

Important Allowable-Stress Design Formulas PDF



**Formulas
Examples
with Units**

List of 17 Important Allowable-Stress Design Formulas

1) Allowable-Stress Design for Building Beams Formulas

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

Formula

$$F_b = \frac{12000 \cdot C_b}{\frac{I_{\max} \cdot d}{A_f}}$$

Example with Units

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

Evaluate Formula 

1.2) Allowable Stress given Simplifying Term between 0.2 and 1 Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

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

Evaluate Formula 

1.3) Allowable Stress when Simplifying Term Greater than 1 Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

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

Evaluate Formula 

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

Formula

$$F_b = 0.66 \cdot F_y$$

Example with Units

$$165 \text{ MPa} = 0.66 \cdot 250 \text{ MPa}$$

Evaluate Formula 

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

Formula

$$F_b = 0.60 \cdot F_y$$

Example with Units

$$150 \text{ MPa} = 0.60 \cdot 250 \text{ MPa}$$

Evaluate Formula 



1.6) Maximum Unsupported Length of Compression Flange-1 Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

$$21629.9792 \text{ mm} = \frac{76.0 \cdot 4500 \text{ mm}}{\sqrt{250 \text{ MPa}}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.7) Maximum Unsupported Length of Compression Flange-2 Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

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

Evaluate Formula 

1.8) Modifier for Moment Gradient Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

$$1.9609 = 1.75 + \left(1.05 \cdot \left(\frac{10 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m}}{52.5 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m}} \right) \right) + \left(0.3 \cdot \left(\frac{10 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m}}{52.5 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m}} \right)^2 \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.9) Simplifying Term for Allowable Stress Equations Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

$$0.1219 = \frac{\left(\frac{1921 \text{ mm}}{87 \text{ mm}} \right)^2 \cdot 250 \text{ MPa}}{510000 \cdot 1.960}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2) Allowable-Stress Design for Building Columns Formulas

2.1) Allowable Compressive Stress when Slenderness Ratio is Greater than Cc Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

$$1539.7727 \text{ MPa} = \frac{12 \cdot 3.1416^2 \cdot 200000 \text{ MPa}}{23 \cdot \left(\frac{0.75 \cdot 3000 \text{ mm}}{87 \text{ mm}} \right)^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 



2.2) Allowable Compressive Stress when Slenderness Ratio is Less than Cc Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

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

Evaluate Formula 

2.3) Effective Length Factor Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

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

Evaluate Formula 

2.4) Factor for Unbraced Segment of any Cross-Section Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

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

Evaluate Formula 

2.5) Safety Factor for Allowable Compressive Stress Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

$$1.7428 = \frac{5}{3} + \left(\frac{3 \cdot \left(\frac{0.75 \cdot 3000 \text{ mm}}{87 \text{ mm}}\right)}{8 \cdot 125.66}\right) - \left(\frac{\left(\frac{0.75 \cdot 3000 \text{ mm}}{87 \text{ mm}}\right)^3}{8 \cdot 125.66^3}\right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.6) Slenderness Ratio Used for Separation Formula

Formula

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

Example with Units

$$125.6637 = \sqrt{\frac{2 \cdot \left(3.1416^2\right) \cdot 200000 \text{ MPa}}{250 \text{ MPa}}}$$

Evaluate Formula 



3) Allowable-Stress Design for Shear in Buildings Formulas

3.1) Allowable Shear Stress with Tension Field Action Formula

Formula

Evaluate Formula 

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

Example with Units

$$0.8537 \text{ MPa} = \frac{250 \text{ MPa}}{289} \cdot \left(0.9 + \frac{1 - 0.9}{1.15 \cdot \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{50 \text{ mm}}{900 \text{ mm}} \right)^2}} \right)$$

3.2) Allowable Shear Stress without Tension Field Action Formula

Formula

Example with Units

Evaluate Formula 

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

$$0.7785 \text{ MPa} = \frac{0.9 \cdot 250 \text{ MPa}}{289}$$



Variables used in list of Allowable-Stress Design Formulas above

- **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 Fb
- **r** Radius of Gyration (Millimeter)

Constants, Functions, Measurements used in list of Allowable-Stress Design Formulas above

- **constant(s):** pi, 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288
Archimedes' constant
- **Functions:** 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 



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7/9/2024 | 6:31:42 AM UTC

