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Allowable-Stress Design Formulas

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List of 17 Allowable-Stress Design Formulas

Allowable-Stress Design

Allowable-Stress Design for Building Beams

1) Allowable Stress for Solid Compression Flange having Area not Less than Tension Flange

$$\text{fx } F_b = \frac{12000 \cdot C_b}{\frac{l_{\max} \cdot d}{A_f}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(de95854c7ee024cfadc48187bbb781b2_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 367.3087\text{MPa} = \frac{12000 \cdot 1.960}{\frac{1921\text{mm} \cdot 350\text{mm}}{10500\text{mm}^2}}$$

2) Allowable Stress given Simplifying Term between 0.2 and 1

$$\text{fx } F_b = \frac{(2 - Q) \cdot F_y}{3}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(6a9b39b98eb945faa14c645ec99e4eaa_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 156.5054\text{MPa} = \frac{(2 - 0.121935) \cdot 250\text{MPa}}{3}$$



3) Allowable Stress when Simplifying Term Greater than 1

$$fx \quad F_b = \frac{F_y}{3 \cdot Q}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(cbe80b694ebd74fcfe136a095b608235_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 683.4242MPa = \frac{250MPa}{3 \cdot 0.121935}$$

4) Maximum Fiber Stress in Bending for Laterally Supported Compact Beams and Girders

$$fx \quad F_b = 0.66 \cdot F_y$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(3e2231b1ad3ca8da8658228c00dd08e0_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 165MPa = 0.66 \cdot 250MPa$$

5) Maximum Fiber Stress in Bending for Laterally Supported Noncompact Beams and Girders

$$fx \quad F_b = 0.60 \cdot F_y$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(0d5ec72f61334709c3fc9450209b754f_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 150MPa = 0.60 \cdot 250MPa$$

6) Maximum Unsupported Length of Compression Flange-1

$$fx \quad l_{max} = \frac{76.0 \cdot b_f}{\sqrt{F_y}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(b64b40baaee5acddc1eab8538ba84754_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 21629.98mm = \frac{76.0 \cdot 4500mm}{\sqrt{250MPa}}$$



7) Maximum Unsupported Length of Compression Flange-2

$$fx \quad l_{\max} = \frac{20000}{\frac{F_y \cdot d}{A_f}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(e78f798d4ea5c530c9db49e7d26e6b95_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 2400mm = \frac{20000}{\frac{250MPa \cdot 350mm}{10500mm^2}}$$

8) Modifier for Moment Gradient

$$fx \quad C_b = 1.75 + \left(1.05 \cdot \left(\frac{M_1}{M_2} \right) \right) + \left(0.3 \cdot \left(\frac{M_1}{M_2} \right)^2 \right)$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(05be7c7a8995decd503647c99211f7c2_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 1.960884 = 1.75 + \left(1.05 \cdot \left(\frac{10kN \cdot m}{52.5kN \cdot m} \right) \right) + \left(0.3 \cdot \left(\frac{10kN \cdot m}{52.5kN \cdot m} \right)^2 \right)$$

9) Simplifying Term for Allowable Stress Equations

$$fx \quad Q = \frac{\left(\frac{l_{\max}}{r} \right)^2 \cdot F_y}{510000 \cdot C_b}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(fe3aebe81acea8d45108cd2768939da7_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 0.121935 = \frac{\left(\frac{1921mm}{87mm} \right)^2 \cdot 250MPa}{510000 \cdot 1.960}$$



Allowable-Stress Design for Building Columns

10) Allowable Compressive Stress when Slenderness Ratio is Greater than C_c

$$\text{fx } F_a = \frac{12 \cdot \pi^2 \cdot E_s}{23 \cdot \left(\frac{k \cdot l}{r}\right)^2}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(74d4806277d7e73349d8e8c0897931e9_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 1539.773 \text{MPa} = \frac{12 \cdot \pi^2 \cdot 200000 \text{MPa}}{23 \cdot \left(\frac{0.75 \cdot 3000 \text{mm}}{87 \text{mm}}\right)^2}$$

11) Allowable Compressive Stress when Slenderness Ratio is Less than C_c

$$\text{fx } F_a = \frac{\left(1 - \left(\frac{\left(\frac{k \cdot l}{r}\right)^2}{2 \cdot C_c^2}\right)\right) \cdot F_y}{F_s}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(8bba887393ca45b761e5cb49e755e762_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 140.6352 \text{MPa} = \frac{\left(1 - \left(\frac{\left(\frac{0.75 \cdot 3000 \text{mm}}{87 \text{mm}}\right)^2}{2 \cdot (125.66)^2}\right)\right) \cdot 250 \text{MPa}}{1.74}$$

