$$

Where:

Δ L = expansion or contraction of pipe in inches

y = Coefficient of thermal expansion

(see PVC or CPVC material Thermal properties)

L = Length of pipe run in feet

Δ T = Temperature change °F (Maximum temperature – Temperature @ Installation or maximum system temperature – lowest system temperature, whichever is greater)



Friction Loss (Hazen-Williams equations)

$$f = .2083 \times (100/C)^{1.852} \times \frac{G^{1.852}}{d^{4.8655}}$$

Where:

f = friction head of feet of water per 100' for the specific pipe size and I.D.

C = a constant for internal pipe roughness (=150 for thermoplastic pipe)

G = flow rate of U.S. gallons per minute

d = inside diameter of pipe in inches

Water Velocities

$$V = .3208 \times \frac{G}{A}$$

Where:

V = velocity in feet per second

G = gallons per minute

A = inside cross sectional area in square inches

Gallons Per Minute Through Pipe

$$\text{GPM} = 0.0408 \times \text{Pipe Diameter Inches}^2 \times \text{Feet Per Minute Velocity}$$

Pressure Drop in Valves

$$P = \frac{G^2 \times S_g}{C_V^2}$$

Where:

P = Pressure drop in PSI; feet of water = PSI/.4332

G = Gallons per minute

S_g = Specific gravity of liquid

C_V = Gallons per minute per 1 PSI pressure drop (see Valve product C_v from manufacturer)

Water Conversions

1 foot of head = 0.434 PSI

1 gallon = 231 cubic inch = 8.333 pounds

1 pound water = 27.7 cubic inches

1 cubic foot water = 7.5 gallon = 62.5

pounds (salt water = 64.3 pounds)

1 miner's inch = 9 to 12 gallons per minute

$$\text{Horsepower to Raise Water} = \frac{\text{Gallons Per Minute} \times \text{Total Head in Feet}}{3960}$$