

NFPA

13

INSTALLATION OF  
**SPRINKLER  
SYSTEMS**  
**1978**



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## **Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems**

**NFPA 13 — 1978**

This 1978 edition of NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Automatic Sprinklers, and was adopted by the Association on November 15, 1978 at its Fall Meeting in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, with amendments to paragraphs 3-1.1.2, 3-1.1.3, 3-1.1.5, 3-1.1.6 and Table 3-1.1.6. Pursuant to the Regulations Governing Committee Projects, the Technical Committee was balloted on the amendments and voted not to approve the amendments. (The Correlating Committee on Water Extinguishing Systems voted to release the action of the Technical Committee.) The Standards Council released the Committee Report without the amendments on January 25, 1979.

This edition of the standard is a revision of the 1976 edition.

Changes other than editorial are denoted by a vertical line in the margin of the pages in which they appear.

### **Origin and Development of NFPA 13**

This standard was first printed under the direction of the Committee on Automatic Sprinklers in 1896 and since that date has been continuously revised to keep it up to date.

Full information as to the NFPA actions on various changes will be found in the NFPA Proceedings. The dates of successive editions are as follows: 1896, 1899, 1902, 1905, 1907, 1908, 1910, 1912, 1913, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929. In 1930 a separate standard was published on so-called Class B systems. This was integrated in the 1931 edition. Further revisions were adopted in 1934, 1935 and 1936. A complete revision was presented in the form of a progress report in 1939 and finally adopted in 1940. Further amendments were made in 1947, 1950, 1953, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, and 1978.

The 1976 edition of this standard was approved by the American National Standards Institute as an American National Standard. The 1978 edition will be submitted for similar approval.

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# Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems

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NOTICE: An asterisk (\*) following the number or letter designating a subdivision indicates explanatory material on that subdivision in Appendix A.

Information on referenced publications can be found in Appendix E.

## Chapter 1 General Information

**1-1 Scope.** This standard is the minimum for the installation of sprinkler systems for fire protection in buildings and for the character and adequacy of water supplies to sprinkler systems.

NOTE: Consult other NFPA standards for additional requirements relating to water supplies.

**1-2 Purpose.** The purpose of this standard is to provide a reasonable degree of protection for life and property from fire through installation requirements for sprinkler systems based upon sound engineering principles, test data, and field experience. The standard endeavors to continue the excellent record that has been established by standard sprinkler systems and meet the needs of changing technology.

NOTE: A sprinkler system is a specialized fire protection system and requires knowledgeable and experienced design and installation.

**1-3 Definition of a Sprinkler System.** A sprinkler system, for fire protection purposes, is an integrated system of underground and overhead piping designed in accordance with fire protection engineering standards. The installation includes a water supply, such as a gravity tank, fire pump, reservoir or pressure tank and/or connection by underground piping to a city main. The portion of the sprinkler system above ground is a network of specially sized or hydraulically designed piping installed in a building, structure or area, generally overhead, and to which sprinklers are connected in a systematic pattern. The system includes a controlling valve and a device for actuating an alarm when the system is in operation. The system is usually activated by heat from a fire and discharges water over the fire area.

NOTE: The design and installation of water supply facilities such as gravity tanks, fire pumps, reservoirs or pressure tanks, and underground piping are covered by the following NFPA standards: NFPA 22, *Water Tanks For Private Fire Protection*; NFPA 20, *Installation of Centrifugal Fire Pumps*; and NFPA 24, *Outside Protection*. (See Appendix E.)

**1-4 Other Publications.** A selected list of other publications related to the installation of sprinkler systems is published at the end of this standard.

### **1-5 Maintenance.**

**1-5.1\*** A sprinkler system installed under this standard shall be properly maintained for efficient service. The owner is responsible for the condition of his sprinkler system and shall use due diligence in keeping the system in good operating condition.

**1-5.2** The installing contractor shall provide the owner with:

(a) Instruction charts describing operation and proper maintenance of sprinkler devices.

(b) Publication entitled *Care and Maintenance of Sprinkler Systems*, NFPA 13A. (See Appendix E.)

### **1-6 Classification of Sprinkler Systems.**

**1-6.1** This standard covers automatic sprinkler systems of the types listed below, also systems of outside sprinklers for protection against exposure fires covered specifically in Chapter 6. Manually operated deluge systems, used for certain special hazard conditions, are not specifically covered in this standard but certain provisions of this standard will be found applicable.

Wet-Pipe Systems (See Section 5-1.)

Dry-Pipe Systems (See Section 5-2.)

Pre-Action Systems (See Section 5-3.)

Deluge Systems (See Section 5-3.)

Combined Dry-Pipe and Pre-Action Systems (See Section 5-4.)

**Sprinkler Systems — Special Types.** Special purpose systems employing departures from the requirements of this standard, such as special water supplies and reduced pipe sizing, shall be installed in accordance with their listing.

## **1-7 Classification of Occupancies.**

**1-7.1** Occupancy classifications for this standard relate to sprinkler installations and their water supplies only. They are not intended to be a general classification of occupancy hazards.

### **1-7.2 Light Hazard Occupancies.**

**1-7.2.1\*** **Light Hazard.** Occupancies or portions of other occupancies where the quantity and/or combustibility of contents is low and fires with relatively low rates of heat release are expected.

### **1-7.3 Ordinary Hazard Occupancies.**

**1-7.3.1\*** **Ordinary Hazard (Group 1).** Occupancies or portions of other occupancies where combustibility is low, quantity of combustibles is moderate, stock piles of combustibles do not exceed 8 ft (2.4 m) and fires with moderate rates of heat release are expected.

**1-7.3.2\*** **Ordinary Hazard (Group 2).** Occupancies or portions of other occupancies where quantity and combustibility of contents is moderate, stock piles do not exceed 12 ft (3.7 m) and fires with moderate rate of heat release are expected.

**1-7.3.3\*** **Ordinary Hazard (Group 3).** Occupancies or portions of other occupancies where quantity and/or combustibility of contents is high, and fires of high rate of heat release are expected.

### **1-7.4\* Extra Hazard Occupancies.**

**1-7.4.1\*** Extra hazard occupancies or portions of other occupancies where quantity and combustibility of contents is very high, flammable and combustible liquids, dust, lint or other materials are present introducing the probability of rapidly developing fires with high rates of heat release.

## **1-8 Design and Installation.**

### **1-8.1\* Devices and Materials.**

**1-8.1.1** Only new sprinklers shall be employed in the installation of sprinkler systems.

**1-8.1.2\*** When a sprinkler system is installed only approved materials and devices shall be used.

**1-8.1.3** Sprinkler systems shall be designed for a maximum working pressure of 175 psi (12.1 bars).

*Exception: Higher design pressures may be used when all system components are rated for pressures higher than 175 psi (12.1 bars).*

**1-8.1.3.1** Interior system components subject to pressure shall be designed for a working pressure not less than 175 psi (12.1 bars).

### **1-9\* Working Plans.**

**1-9.1** Working plans shall be submitted for approval to the authority having jurisdiction before any equipment is installed or remodeled. Deviation from approved plans will require permission of the authority having jurisdiction.

**1-9.2\*** Working plans shall be drawn to an indicated scale, on sheets of uniform size, with plan of each floor, made so that they can be easily duplicated, and show the following data:

- (a) Name of owner and occupant
- (b) Location, including street address
- (c) Point of compass
- (d) Ceiling construction
- (e) Full height cross section
- (f) Location of fire walls
- (g) Location of partitions
- (h) Occupancy of each area or room
- (i) Location and size of blind spaces and closets, see 4-4.3 to 4-4.17 inclusive, except 4-4.5 and 4-4.6
- (j) Any questionable small enclosures in which no sprinklers are to be installed
- (k) Size of city main in street, pressure and whether dead-end or circulating and if dead-end, direction and distance to nearest circulating main, city main test results (*See B-2-1.*)
- (l) Other sources of water supply, with pressure or elevation
- (m) Make, type and orifice size of sprinkler
- (n) Temperature rating and location of high temperature sprinklers
- (o) Number of sprinklers on each riser and on each system by floors and total area protected by each system on each floor

- (p) Number of sprinklers on each riser and total per floor
- (q) Make, type, model and size of alarm or dry-pipe valve
- (r) Make, type, model and size of pre-action or deluge valve
- (s) Kind and location of alarm bells
- (t) Total number of sprinklers on each dry-pipe system or pre-action deluge system
- (u) Approximate capacity in gallons of each dry-pipe system
- (v) Cutting lengths of pipe (or center to center dimensions)

NOTE: Where typical branch lines prevail, it will be necessary to size only one line.

- (w) Type of fittings, riser nipples and size, and all welds and bends
- (x) Type of hangers, inserts and sleeves
- (y) All control valves, checks, drain pipes and test pipes
- (z) Small hand hose and hose equipment
- (aa) Underground pipe size, length, location, weight, material, point of connection to city main; the type of valves, meters, and valve pits; and the depth that top of the pipe is laid below grade
- (bb) Provision for flushing (*See 3-8.2.*)
- (cc) When the equipment to be installed is an addition to an old group of sprinklers without additional feed from the yard system, enough of the old system shall be indicated on the plans to show the total number of sprinklers to be supplied and to make all conditions clear.
- (dd) Name and address of contractor.