12) Effective Length Factor

$$\text{fx } k = \frac{l}{l'}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(0fb13ad0bfa3d86868cdd3883e5665b3_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 0.75 = \frac{3000 \text{mm}}{4000 \text{mm}}$$



13) Factor for Unbraced Segment of any Cross-Section

$$\text{fx } C_c = \frac{1986.66}{\sqrt{F_y}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(d3fb9f94af8b26d1c844efa9a98805b0_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 125.6474 = \frac{1986.66}{\sqrt{250\text{MPa}}}$$

14) Safety Factor for Allowable Compressive Stress

$$\text{fx } F_s = \frac{5}{3} + \left(\frac{3 \cdot \left(\frac{k \cdot l}{r} \right)}{8 \cdot C_c} \right) - \left(\frac{\left(\frac{k \cdot l}{r} \right)^3}{8 \cdot C_c^3} \right)$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(e1d6102fe77919492c04879c8450f1f5_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 1.742756 = \frac{5}{3} + \left(\frac{3 \cdot \left(\frac{0.75 \cdot 3000\text{mm}}{87\text{mm}} \right)}{8 \cdot 125.66} \right) - \left(\frac{\left(\frac{0.75 \cdot 3000\text{mm}}{87\text{mm}} \right)^3}{8 \cdot (125.66)^3} \right)$$

15) Slenderness Ratio Used for Separation

$$\text{fx } C_c = \sqrt{\frac{2 \cdot (\pi^2) \cdot E_s}{F_y}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(ab4e2b3fc7e7887b7a72f548aa6f5e60_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 125.6637 = \sqrt{\frac{2 \cdot (\pi^2) \cdot 200000\text{MPa}}{250\text{MPa}}}$$



Allowable-Stress Design for Shear in Buildings

16) Allowable Shear Stress with Tension Field Action

fx**Open Calculator** 

$$F_v = \frac{F_y}{289} \cdot \left(C_v + \left(\frac{1 - C_v}{1.15 \cdot \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{a}{h} \right)^2}} \right) \right)$$

ex

$$0.853653\text{MPa} = \frac{250\text{MPa}}{289} \cdot \left(0.9 + \left(\frac{1 - 0.9}{1.15 \cdot \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{50\text{mm}}{900\text{mm}} \right)^2}} \right) \right)$$

17) Allowable Shear Stress without Tension Field Action

fx**Open Calculator** 

$$F_v = \frac{C_v \cdot F_y}{289}$$

ex

$$0.778547\text{MPa} = \frac{0.9 \cdot 250\text{MPa}}{289}$$



Variables Used

- **a** Spacing of Stiffeners (Millimeter)
- **A_f** Area of Compression Flange (Square Millimeter)
- **b_f** Width of Compression Flange (Millimeter)
- **C_b** Moment Gradient Factor
- **C_c** Factor for Allowable Stress Design
- **C_v** Stress Buckling Coefficient
- **d** Beam Depth (Millimeter)
- **E_s** Modulus of Elasticity of Steel (Megapascal)
- **F_a** Allowable Compression Stress (Megapascal)
- **F_b** Maximum Fiber Stress (Megapascal)
- **F_s** Safety Factor
- **F_v** Allowable Shear Stress (Megapascal)
- **F_y** Yield Stress of Steel (Megapascal)
- **h** Height of Web (Millimeter)
- **k** Effective Length Factor
- **l** Effective Column Length (Millimeter)
- **l'** Actual Unbraced Length (Millimeter)
- **l_{max}** Maximum Unbraced Length (Millimeter)
- **M₁** Smaller Beam End Moment (Kilonewton Meter)
- **M₂** Larger Beam End Moment (Kilonewton Meter)
- **Q** Simplifying Term for F_b
- **r** Radius of Gyration (Millimeter)



Constants, Functions, Measurements used

- **Constant:** **pi**, 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288
Archimedes' constant
- **Function:** **sqrt**, sqrt(Number)
A square root function is a function that takes a non-negative number as an input and returns the square root of the given input number.
- **Measurement:** **Length** in Millimeter (mm)
Length Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Area** in Square Millimeter (mm²)
Area Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Pressure** in Megapascal (MPa)
Pressure Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Moment of Force** in Kilonewton Meter (kN*m)
Moment of Force Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Stress** in Megapascal (MPa)
Stress Unit Conversion 



Check other formula lists

- **Allowable-Stress Design Formulas** 
- **Base and Bearing Plates Formulas** 
- **Cold Formed or Light Weighted Steel Structures Formulas** 

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