

HYDRONIC FORMULAS

COMPUTING FLOW FROM BTU/h

Simplified formula	$GPM = BTU/h \div (\Delta t \times 500)$
Example: Determine the flow of 286,000 BTU/h at a 20°F differential temperature.	$GPM = 286,000 \div (20 \times 500)$ $GPM = 286,000 \div 10,000$ $GPM = 28.6$

CALCULATING ACTIVE LOOP LENGTH

Note: The leader length must be added to the active loop length in order to obtain the total loop length.	Room ft ² x 1.0 = active loop at 12" o.c. Room ft ² x 1.2 = active loop at 10" o.c. Room ft ² x 1.33 = active loop at 9" o.c. Room ft ² x 1.5 = active loop at 8" o.c. Room ft ² x 1.7 = active loop at 7" o.c. Room ft ² x 2.0 = active loop at 6" o.c.
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AMOUNT OF JOIST TRAK™ PANELS (A5080375, A5080500)

Active loop length x 0.2125

AMOUNT OF QUIK TRAK™ PANELS (A5060701) AND RETURNS (A5060702)

Room ft² x 0.386 (panels)
Room ft² x 0.386 (panels)

AMOUNT OF PEX CLIPS (F7060375, F7051258, F7057500, F7051001)

Active Loop Length ÷ 3

FLOOR SURFACE TEMPERATURE

(BTU/h/ ft² ÷ 2.0) + Room setpoint

SUPPLY FLUID TEMP. AFTER FIRST INJECTION POINT ON PRIMARY LOOP

$$(F_A \times T_A) + (F_B \times T_B) = (F_C \times T_C)$$

F_A = Primary flow rate after injection leg
 F_B = Flow rate for return injection leg
 F_C = Primary flow rate after return leg
 T_A = Primary temp. after injection leg
 T_B = Return temp. on return injection leg
 T_C = Primary temp. after return leg

Example: Given the detail above, calculate the primary loop (boiler loop) temperature after the first injection location.

$(7 \times 180) + (3 \times 160) = 10x$
 $1260 + 480 = 10x$
 $1740 = 10x$
The primary loop temperature after the first injection location is 174°F.

INJECTION PUMP FLOW RATES

$$F_V = (F_1 \times T_D) \div (T_1 - T_R)$$

F_V = Flow rate (injection loop) in gpm
 F_1 = Radiant (secondary loop) flow rate in gpm
 T_1 = Boiler (primary loop) supply temp.
 T_2 = Radiant (secondary loop) supply temp.
 T_R = Radiant (secondary loop) return temp.
 T_D = Radiant (secondary loop) differential temp.

Example: If values at design condition are:

$F_1 = 30$ gpm
 $T_1 = 180^\circ\text{F}$
 $T_2 = 130^\circ\text{F}$
 $T_R = 120^\circ\text{F}$
 $T_D = 10^\circ\text{F}$

Find the injection pump flow rate.

$$F_V = (30 \times 10) \div (180 - 120)$$

$$F_V = (300) \div (60)$$

$$F_V = 5$$
 gpm

LOADED FOR MOTORIZED VALVE ACTUATORS (MVA)

Computed at a minimum 10% line loss

MVA draw: 0.29 amps
Amps x volts = current
 $0.29 \times 24 = 6.96$ VA per MVA

Example:

$50 \text{ VA} \div 6.96 \text{ VA} = 7.18 \times 0.9 = 6.5$ (10%)
6 MVA per 50 VA transformer
40VAC transformer = 5 MVA
50VAC transformer = 6 MVA
75VAC transformer = 9 MVA
100VAC transformer = 12 MVA

LOADED FOR THERMAL ACTUATORS (TA)

Computed at a minimum 10% line loss

TA initial draw: 0.1458 amps
Amps x volts = current
 $0.1458 \times 24 = 3.5$ VA per TA

Example:

$50 \text{ VA} \div 3.5 \text{ VA} = 14.29$
 $14.29 \times 0.9 = 12.83$ (10% reduction)
12 TAs per 50 VA transformer
40VAC transformer = 10 TA
50VAC transformer = 12 TA
75VAC transformer = 19 TA
100VAC transformer = 25 TA

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HYDRONIC FORMULAS

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LOADED FOR THERMAL ACTUATORS (TA)

Computed at a minimum 10% line loss

Fuel consumption based on degree day:

$$F = \frac{HL \times 24 \times DD}{E \times P \times TD}$$

HL = Heating load (BTU/h)

24 = Hours in a day

DD = Degree day

E = Boiler efficiency (AFUE)

P = Heating value of fuel (BTU)

TD = Temperature differential

F = Annual fuel consumption

Example: A 40,000 square-foot hangar in Bangor, Maine using an 82% AFUE oil boiler (Number 2 fuel oil). The heat load for the hangar is 1,288,128 BTU/h at design. Outside design temperature is -11°F with an indoor setpoint temperature of 65°F. Number 2 fuel oil is priced at \$0.80 per gallon.

$$F = \frac{1,288,128 \times 24 \times 8,220}{0.82 \times 138,000 \times 76}$$

$$F = \frac{254,121,891.840}{8,662,480}$$

F = 29,335.93 gallons of fuel oil

F = 29,335.93 x 0.80 = \$23,469/season

FUEL COMPARISON IN BTU

Natural Gas	100,000 BTU per 1 CCF (1 therm.)
Propane	91,800 BTU per gallon
No. 2 Fuel Oil	139,000 BTU per gallon
Kerosene	134,000 BTU per gallon
Electric	3,412 BTU per Kilowatt Hour (KWH)
Wood	14,000,000 BTU per cord (mixed)

SUPPLY AND RETURN PIPE SIZING (AT A 10°F Δt)

Tubing	BTU/h	GPM	Pipe Size (in.)
Copper	10K - 20K	2-4	¾"
	20K - 45K	4-9	1"
	30K - 80K	6-16	1 ¼"
	50K - 105K	10-21	1 ½"
	100K - 225K	20-45	2"
Multi-layer Composite (MLC)	10K - 20K	2-4	¾"
	20K - 45K	4-8	1"
PEX (Wirsbo hePEX™ and Uponor AquaPEX®)	2.5K - 10K	0.5-2	½"
	5K - 15K	1-3	¾"
	15K - 25K	3-5	1"
	20K - 45K	4-9	1 ¼"
	30K - 70K	6-14	1 ½"
High-density Polyethylene (HDPE)	75K - 205K	15-41	2"
	150K - 575K	30-115	3"
	250K - 1,125K	50-225	4"

BOILER MAIN PIPE SIZING (AT A 20°F Δt)

Tubing	BTU/h	GPM	Pipe Size (in.)
Copper	20K - 40K	2-4	¾"
	40K - 90K	4-9	1"
	60K - 160K	6-16	1 ¼"
	100K - 210K	10-21	1 ½"
	200K - 450K	20-45	2"