**1-10 Approval of Sprinkler Systems.** Before asking final approval of automatic sprinkler equipment by the authority having jurisdiction the installing company shall furnish a written statement to the effect that the work covered by its contract has been completed and tested in accordance with the approved specifications and plans. (*See Section 1-12.*)

## **1-11 Acceptance Tests.**

**1-11.1 Performance.** All tests required by this standard for new work shall be performed by the installer. When the authority having jurisdiction desires to be present during the conduct of tests, the installer shall give the authority having jurisdiction advance notification of time tests will be performed. When the representative of authority having jurisdiction is not available and permission is granted by that authority, tests may be witnessed by the owner or his representative and the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate (*see Section 1-12*) shall be completed and forwarded to the authority having jurisdiction.

### 1-11.2\* Flushing of Underground Connections.

1-11.2.1 Underground mains and lead-in connections to system risers shall be flushed before connection is made to sprinkler piping in order to remove foreign materials which may have entered the underground during the course of the installation. For all systems, the flushing operation shall be continued until water is clear.

1-11.2.2 Underground mains and lead-in connections shall be flushed at a flow rate not less than indicated in Table 1-11.2.2 or at the hydraulically calculated water demand rate of the system, whichever is greater.

Table 1-11.2.2

Pipe Size	Flow Rate	L/min.
4 inch	400 GPM	1514
5 inch	600 GPM	2271
6 inch	750 GPM	2839
8 inch	1000 GPM	3785
10 inch	1500 GPM	5688
12 inch	2000 GPM	7570

*Exception No. 1: When the water supply will not produce the stipulated flow rate, connections to a hydraulically designed system may be flushed at the demand rate of the system, including hose streams if hose or hydrants or both are supplied from that connection.*

*Exception No. 2: For pipe schedule systems, when the water supply will not produce the stipulated flow rate, the maximum flow rate available shall be used.*

1-11.2.3 Provision shall be made for the disposal of water issuing from test outlets to avoid property damage.

### 1-11.3 Hydrostatic Tests.

1-11.3.1\* **Test Pressure.** All new systems including yard piping shall be tested hydrostatically at not less than 200 lbs per sq in. (13.8 bars) pressure for two hours, or at 50 lbs per sq in. (3.4 bars) in excess of the maximum static pressure when the maximum static pressure is in excess of 150 lbs per sq in. (10.3 bars).

1-11.3.2 The hydrostatic test pressure shall be measured at the low point of the individual system or zone being tested.

**1-11.3.3\* Permissible Leakage.** The inside sprinkler piping shall be installed in such a manner that there will be no visible leakage when the system is subjected to the hydrostatic pressure test. Refer to NFPA 24, *Standard for Outside Protection*, for permissible leakage in underground piping. (See *Appendix E*.) The amount of leakage may be measured by pumping from a calibrated container.

**1-11.3.4 Fire Department Connection.** Piping between the check valve in the fire department inlet pipe and the outside connection shall be tested the same as the balance of the system.

**1-11.3.5 Corrosive Chemicals.** Brine or other corrosive chemicals shall not be used for testing systems.

**1-11.3.6 Test Blanks.** Whenever a test blank is used it shall be of the self-indicating type. Test blanks shall have red painted lugs protruding beyond the flange in such a way as to clearly indicate their presence. The installer shall have all test blanks numbered so as to keep track of their use and assure their removal after the work is completed.

#### **1-11.4 Tests of Dry-Pipe Systems.**

**1-11.4.1 Hydrostatic Test.** New dry-pipe systems shall be tested hydrostatically as specified in 1-11.3 except that, at seasons of the year which will not permit testing with water, an interim test shall be conducted with air pressure of at least 40 lbs per sq in. (2.8 bars) allowed to stand 24 hours. The standard hydrostatic test shall be conducted when weather permits. The clapper of a differential-type dry-pipe valve shall be held off its seat during any test at a pressure in excess of 50 lbs per sq in. (3.4 bars) to prevent damaging the valve.

**1-11.4.2 Air Test.** In dry-pipe systems an air pressure of 40 lbs per sq in. (2.8 bars) shall be pumped up, allowed to stand 24 hours, and all leaks which allow a loss of pressure over 1½ lbs per sq in. (0.1 bars) for the 24 hours shall be stopped.

**1-11.4.3 Operating Test of Dry-Pipe Valve.** A working test of the dry-pipe valve alone and with quick opening device, if installed, shall be made before acceptance.

**1-11.5 Tests of Drainage Facilities.** Tests of drainage facilities shall be made while the control valve is wide open. The main drain valve shall be opened and remain open until the system pressure stabilizes. (See 2-9.1.)

## 1-12 Contractor's Material and Test Certificate.

### Part "A" General

#### PROCEDURE

Upon completion of work, inspection and tests shall be made by the contractor's representative and witnessed by an owner's representative. All defects shall be corrected and system left in service before contractor's men finally leave the job.

A certificate shall be filled out and signed by both representatives. Copies shall be prepared for approving authorities, owners, and contractor. It is understood the owner's representative's signature in no way prejudices any claim against contractor for faulty material, poor workmanship, or failure to comply with approving authority's requirements or local ordinances.

Property name ..... Date .....

Property address .....

#### PLANS

Accepted by approving authority(s) names .....

Address .....

Installation conforms to accepted plans: Yes ☐ No ☐

Equipment used is approved Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, state deviations .....

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Has person in charge of fire equipment been instructed as to location of control valves and care and maintenance of this new equipment? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, give name .....

If no, explain .....

Have copies of appropriate instructions and care and maintenance charts and NFPA 13A been left on premises? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, give name .....

If no, explain .....

#### TEST DESCRIPTION

**Flushing.** Flow the required rate until water is clear as indicated by no collection of foreign material in burlap bags at outlets such as hydrants and blow-offs.

Flush at flows not less than 400 GPM (1514 L/min) for 4-inch pipe, 600 GPM (2271 L/min) for 5-inch pipe, 750 GPM (2839 L/min) for 6-inch pipe, 1000 GPM (3785 L/min) for 8-inch pipe, 1500 GPM (5678 L/min) for 10-inch pipe and 2000 GPM (7570 L/min) for 12-inch pipe. When supply cannot produce stipulated flow rates, obtain maximum available.

**Hydrostatic.** Hydrostatic tests shall be made at not less than 200 psi (13.8 bars) for two hours or 50 psi (3.4 bars) above static pressure in excess of 150 psi (10.3 bars). Differential dry-pipe valve clappers shall be left open during test to prevent damage. All aboveground piping leakage shall be stopped.

**Leakage.** New pipe laid with rubber gasketed joints shall, if the workmanship is satisfactory, have little or no leakage at the joints. The amount of leakage at the joints shall not exceed 2 qts per hr (1.89 L/h) per 100 joints irrespective of pipe diameter. The leakage shall be distributed over all joints. If such leakage occurs at a few joints the installation shall be considered unsatisfactory and necessary repairs made.



New pipe laid with caulked lead or lead-substitute joints shall, if the workmanship is satisfactory, have little or no leakage at the joints. Any joint having leakage of more than a "slight drip" or "weeping" shall be repaired. Leakage shall not exceed 1 oz (liquid measure) per hr per in. (30 mL/25 mm/h) of pipe diameter per joint. The leakage shall be distributed over all joints. If such leakage occurs almost entirely at a few joints, the installation shall be considered unsatisfactory and necessary repairs made.

**Pneumatic.** Establish 40 psi (2.8 bars) air pressure and measure drop which shall not exceed 1 ½ psi (0.1 bars) in 24 hours. Test pressure tanks at normal water level and air pressure and measure air pressure drop which shall not exceed 1 ½ psi (0.1 bars) in 24 hours.

## Part "B" Underground Piping

### LOCATION

Feeds bldgs .....

### UNDERGROUND PIPES AND JOINTS

Pipe types and class ..... Type joint .....

Conforms to ..... Standard Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, explain .....

Joints needing anchorage clamped, strapped, or backed in accordance with ..... Standard Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, explain .....

### TESTS REQUIRED

#### Flushing Tests

New underground piping flushed according to ..... Standard Yes ☐  
by (Company) .....

How flushing flow was obtained:

Public water ☐ Tank or reservoir ☐ Fire pump ☐

Through what type opening: Hydrant butt ☐ Open pipe ☐

Lead-ins flushed according to ..... Standard Yes ☐

By (Company) .....

How flushing flow was obtained:

Public water ☐ Tank or reservoir ☐ Fire pump ☐

Through what type opening: Y conn. to flange & spigot ☐ Open pipe ☐

#### Hydrostatic Test

All new underground piping hydrostatically tested at ..... psi. For ..... hours

#### Leakage Test

Total amount of leakage measured ..... gals ..... hours

Allowable leakage ..... gals ..... hours

### HYDRANTS

Number installed ..... Type and Make .....

All operate satisfactorily Yes ☐ No ☐

**CONTROL VALVES**

Water control valves left wide open:

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, state reason .....

Hose threads of fire department connections and hydrants interchangeable with those of fire department answering alarm?

