



Common Pump Formula

Product

Viscosity

$$v = \frac{\mu}{p}$$

where:

v = Kinematic viscosity (mm^2/s)
 μ = Absolute viscosity (mPas)
 p = fluid density (kg/m^3)

Or

$$v = \frac{\mu}{SG}$$

where:

v = Kinematic viscosity (cSt)
 μ = Absolute viscosity (cP)
 SG = specific gravity

Or

$$\mu = v \times SG$$

where:

1 poise = 100 cP
 1 stoke = 100 cSt

Flow

Velocity

$$V = \frac{Q}{A}$$

where:

V = fluid velocity (m/s)
 Q = capacity (m^3/s)
 A = tube area (m^2)

Or

$$V = \frac{Q \times 353.6}{D^2}$$

where:

V = fluid velocity (m/s)
 Q = capacity (m^3/h)
 D = tube diameter (mm)

Or

$$V = \frac{Q \times 0.409}{D^2}$$

where:

V = fluid velocity (ft/s)
 Q = capacity (US gal/min)
 D = tube diameter (in)

Reynolds Number

(ratio of inertia forces to viscous forces)

$$Re = \frac{D \times V \times \rho}{\mu}$$

where:

D = tube diameter (m)
 V = fluid velocity (m/s)
 ρ = density (kg/m^3)
 μ = Absolute viscosity (Pas)

Or

$$Re = \frac{D \times V \times \rho}{\mu}$$

D = tube diameter (mm)
 V = fluid velocity (m/s)
 ρ = density (kg/m^3)
 μ = Absolute viscosity (cP)

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Or

$$Re = \frac{21230 \times Q}{D \times \mu}$$

where:

D = tube diameter (mm)

Q = capacity (l/min)

μ = Absolute viscosity (cP)

Or

$$Re = \frac{3162 \times Q}{D \times \nu}$$

where:

D = tube diameter (in)

Q = capacity (US gal/min)

ν = Kinematic viscosity (cSt)

Pressure/Head

Pressure

(total force per unit area exerted by a fluid)

$$P = \frac{F}{A}$$

where:

F = Force

A = Area

Static Pressure/Head

(relationship between pressure and elevation)

$$P = \rho \times g \times h$$

where:

P = Pressure head (Pa)

ρ = density (kg/m³)

g = acceleration due to gravity (m/s²)

h = height of fluid (m)

Or

$$P = \frac{h \times SG}{10}$$

where:

P = Pressure head (bar)

h = height of fluid (m)

SG = specific gravity

Or

$$P = \frac{h \times SG}{2.31}$$

where:

P = Pressure head (psi)

h = height of fluid (ft)

SG = specific gravity

Total Head

$$H = H_t - (\pm H_s)$$

where:

H_t = total discharge head

H_s = total suction head

Total Discharge Head

$$H_t = h_t + h_{ft} + p_t$$

where:

h_t = static discharge head

h_{ft} = pressure drop in discharge line

p_t > 0 for pressure

p_t < 0 for vacuum

p_t = 0 for open tank

Total Suction Head

$$H_s = h_s + h_{fs} + (\pm p_s)$$

where:

h_s = static suction head

> 0 for flooded section

< 0 for flooded section

h_{fs} = pressure drop in suction line

p_s > 0 for pressure

p_s < 0 for vacuum

p_s = 0 for open tank

Friction Loss
(Miller equation)

$$Pf = \frac{f_D \times L \times \rho \times V^2}{D \times 2}$$

where:
Pf = friction loss (Pa)
f_D = friction factor (Darcy)
L = tube length (m)
V = fluid viscosity (m/s)
ρ = density (kg/m³)
D = tube diameter (m)

Or

$$Pf = \frac{5 \times SG \times f_D \times L \times V^2}{D}$$

where:
Pf = friction loss (bar)
f_D = friction factor (Darcy)
L = tube length (m)
V = fluid viscosity (m/s)
SG = specific gravity
D = tube diameter (mm)

Or

$$Pf = \frac{0.0823 \times SG \times f_D \times L \times V^2}{D}$$

where:
Pf = friction loss (psi)
f_D = friction factor (Darcy)
L = tube length (ft)
V = fluid viscosity (ft/s)
SG = specific gravity
D = tube diameter (in)

Darcy Friction Factor

$$f_D = \frac{64}{Re}$$

where:
f_D = friction factor (Darcy)
Re = Reynolds number

NPSHa
(Net Positive Suction Head available)

$$NPSHa = Pa \pm h_s - h_{fs} - Pvp$$

(+h_s for flooded section)
(-h_s for suction lift)

where:
Pa = pressure absolute above fluid level (bar)
h_s = static suction head (m)
h_{fs} = pressure drop in suction line (m)
Pvp = vapor pressure (bar a)
Or
Pa = pressure absolute above fluid level (psi)
h_s = static suction head (ft)
h_{fs} = pressure drop in suction line (ft)
Pvp = vapor pressure (psia)