Yes ☐ No ☐**REMARKS**

Date left in service .....

**PARTS A AND B SIGNATURES**

Name of sprinkler contractor .....

For sprinkler contractor (signed) ..... Date .....

For property owner (signed) ..... Title .....

Tests Witnessed By ....., Title ....., Date .....

**Part "C" Sprinkler and Water Spray Aboveground Piping**

(Fill out separate Part "C" for each riser)

**LOCATION**

Serves buildings: .....

**TESTS REQUIRED**

Hydrostatic: all piping.

Pneumatic: dry piping.

Equipment operation: all

Drain: .....

**SPRINKLERS OR SPRAY NOZZLES**

Make	Model	Size	Quantity	Temperature Rating
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

**PIPE AND FITTINGS**

Material and kind conforms to ..... Standard

If none, explain .....

**ALARM VALVE OR FLOW INDICATOR**

ALARM DEVICE			MAXIMUM TIME TO OPERATE THROUGH TEST PIPE	
Type	Make	Model	Min	Sec
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

**DRY-PIPE VALVES**

Operating Test Results: Make ..... Model ..... Serial No. ....

Time to Trip Through  
Test Pipe

Without Q.O.D		With Q.O.D		Water Pressure PSI	Air Pressure PSI	Trip Point  Air Pressure PSI	Time Water Reached Test Outlet		
Min	Sec	Min	Sec				Min	Sec	

Alarm operated properly?

Yes ☐No ☐

If no, explain .....

**DELUGE AND PRE-ACTION VALVES**Operation: Pneumatic ☐ Electric ☐ Hydraulic ☐Piping supervised: Yes ☐ No ☐Detecting media supervised: Yes ☐ No ☐

Does valve operate from the manual trip and/or remote control stations?

Yes ☐No ☐

Is there an accessible facility in each circuit for testing?

Yes ☐No ☐

If no, explain .....

Make ..... Model .....

Does each circuit operate supervision loss alarm?

Yes ☐No ☐

Does each circuit operate valve release?

Yes ☐No ☐

Maximum time to operate release: Min ..... Sec .....

**TESTS**

All piping hydrostatically tested at ..... PSI for ..... hours

Dry piping pneumatically tested: Yes ☐ No ☐Equipment operates properly: Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, state reason .....

Drain test:

Reading of gage located near water supply test pipe:

Static pressure ..... PSI

Residual pressure with valve in test pipe open wide:

..... PSI

**TEST BLANKS**

Number used ..... Locations ..... Number removed .....

**WELDED OR BRAZED PIPING**Yes ☐No ☐

If yes, do you certify as the sprinkler contractor that the welders or brazers are qualified for welding or brazing in accordance with the requirements of ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section IX, Qualification Standard for Welding and Brazing Procedures, Welders, Brazers, and Welding and Brazing Operators - 1968 Edition.

Yes ☐No ☐**REMARKS**

Date left in service with all control valves open .....

**PART C SIGNATURES**

Name of sprinkler contractor .....  
 For sprinkler contractor (signed) .....  
 For property owner (signed) ..... Title.....  
 Tests Witnessed By ..... Title....., Date.....

**1-13 Operation of Sprinkler System Control Valves by Contractors.** When work on a sprinkler system requires that a contractor operate a valve controlling water supplies to a sprinkler system, the contractor shall inform the owner so that the owner may follow his normal valve supervision procedure.

**1-14 Units.** Metric units of measurement in this standard are in accordance with the modernized metric system known as the International System of Units (SI). Two units (litre and bar), outside of but recognized by SI, are commonly used in international fire protection. These units are listed in Table 1-14 with conversion factors.

**Table 1-14**

Name of Unit	Unit Symbol	Conversion Factor
litre	L	1 gal = 3.785 L
litre per minute per square metre	(L/min)/m <sup>2</sup>	1 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> = 40.746 (L/min)/m <sup>2</sup>
millimetre per minute	1 mm/min	1 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> = 40.746 mm/min
cubic decimetre	dm <sup>3</sup>	1 gal = 3.785 dm <sup>3</sup>
pascal	Pa	1 psi = 6894.757 Pa
bar	bar	1 psi = 0.0689 bar
bar	bar	1 bar = 10 <sup>5</sup> Pa

For additional conversions and information see ASTM E380, *Standard for Metric Practice*. (See Appendix E.)

**1-14.1** If a value for measurement as given in this standard is followed by an equivalent value in other units, the first stated is to be regarded as the requirement. A given equivalent value may be approximate.

**1-14.2** The conversion procedure for the SI units has been to multiply the quantity by the conversion factor and then round the result to the appropriate number of significant digits.

## Chapter 2 Water Supplies

**2-1\* General Provisions.** Every automatic sprinkler system shall have at least one automatic water supply.

**2-2\* Water Supply Requirements for Sprinkler Systems.**

**2-2.1 Water Supply Requirement Tables.**

**2-2.1.1\* Water Supply Requirement Tables** shall be used in determining the minimum water supply requirements for light, ordinary and extra hazard occupancies.

(a) Table 2-2.1(A) is used to determine the minimum volume of water and pressure normally required for a pipe schedule sprinkler system. **THE TABLE IS TO BE USED ONLY WITH EXPERIENCED JUDGMENT.**

(b) Table 2-2.1(B) is used to determine sprinkler discharge density and corresponding area of sprinkler operation and water supply requirements for hydraulically designed sprinkler systems. System piping shall be calculated to satisfy a single point on the appropriate design curve. It is not necessary to meet all points on the selected curve. Total water supply available to the sprinkler system at the base of the riser at the residual pressure required by the design shall be not less than shown in Table 2-2.1(B), but this total water supply requirement need not be calculated through the overhead piping. *(See Chapter 7.)*

**2-2.1.2** The following shall be used in applying Table 2-2.1(B):

**2-2.1.2.1** The lower duration figure is ordinarily acceptable where remote station water flow alarm service or equivalent is provided.

**2-2.1.2.2** When pumps, gravity tanks or pressure tanks supply sprinklers only, requirements for inside and outside hose need not be considered in determining the size of such pumps or tanks.

**2-2.1.2.3** Calculations shall be based upon the area of sprinkler operation selected from Table 2-2.1(B) or upon the area of the largest room. Such a room shall be enclosed with construction having a fire resistance rating equal to the water supply duration indicated in Table 2-2.1(B) with minimum protection of openings as follows:

- (a) Light Hazard — automatic or self-closing doors.

*Exception: When openings are not protected, calculations shall include the sprinklers in the room plus two sprinklers in the communicating space nearest each such unprotected opening unless the communicating space has only one sprinkler in which case calculations shall be extended to the operation of that sprinkler.*

- (b) Ordinary and Extra Hazard — automatic or self-closing doors with appropriate fire resistance ratings for the enclosure.

**2-2.1.2.4** For areas of sprinkler operation less than 1500 sq ft (139 m<sup>2</sup>), the density for 1500 sq ft (139 m<sup>2</sup>) shall be used.

**2-2.1.2.5** For dry-pipe systems increase area of sprinkler operation by 30 percent without revising density.

**2-2.1.2.6\*** For construction having unsprinklered combustible concealed spaces, as described in 4-4.4, the minimum area of sprinkler operation shall be 3000 sq ft (279 m<sup>2</sup>).

**2-2.1.2.7** For hazard classifications other than those indicated see appropriate NFPA standards for design criteria.

**2-2.1.3\*** Water demand for hydraulically designed systems for protecting extra hazard occupancies or extra hazard portions of other occupancies shall be determined by the authority having jurisdiction.

*Exception: When other NFPA standards have developed sprinkler system design criteria, they shall take precedence.*

**2-2.1.4 Classification of Occupancy.** Occupancy classification in Tables 2-2.1(A) and 2-2.1(B) shall be determined from Section 1-7.

## **2-3 Connections to Water Works Systems.**

### **2-3.1 Acceptability.**

**2-3.1.1\*** A connection to a reliable water works system shall be an acceptable water supply source. The volume and pressure of a public water supply shall be determined from water flow test data.

**2-3.1.2 Meters.** Meters are not recommended for use on sprinkler systems; however, where required by other authorities, they shall be of approved type.

**Table 2-2.1(A) Guide to Water Supply Requirements for Pipe Schedule Sprinkler Systems**

<b>Occupancy Classification</b>	<b>Residual Pressure Required (see Note 1)</b>	<b>Acceptable Flow at Base of Riser (see Note 2)</b>	<b>Duration in Minutes (see Note 4)</b>
Light Hazard	15 psi	500-750 gpm (see Note 3)	30-60
Ordinary Hazard (Group 1)	15 psi or higher	700-1000 gpm	60-90
Ordinary Hazard (Group 2)	15 psi or higher	850-1500 gpm	60-90
Ordinary Hazard (Group 3)	Pressure and flow requirements for sprinklers and hose streams to be determined by authority having jurisdiction.		60-120
Warehouses	Pressure and flow requirements for sprinklers and hose streams to be determined by authority having jurisdiction. See Chapter 7 and NFPA 231 and NFPA 231C. (See <i>Appendix E.</i> )		
High-Rise Buildings	Pressure and flow requirements for sprinklers and hose streams to be determined by authority having jurisdiction. See Chapter 8.		
Extra Hazard	Pressure and flow requirements for sprinklers and hose streams to be determined by authority having jurisdiction		

For SI Units: 1 psi = 0.0689 bars; 1 gpm = 3.785 L/min.

**Notes:**

1. The pressure required at the base of the sprinkler riser(s) is defined as the residual pressure required at the elevation of the highest sprinkler plus the pressure required to reach this elevation.
2. The lower figure is the minimum flow including hose streams ordinarily acceptable for pipe schedule sprinkler systems. The higher flow should normally suffice for all cases under each group.
3. The requirement may be reduced to 250 gpm if building area is limited by size or compartmentation or if building (including roof) is noncombustible construction.
4. The lower duration figure is ordinarily acceptable where remote station water flow alarm service or equivalent is provided. The higher duration figure should normally suffice for all cases under each group.

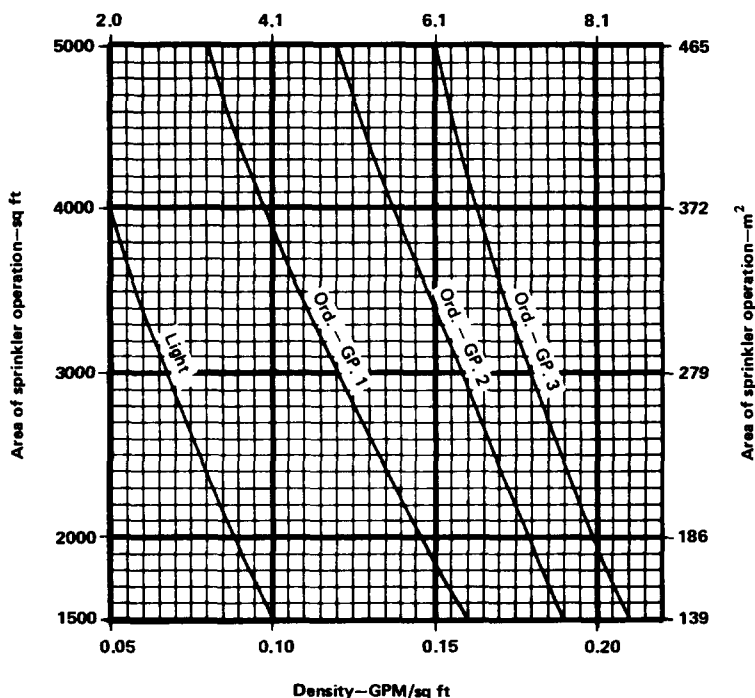
**Table 2-2.1(B) Table and Design Curves for Determining Density, Area of Sprinkler Operation and Water Supply Requirements for Hydraulically Designed Sprinkler Systems**

**Minimum Water Supplies**

Hazard Classification	Sprinklers GPM	Combined Inside & Outside Hose — GPM	Duration in Minutes
Light	150	100	30
Ord. — Gp. 1	400	250	60-90
Ord. — Gp. 2	600	250	60-90
Ord. — Gp. 3	750	500	60-120

**Density Curves**

Density—(L/min) / m<sup>2</sup>



For SI Units: 1 sq ft = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>; 1 gpm/sq ft = 40.746 (L/min)/m<sup>2</sup>.



**2-3.2\* Capacity.** The connection and arrangement of underground supply piping shall be capable of supplying the volume as required in Tables 2-2.1(A) or 2-2.1(B). Pipe size shall be at least as large as the riser but not less than 4 inches in diameter where unlined cast-iron pipe is used.

## **2-4 Gravity Tanks.**

**2-4.1 Acceptability.** An elevated tank sized in accordance with Table 2-2.1(A) or 2-2.1(B) shall be an acceptable water supply source. (*See NFPA 22, Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection [see Appendix E].*)

**2-4.2 Capacity and Elevation.** The capacity and elevation of the tank and the arrangement of the underground supply piping shall provide the volume and pressure required by Table 2-2.1(A) or 2-2.1(B) designs.

## **2-5\* Pumps.**

**2-5.1\* Acceptability.** A single automatically controlled fire pump sized in accordance with Table 2-2.1(A) or 2-2.1(B) supplied under positive head shall be an acceptable water supply source. (*See NFPA 20, Installation of Centrifugal Fire Pumps [see Appendix E].*)

**2-5.2 Supervision.** When a single fire pump constitutes the sole sprinkler supply, it shall be provided with supervisory service from an approved central station, proprietary, remote station system or equivalent.

## **2-6 Pressure Tanks.**

### **2-6.1 Acceptability.**

**2-6.1.1** A pressure tank sized in accordance with Table 2-2.1(A) or 2-2.1(B) is an acceptable water supply source. (*See NFPA 22, Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection [see Appendix E].*)

**2-6.1.2** Pressure tanks shall be provided with an approved means for automatically maintaining the required air pressure. When a pressure tank is the sole water supply there shall also be provided an approved trouble alarm to indicate low air pressure and low water level with the alarm supplied from an electrical branch circuit independent of the air compressor.

**2-6.1.3** Pressure tanks shall not be used to supply other than sprinklers and hand hose attached to sprinkler piping.

## **2-6.2 Capacity.**

**2-6.2.1** The size of the pressure tank required shall be in accordance with Table 2-2.1(A) or 2-2.1(B) and shall include the extra capacity needed to fill dry-pipe systems when installed. Minimum requirements when pressure tanks are not the sole water supply source shall be as indicated in 2-6.2.2, 2-6.2.3, and 2-6.2.4.

**2-6.2.2 Light Hazard Occupancy.** Amount of available water, not less than 2,000 gal (7570 L).

**2-6.2.3 Ordinary Hazard Occupancy.** Amount of available water, not less than 3,000 gal (11 355 L) for Groups 1 and 2. For Group 3, refer to authority having jurisdiction.

**2-6.2.4 Extra Hazard and Woodworker Occupancies.** Refer to authority having jurisdiction.

**2-6.2.5** For high-rise buildings, see Chapter 8.

**2-6.3\* Water Level and Air Pressure.** Unless otherwise approved by the authority having jurisdiction, the pressure tank shall be kept two-thirds full of water, and an air pressure of at least 75 lbs per sq in. (5.2 bars) by the gage shall be maintained. When the bottom of the tank is located below the highest sprinklers served, the air pressure by the gage shall be at least 75 lbs per sq in. (5.2 bars) plus three times the pressure caused by the column of water in the sprinkler system above the tank bottom.

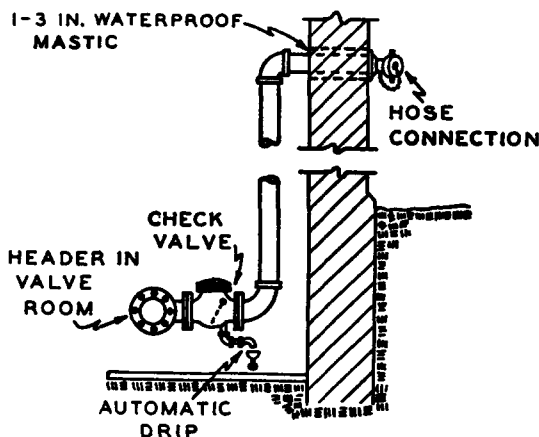
## **2-7 Fire Department Connections.**

**2-7.1 When Required.** A connection through which a fire department can pump water into the sprinkler system makes a desirable auxiliary supply. For this purpose, a fire department connection shall be provided in all cases except when permission of the authority having jurisdiction is obtained for its omission.

**2-7.2\* Size.** Pipe size shall be not less than 4 inches for fire engine connections and not less than 6 inches for fire boat connections, except that 3-inch pipe may be used to connect a single hose connection to a 3-inch or smaller riser.

**2-7.3\* Arrangement.** (See 3-14.2.5 and 3-14.2.6.)

**2-7.3.1** The fire department connection shall be made on the system side of a check valve in the water supply piping.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

Figure 2-7.1 Fire Department Connection.

**2-7.3.2** On wet-pipe systems with a single riser the connection shall be made on the system side of approved indicating, check, and alarm valves to the riser, unless the system is supplied by a fire department pumper connection in the yard. (See 3-14.2.6.)

**2-7.3.3** On dry-pipe systems with a single riser the connection shall be made between the approved indicating valve and the dry-pipe valve, unless the system is supplied by a fire department pumper connection in the yard.

**2-7.3.4** On systems with two or more risers the connection shall be made on the system side of all shutoff valves controlling other water supplies, but on the supply side of the riser shutoff valves so that, with any one riser off, the connection will feed the remaining sprinklers, unless the sprinklers are supplied by a fire department pumper connection in the yard.

**2-7.3.5** Fire department connections shall not be connected on the suction side of booster pumps.

**2-7.3.6** Fire department connections to sprinkler systems shall be designated by a sign having raised letters at least one inch (25 mm) in size cast on plate or fitting reading for service designated: Viz. — "AUTOSPKR.", "OPEN SPKR." or "AUTOSPKR. and STAND-PIPE."

## **2-7.4 Valves.**

**2-7.4.1** An approved check valve shall be installed in each fire department connection, located as near as practicable to the point where it joins the system.

**2-7.4.2** There shall be no shutoff valve in the fire department connection.

**2-7.5 Drainage.** The piping between the check valve and the outside hose coupling shall be equipped with an approved automatic drip.

## **2-7.6 Hose Connections.**

**2-7.6.1** Hose coupling threads shall conform to those used by the local fire department. National (American) Standard Fire Hose Coupling Screw Threads shall be used whenever they will fit the local fire department hose.

**2-7.6.2** Hose connections shall be equipped with listed plugs or caps.

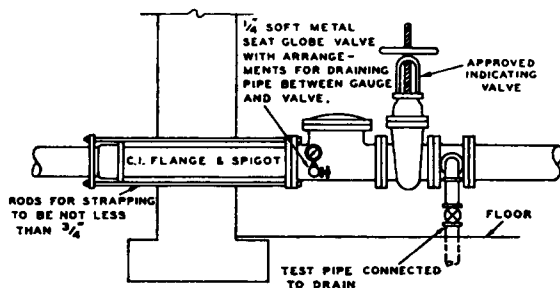
## **2-8 Arrangement of Water Supply Connections.**

**2-8.1 Connection Between Underground and System Piping.** The connection between the system piping and underground piping shall be made with a suitable transition piece and shall be properly strapped or fastened by approved devices. A cast-iron flanged piece is a suitable transition piece.

**2-8.2\* Connection Passing Through or Under Foundation Walls.** When system piping pierces a foundation wall below grade or is located under the foundation wall, clearance shall be provided to prevent breakage of the piping due to building settlement.

## **2-9 Water Supply Test Pipes and Gages.**

**2-9.1\* Test Pipes.** Test pipes, which may also be used as drain pipes, shall be provided at locations that will permit flow tests to be made to determine whether water supplies and connections are in order. Such test pipes shall be not less than the sizes specified in 3-11.2 and equipped with a shutoff valve. They shall be so installed that the valve may be opened wide for a sufficient time to assure a proper test without causing water damage. *(See 3-11.2 and 3-11.4.)*



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure 2-9.1 Water Supply Connection with Test Pipe.**

Located on the system side of the gate valve, one test pipe may serve for more than one city connection. It will also indicate the condition of the gate valve. Located on the supply side of the check valve, it will serve to test out check valve by closing the waterworks gate or other outside valve.

## 2-9.2 Gages.

**2-9.2.1** A pressure gage shall be installed on the riser or feed main, at or near each test pipe, with a connection not smaller than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch. This gage connection shall be equipped with a shutoff valve and with provision for draining.

**2-9.2.2** The required pressure gages shall be of approved type and shall have a maximum limit not less than twice the normal working pressure at the point where installed. They shall be installed to permit removal, and shall be located where they will not be subject to freezing.

## Chapter 3 System Components

### 3-1 Piping.

#### 3-1.1 Piping Specifications.

3-1.1.1 Pipe or tube used in sprinkler systems shall be of the materials in Table 3-1.1.1 or in accordance with 3-1.1.2 through 3-1.1.7. The chemical properties, physical properties and dimensions of the materials listed in Table 3-1.1.1 shall be at least equivalent to the standards cited in the table. Pipe and tube used in sprinkler systems shall be designed to withstand a working pressure of not less than 175 psi (12.1 bars).

Table 3-1.1.1

Materials and Dimensions	Standard
<b>Ferrous Piping (Welded and Seamless)</b>	
Welded and Seamless Steel Pipe For Ordinary Uses, Spec. For Black and Hot-Dipped Zinc Coated (Galvanized) . . . . .	ANSI/ASTM A120
†Spec. for Welded and Seamless Steel Pipe . . . . .	ANSI/ASTM A53
Wrought Steel Pipe . . . . .	ANSI B36.10
Spec. for Elec.-Resistance Welded Steel Pipe . . . . .	ASTM A135
<b>Copper Tube (Drawn, Seamless)</b>	
†Spec. For Seamless Copper Tube . . . . .	ASTM B75
†Spec. For Seamless Copper Water Tube . . . . .	ASTM B88
Spec. For General Requirements for Wrought Seam- less Copper and Copper-Alloy Tube . . . . .	ASTM B251
Brazing Filler Metal (Classification BCuP-3 or BCuP-4)	AWS A5.8
Solder Metal, 95-5 (Tin-Antimony-Grade 95TA). . .	ASTM B32

(See Appendix E.)

†Denotes pipe or tube suitable for bending. (See 3-12.5.)

**3-1.1.2** When welded and seamless steel pipe listed in Table 3-1.1.1 is used and joined by welding as referenced in 3-12.2 or by roll grooved pipe and couplings as referenced in 3-12.3, the minimum nominal wall thickness for pressures up to 300 psi (20.7 bars) shall be in accordance with Schedule 10 for sizes up to 5 inch; 0.134 in. (3.40 mm) for 6 inch; and 0.188 in. (4.78 mm) for 8- and 10-inch pipe; or as modified in 3-1.1.5 or as defined in 3-1.1.6.

**3-1.1.3** When steel pipe listed in Table 3-1.1.1 is used and joined by threaded fittings referenced in 3-12.1 or by couplings used with pipe having cut grooves, the minimum wall thickness shall be in accordance with Schedule 30 (in sizes 8 inch and larger) or Schedule 40 (in sizes less than 8 inch) pipe in Table A2 of ASTM A53 for pressures up to 300 psi (20.7 bars). (*See Appendix E.*)

**3-1.1.4** Copper tube as specified in the standards listed in Table 3-1.1.1, used in fire protection systems, shall have a wall thickness of Type K, L or M.

**3-1.1.5** Other types of pipe or tube may be used, but only those investigated and listed for this service by a testing and inspection agency laboratory.

**3-1.1.6** Whenever the word pipe is used in this standard it shall be understood to also mean tube.

**3-2\* Definitions.** (*See Figure A-3-2.*)

**Risers.** The vertical pipes in a sprinkler system.

**System Riser.** The aboveground supply pipe directly connected to the water supply.

**Feed Mains.** Mains supplying risers or cross mains.

**Cross Mains.** Pipes directly supplying the lines in which the sprinklers are placed.

**Branch Lines.** Lines of pipe, from the point of attachment to the cross main (or similar connection) to the end sprinkler, in which the sprinklers are directly placed.

### 3-3 Area Limitation.

**3-3.1** The maximum floor area to be protected by sprinklers supplied on each system riser on any one floor shall be as follows:

Light Hazard	52,000 sq ft (4831 m <sup>2</sup> )
Ordinary Hazard	52,000 sq ft (4831 m <sup>2</sup> )
Solid piled storage in excess of 15 ft (4.6 m) in height or palletized or rack storage in excess of 12 ft (3.7 m) in height	40,000 sq ft (3716 m <sup>2</sup> )
Extra Hazard	25,000 sq ft (2323 m <sup>2</sup> )

*Exception: When single systems serve both solid piled storage in excess of 15 ft (4.6 m) or palletized or rack storage in excess of 12 ft (3.7 m) in height and ordinary hazard areas, storage area coverage shall not exceed 40,000 sq ft (3716 m<sup>2</sup>) and total area coverage shall not exceed 52,000 sq ft (4831 m<sup>2</sup>).*

See NFPA standards, *Indoor General Storage*, NFPA 231A, and *Rack Storage of Materials*, NFPA 231C, for definitions of solid piled, palletized or rack storage. (See Appendix E.)

### 3-4\* Pipe Schedules.

**3-4.1** The number of automatic sprinklers on a given pipe size on one floor shall not exceed the number given in Sections 3-5, 3-6, or 3-7 for a given occupancy.

*Exception: The pipe schedule provisions do not apply to hydraulically designed systems.*

**3-4.2 Size of Risers.** Each system riser shall be sized to supply all sprinklers on the riser on any one floor as determined by the standard schedules of pipe sizes in Sections 3-5, 3-6, or 3-7.

**3-4.3 Slatted Floors, Large Floor Openings, Mezzanines, and Large Platforms.** Buildings having slatted floors, or large unprotected floor openings without approved stops, shall be treated as one area with reference to the pipe sizes, and the feed mains or risers shall be of the size required for the total number of sprinklers.



### 3-5 Schedule for Light Hazard Occupancies.

**3-5.1** Branch lines shall not exceed 8 sprinklers on either side of a cross main.

*Exception: When occupancy is classified as light hazard and when more than 8 sprinklers on a branch line are necessary, lines may be increased to 9 sprinklers by making the 2 end lengths 1 inch and 1¼ inch respectively, and the sizes thereafter standard. Ten sprinklers may be placed on a branch line making the 2 end lengths 1 inch and 1¼ inch respectively, and feeding the tenth sprinkler by a 2½-inch pipe.*

**3-5.2** Pipe sizes shall be in accordance with Table 3-5.2.

**Table 3-5.2**

Steel		Copper	
1 in. pipe	2 sprinklers	1 in. tube	2 sprinklers
1¼ in. pipe	3 sprinklers	1¼ in. tube	3 sprinklers
1½ in. pipe	5 sprinklers	1½ in. tube	5 sprinklers
2 in. pipe	10 sprinklers	2 in. tube	12 sprinklers
2½ in. pipe	30 sprinklers	2½ in. tube	40 sprinklers
3 in. pipe	60 sprinklers	3 in. tube	65 sprinklers
3½ in. pipe	100 sprinklers	3½ in. tube	115 sprinklers
4 in. pipe	See 3-3.1	4 in. tube	See 3-3.1

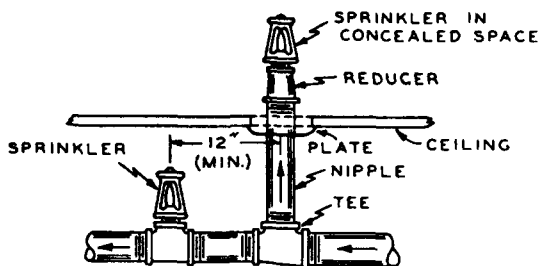
*Exception: Each area requiring more than 100 sprinklers and without subdividing partitions (not necessarily fire walls) shall be supplied by feed mains or risers sized for ordinary hazard occupancies.*

**3-5.3** When sprinklers are installed above and below a ceiling [see Figure 3-5.3(A) and Figure 3-5.3(B)] and such sprinklers are supplied from a common set of branch lines, such branch lines shall not exceed 8 sprinklers above and 8 sprinklers below the ceiling on either side of the cross main. Pipe sizing, up to and including 2½-inch, shall be as shown in Table 3-5.3.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure 3-5.3(A) Arrangement of Branch Lines Supplying Sprinklers Above and Below a Ceiling.**



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

Figure 3-5.3(B) Sprinkler on Riser Nipple from Branch Line in Lower Fire Area.

Table 3-5.3 Number of Sprinklers Above and Below

Steel		Copper	
1 in.	2 sprinklers	1 in.	2 sprinklers
1¼ in.	4 sprinklers	1¼ in.	4 sprinklers
1½ in.	7 sprinklers	1½ in.	7 sprinklers
2 in.	15 sprinklers	2 in.	18 sprinklers
2½ in.	50 sprinklers	2½ in.	65 sprinklers

**3-5.3.1\*** When the total number of sprinklers above and below the ceiling exceeds 50, the pipe supplying more than 50 sprinklers shall be increased to 3 inch, and sized thereafter according to the schedule shown in Table 3-5.2 for the number of sprinklers above or below the ceiling, whichever is larger.

### 3-6 Schedule for Ordinary Hazard Occupancies.

**3-6.1** Branch lines shall not exceed 8 sprinklers on either side of a cross main.

*Exception: When occupancy is classified as ordinary hazard and when more than 8 sprinklers on a branch line are necessary, lines may be increased to 9 sprinklers by making the 2 end lengths 1 inch and 1¼ inch, respectively, and the sizes thereafter standard. Ten sprinklers may be placed on a branch line making the 2 end lengths 1 inch and 1¼ inch respectively, and feeding the tenth sprinkler by a 2½-inch pipe.*

**3-6.2** Pipe sizes shall be in accordance with Table 3-6.2(a).

**Table 3-6.2(a)**

Steel		Copper	
1 in. pipe	2 sprinklers	1 in. tube	2 sprinklers
1¼ in. pipe	3 sprinklers	1¼ in. tube	3 sprinklers
1½ in. pipe	5 sprinklers	1½ in. tube	5 sprinklers
2 in. pipe	10 sprinklers	2 in. tube	12 sprinklers
2½ in. pipe	20 sprinklers	2½ in. tube	25 sprinklers
3 in. pipe	40 sprinklers	3 in. tube	45 sprinklers
3½ in. pipe	65 sprinklers	3½ in. tube	75 sprinklers
4 in. pipe	100 sprinklers	4 in. tube	115 sprinklers
5 in. pipe	160 sprinklers	5 in. tube	180 sprinklers
6 in. pipe	275 sprinklers	6 in. tube	300 sprinklers
8 in. pipe	See Exception No. 1 and 3-3.1	8 in. tube	See Exception No. 1 and 3-3.1

*Exception No. 1: For solid piled storage in excess of 15 ft (4.6 m) in height or palletized or racked storage in excess of 12 ft (3.7 m), the area served by any one 8-inch pipe or tube size shall not exceed 40,000 sq ft (3716 m<sup>2</sup>). Where single systems serve both such storage and ordinary hazard areas, storage area coverage shall not exceed 40,000 sq ft (3716 m<sup>2</sup>) and total area coverage shall not exceed 52,000 sq ft (4831 m<sup>2</sup>).*

*Exception No. 2: When the distance between sprinklers on the branch line exceeds 12 ft (3.7 m), or the distance between the branch lines exceeds 12 ft (3.7 m), the number of sprinklers for a given pipe size shall be in accordance with Table 3-6.2(b).*

**Table 3-6.2(b)**

Steel		Copper	
2½ in. pipe	15 sprinklers	2½ in. tube	20 sprinklers
3 in. pipe	30 sprinklers	3 in. tube	35 sprinklers
3½ in. pipe	60 sprinklers	3½ in. tube	65 sprinklers
For other pipe and tube sizes, see Table 3-6.2(a).			

**3-6.3** When sprinklers are installed above and below a ceiling and such sprinklers are supplied from a common set of branch lines, such branch lines shall not exceed 8 sprinklers above and 8 sprinklers below the ceiling on either side of the cross main. Pipe sizing up to and including 3 inch shall be as shown in Table 3-6.3.

**Table 3-6.3 Number of Sprinklers Above and Below**

Steel		Copper	
1 in.	2 sprinklers	1 in.	2 sprinklers
1¼ in.	4 sprinklers	1¼ in.	4 sprinklers
1½ in.	7 sprinklers	1½ in.	7 sprinklers
2 in.	15 sprinklers	2 in.	18 sprinklers
2½ in.	30 sprinklers	2½ in.	40 sprinklers
3 in.	60 sprinklers	3 in.	65 sprinklers

**3-6.3.1\*** When the total number of sprinklers above and below the ceiling exceeds 60, the pipes supplying more than 60 sprinklers shall be increased to 3½-inch and sized thereafter according to the schedule shown in Table 3-6.2(a) for the number of sprinklers above or below the ceiling whichever is larger.

### 3-7 Schedule for Extra Hazard Occupancies.

**3-7.1** Branch lines shall not exceed 6 sprinklers on either side of cross main. The number of sprinklers for a given pipe size shall be in accordance with Table 3-7.1.

**Table 3-7.1**

Steel		Copper	
1 in. pipe	1 sprinkler	1 in. tube	1 sprinkler
1¼ in. pipe	2 sprinklers	1¼ in. tube	2 sprinklers
1½ in. pipe	5 sprinklers	1½ in. tube	5 sprinklers
2 in. pipe	8 sprinklers	2 in. tube	8 sprinklers
2½ in. pipe	15 sprinklers	2½ in. tube	20 sprinklers
3 in. pipe	27 sprinklers	3 in. tube	30 sprinklers
3½ in. pipe	40 sprinklers	3½ in. tube	45 sprinklers
4 in. pipe	55 sprinklers	4 in. tube	65 sprinklers
5 in. pipe	90 sprinklers	5 in. tube	100 sprinklers
6 in. pipe	150 sprinklers	6 in. tube	170 sprinklers
8 in. pipe	See 3-3.1	8 in. tube	See 3-3.1

**3-7.2** For deluge systems pipe schedule, see Table 3-7.1.

*Exception: When the deluge system controls open sprinklers for exposure protection, see Chapter 6.*

### 3-8 Special Provisions Applicable to Piping.

**3-8.1** For sprinklers in storage racks see NFPA 231C, *Standard for Rack Storage of Materials*. (See Appendix E.)

**3-8.2\* Provision for Flushing Systems.** All sprinkler systems shall be arranged for flushing. Readily removable fittings shall be provided at the end of all cross mains. All cross mains shall terminate in  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch or larger pipe. All branch lines on gridded systems shall be arranged to facilitate flushing. [See NFPA 13A (see Appendix E).]

**3-8.3 Stair Towers.** Stairs, towers or other construction with incomplete floors, if piped on independent risers, shall be treated as one area with reference to pipe sizes.

**3-8.4 Return Bends.** When piping on wet systems is concealed, with sprinklers installed in pendent position below a ceiling, return bends shall be used when the water supply to the sprinkler system is from a raw water source, millpond, or from open top reservoirs. Return bends shall be connected to the tops of branch lines in order to avoid accumulation of sediment in the drop nipples. In new systems the return bend pipe and fittings shall be one inch in size. In revamping existing systems, where it is not necessary to retain sprinklers in the concealed space,  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch or  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch close nipples inserted in the existing sprinkler fittings may be used with one-inch pipe and fittings for the other portions of the return bend. When water supply is potable, return bends are not required on wet systems. (See Figure 3-8.4.)

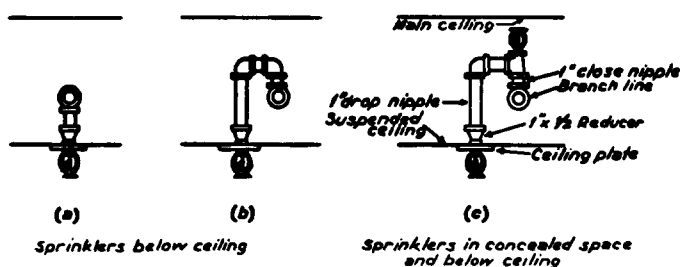


Figure 3-8.4 Pendent Sprinklers at Suspended Ceiling.

**3-8.5 Dry Pipe Underground.** When necessary to place pipe which will be under air pressure underground, the pipe shall be protected against corrosion (see 3-10.2), or unprotected gasketed joint cast-iron pipe may be used.

**3-8.6 One and One-Half-Inch Hose Connections.** One and one-half-inch ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch) hose used for fire purposes only may be connected to wet sprinkler systems only, subject to the following restrictions:

(a) Hose stations supply pipes shall not be connected to any pipe smaller than 2½ inch.

*Exception: For hydraulically designed loops and grids the minimum size pipe between the hose stations supply pipe and the source may be 2 inch.*

(b) Piping shall be 1 inch for horizontal runs up to 20 ft (6.1 m), 1¼ inch for runs between 20 and 80 ft (6.1 and 24.4 m), and 1½ inch for runs greater than 80 ft (24.4 m).

(c) Piping shall be at least 1 inch for vertical runs.

**3-8.7 Hose Connections for Fire Department Use.** In buildings of light or ordinary hazard occupancy, 2½-inch hose valves for fire department use may be attached to wet-pipe sprinkler systems subject to the following restrictions:

(a) The riser and hose valves shall be located in a fire-resistive stair enclosure.

(b) Sprinklers shall be under control of separate floor control valves located in the fire-resistive stair enclosure.

(c) The minimum size of the riser shall be 4 inches unless hydraulic calculations indicate smaller size riser will satisfy sprinkler and hose stream demand.

(d) The water supply shall satisfy demand for sprinklers and standpipes combined.

(e) For fire department connections, serving standpipe and sprinklers, refer to A-2-7.3.

### **3-9 System Test Pipes.**

#### **3-9.1 Wet Systems.**

**3-9.1.1\*** A test pipe of not less than 1-inch diameter terminating in a smooth bore corrosion resistant outlet giving a flow equivalent to one sprinkler shall be provided for each system.

**3-9.1.2\*** In multistory buildings where waterflow alarm devices are provided at each riser on each floor or where more than one alarm device is provided in one sprinkler system, a test pipe shall be provided for testing each alarm device.

**3-9.2\* Dry-Pipe Systems.** A 1-inch inspector's test with a smooth bore corrosion resistant outlet to provide a flow equivalent to one

sprinkler of a type installed on the particular system shall be installed on the end of the most distant sprinkler line in the upper story and be equipped with a 1-inch shutoff valve and cast-iron or brass plug.

### **3-10\* Protection of Piping.**

#### **3-10.1 Protection Against Freezing.**

**3-10.1.1 Supply Pipes.** When supply pipes or risers pass through unheated areas, basements or open spaces under buildings, they shall be protected against freezing by an enclosure heated or insulated to maintain minimum temperature of 40°F (4.4°C).

**3-10.1.2 Feed Mains in Unheated Areas.** When necessary to extend feed mains of wet-pipe systems through an open area or through cold rooms, passageways or other areas exposed to freezing, the pipe shall be protected against freezing by insulating coverings, frostproof casings, or other means capable of maintaining a minimum of 40°F (4.4°C).

#### **3-10.2\* Protection of Pipe Against Corrosion.**

**3-10.2.1** Where corrosive conditions exist, such as at bleacheries, dye-houses, metalplating processes, animal pens, certain chemical plants and at other locations, where corrosive fumes or moisture may be present, types of pipe, tube, fittings and hangers, and protective coatings that resist corrosion shall be used.

**3-10.2.2** Steel pipe in overhead feed mains running from one building to another, where exposed to the weather, shall be galvanized, or otherwise protected against corrosion.

**3-10.2.3\*** When steel pipe is used underground as a connection from a system to sprinklers in a detached building, the pipe shall be protected against corrosion before being buried.

#### **3-10.3\* Protection of Piping Against Damage Where Subject to Earthquakes.**

**3-10.3.1\*** To minimize or prevent pipe breakage where subject to earthquakes, the sprinkler systems shall be protected as follows:

**3-10.3.2\*** Mechanical groove couplings shall be provided:

(a) Within 24 in. (610 mm) of the top and bottom of all risers except as modified in (c). The mechanical grooved coupling at the top of the riser shall be installed below the four-way sway brace installed at the top of the riser as specified in 3-10.3.4.1.

(b) At the ceiling of each intermediate floor in multistory buildings.

(c) For risers or drops 2½ inch or larger, 3 ft to 7 ft (0.9 m to 2.1 m) in length, one mechanical groove coupling is adequate.

(d) At each end of piping between two buildings.

(e) At each side building expansion joints.

**3-10.3.3\*** Sleeves shall be provided around all piping extending through the walls, floors, platforms and foundations.

(a) Minimum clearance between the pipe and sleeve shall be not less than 1 in. (25 mm) for pipes 1 inch through 3½ inch and 2 in. (51 mm) for pipe sizes 4 inch and larger.

(b) The clearance between pipe and sleeve shall be filled with noncombustible flexible material such as mineral wool, fiberglass, or equivalent.

(c) Floor sleeves shall extend at least 3 in. (76 mm) above the top of the wearing surface.

**3-10.3.4\* Sway Bracing Where Subject to Earthquakes.**

**3-10.3.4.1** Feed and cross mains shall be braced to withstand a force equal to 50 percent of the weight of water-filled piping, using a two-way sway brace. Tops of risers shall be secured against drifting in any direction utilizing a four-way sway brace.

**3-10.3.4.2** Where "U" hook hangers are used on branch lines, the pipe shall be secured to the end hanger by a wrap-around-type "U" hook. (See Figure A-3-15.1.)

**3-10.3.4.3** U-type hangers used to support a system will satisfy most of the requirements for sway bracing except that, in general, the longitudinal hanger referred to as No. "1" in Figure A-3-10.3.4(b) shall also be required for 2½ inch and larger piping. U-type hangers used as lateral braces shall have legs bent out 10 degrees.

**3-10.3.4.4** When feed and cross mains are hung with single rods longer than 6 in. (152 mm), sway bracing shall be provided.

**3-10.3.4.5** Sway bracing shall be attached directly to feed and cross mains only.



**3-10.3.4.6** Piping shall not be fastened to building sections that would move differentially.

**3-10.3.4.7** The last piece of pipe at the end of a feed or cross main shall be provided with a transverse brace. Transverse braces may also act as longitudinal braces if they are within 24 in. (610 mm) of the center line of the piping braced longitudinally.

## 3-11 Drainage.

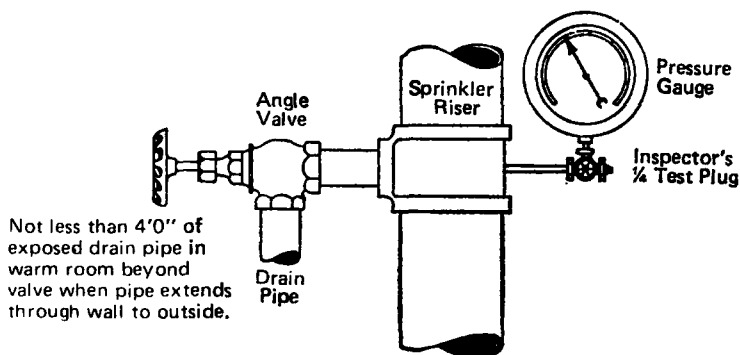
### 3-11.1 Pitching of Piping for Drainage.

**3-11.1.1\*** All sprinkler pipe and fittings shall be so installed that the system may be drained.

**3-11.1.2** On wet-pipe systems, sprinkler pipes may be installed level. Trapped piping shall be drained in accordance with 3-11.3.

**3-11.1.3** On dry-pipe systems, sprinkler pipe on branch lines shall be pitched at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. in 10 ft (4 mm/m) and the pipe of cross and feed mains shall be given a pitch of not less than  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. in 10 ft (2 mm/m). A pitch of  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. to 1-in. (19 mm to 25 mm) shall be provided for short branch lines and  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. in 10 ft (4 mm/m) for cross and feed mains in refrigerated areas and in buildings of light construction where floor may settle under heavy loads.

### 3-11.2 System or Main Drain Connections and Drain Valves. (See Figure 3-11.2.)



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 3-11.2** Drain Connection for Sprinkler Riser.

**3-11.2.1** Provisions shall be made to properly drain all parts of the system.

**3-11.2.2** On all risers 4 inches or larger, 2-inch drain pipes and valves shall be provided.

**3-11.2.3** On risers 2½ inches to 3½ inches inclusive, drain pipes and valves not smaller than 1¼ inch shall be provided.

**3-11.2.4** On smaller risers, drain pipe and valves not smaller than ¾ inch shall be provided.

**3-11.2.5** All interior sectional control valves shall be provided with an auxiliary drain valve so located as to drain that portion of the system controlled by the sectional valve. These drains shall discharge either outside or to a drain connection.

**3-11.2.6** The test valves required by 2-9.1 may be used as main drain valves.

### **3-11.3 Auxiliary Drains.**

**3-11.3.1** Auxiliary drains shall be provided when a change in piping direction prevents drainage of sections of branch lines or mains through the main drain valve.

#### **3-11.3.2 Auxiliary Drains for Wet-Pipe Systems.**

**3-11.3.2.1** When capacity of trapped sections of pipe is 5 gal (18.9 L) or less, the auxiliary drain shall consist of a one inch nipple and cap or brass plug.

*Exception No. 1: Auxiliary drains are not required for piping to a single sprinkler.*

*Exception No. 2: Existing systems having ¾-inch auxiliary drains from two-inch and smaller pipe do not require change.*

**3-11.3.2.2** When capacity of trapped sections of pipe is more than 5 gal (18.9 L), the auxiliary drain shall consist of a one inch valve complete with nipple and cap or brass plug.

**3-11.3.2.3** Tie-in drains are not required on wet-pipe systems.

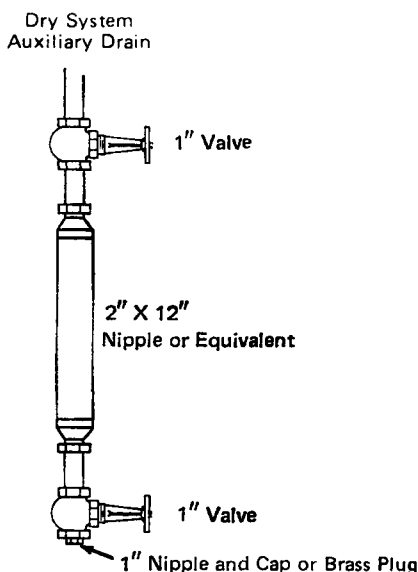
#### **3-11.3.3 Auxiliary Drains for Dry-Pipe and Pre-Action Systems.**

**3-11.3.3.1** When capacity of trapped sections of pipe is 5 gal (18.9 L)

or less, the auxiliary drain shall consist of a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch valve complete with nipple and cap or brass plug.

*Exception: Auxiliary drains are not required for a drop nipple when installed in accordance with 5-2.2.*

**3-11.3.3.2** When capacity of trapped sections of pipe is more than 5 gal (18.9 L), the auxiliary drain shall consist of two 1-inch valves, and one 2-in. by 12-in. (305-mm) condensate nipple or equivalent. (See Figure 3-11.3.3.)



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure 3-11.3.3

**3-11.3.3.3** Tie-in drains for branch lines on dry-pipe or pre-action systems shall be a minimum of one inch in size.

### 3-11.4 Discharge of Drain Valves.

**3-11.4.1\*** Direct interconnections shall not be made between sewers and sprinkler drains of systems supplied by public water. The drain discharge shall be in conformity with any health or water department regulations.

**3-11.4.2** When drain pipes are buried underground, approved corrosive resistant pipe shall be used.

**3-11.4.3** Drain pipes shall not terminate in blind spaces under the building.

**3-11.4.4** Drain pipes when exposed shall be fitted with a turned down elbow.

**3-11.4.5\*** Drain pipes shall be arranged as not to expose any part of the sprinkler system to freezing conditions.

### **3-12 Joining of Pipe and Fittings.**

#### **3-12.1 Threaded Pipe and Fittings.**

**3-12.1.1** Steel pipe with wall thicknesses less than Schedule 30 (in sizes 8 inch and larger) or Schedule 40 (in sizes less than 8 inch) shall not be joined by threaded fittings, unless a threaded assembly has been investigated for suitability in automatic sprinkler installations and listed for this service.

**3-12.1.2** All threaded fittings and pipe shall have threads cut to ANSI Standard B2.1. (*See Appendix E.*) Care shall be taken that the pipe does not extend into the fitting sufficiently to reduce the waterway.

**3-12.1.3** Pipe shall be reamed after cutting to remove all burrs and fins.

**3-12.1.4** Joint compound or tape shall be applied to the threads of the pipe and not in the fitting.

#### **3-12.2\* Welded Piping.**

**3-12.2.1** Welding methods which comply with all of the requirements of AWS D10.9, *Standard for Building Service Piping*, Level AR-3, are acceptable means of joining fire protection piping. (*See Appendix E.*)

**3-12.2.2** Sections of branch lines, cross mains, feed mains or risers may be shop welded.

**3-12.2.3** Welding procedures, welders and welding machine operators shall be qualified as required by 3-12.2.11.

**3-12.2.4** Welded fittings and welded formations manufactured, fabricated, or joined in conformance with a qualified welding procedure as set forth herein are an acceptable product under this standard, provided that materials and wall thickness are compatible with other sections of this standard.

**3-12.2.5** No welding shall be performed if there is impingement of rain, snow, sleet or high wind on the weld area of the pipe product.

**3-12.2.6** When welded outlets are formed:

- (a) Holes in piping shall be cut to full inside diameter of fitting or shaped, contoured nipple.
- (b) Discs shall be retrieved.
- (c) Openings in piping shall be smooth.
- (d) All slag and other welding residue shall be removed.
- (e) Fittings or shaped, contoured nipples of any length shall not penetrate beyond the internal diameter of the piping.

**3-12.2.7** When reducing a pipe size in the run of a main, cross main, or branch, a suitable reducing fitting designed for that purpose shall be used.

**3-12.2.8** Torch cutting and welding shall not be permitted as means of modifying or repairing sprinkler systems.

**3-12.2.9** When welding is planned, contractor shall specify the section to be shop welded on drawings and the type of fittings or formations to be used.

**3-12.2.10** Sections of welded piping shall be joined by means of flanged or flexible gasketed joints or other approved fittings.

**3-12.2.11** **Qualifications.**

**3-12.2.11.1** A welding procedure shall be prepared and qualified before any welding is done. Qualification of the welding procedure to be used and the performance of welders and welding operators is required and shall comply with the requirements of American Welding Society Standard AWS D10.9, Level AR-3. (*See Appendix E.*)

**3-12.2.11.2** Each contractor shall be responsible for all welding installed by him.

**3-12.2.11.3** Each contractor shall be responsible for qualifying any welding procedure that he intends to have used by personnel of his organization.

**3-12.2.11.4** Each contractor shall be responsible for qualifying all of the welders and welding machine operators employed by him in compliance with the requirements of AWS D10.9, Level AR-3. (*See Appendix E.*)

**3-12.2.12 Qualifications Records.** The contractor shall maintain certified records, which are available to the authority having jurisdiction, of the procedures used and the welders or welding machine operators employed by him. Records shall show the date and the results of procedure and performance qualifications.

### **3-12.3 Groove Joining Methods.**

**3-12.3.1** Pipe joined with mechanical grooved couplings shall be joined by a listed combination of couplings, gaskets and grooves. When grooves are cut or rolled on the pipe they shall be dimensionally compatible with the coupling.

*Exception: Steel pipe with wall thicknesses less than Schedule 30 (in sizes 8 inches and larger) or Schedule 40 (in sizes less than 8 inches) shall not be joined by couplings used with pipe having cut grooves.*

**3-12.4\* Brazed and Soldered Joints.** Joints for the connection of copper tube shall be brazed.

*Exception No. 1: Solder joints may be permitted for wet-pipe systems in Light Hazard Occupancies where the temperature classification of the installed sprinklers is Ordinary or Intermediate.*

*Exception No. 2: Solder joints may be permitted for wet-pipe systems in Ordinary Hazard-Group 1 Occupancies where the piping is concealed.*

**3-12.5 Pipe Bending.** Bending of steel pipe (Schedule 40) and copper tube (Type K & L) may be accomplished when bends are made in conformance with good installation practices and show no kinks, ripples, distortions, reduction in diameter, or any noticeable deviations from round. The minimum radius of a bend shall be 6 pipe diameters for pipe sizes 2 inches and smaller, and 5 pipe diameters for pipe sizes 2½ inches and larger.

**3-12.6 Other Types.** Other types of joints shall be made or installed in accordance with the requirements of the listing for this service.

### 3-13 Fittings.

#### 3-13.1 Type of Fittings.

**3-13.1.1** Fittings used in sprinkler systems shall be of the materials listed in Table 3-13.1.1 or in accordance with 3-13.1.2. The chemical properties, physical properties and dimensions of the materials listed in Table 3-13.1.1 shall be at least equivalent to the standards cited in the table. Fittings used in sprinkler systems shall be designed to withstand the working pressures involved, but not less than 175 psi (12.1 bars) cold water (125 psi [8.6 bars] saturated steam) pressure.

**Table 3-13.1.1**

<b>Material and Dimensions</b>	<b>Standard*</b>
<b>Cast Iron</b>	
Cast Iron Screwed Fittings, 125 and 250 lb .....	ANSI B16.4
Cast Iron Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings .....	ANSI B16.1
<b>Malleable Iron</b>	
Malleable Iron Screwed Fittings, 150 and 300 lb .....	ANSI B16.3
<b>Steel</b>	
Factory-made Wrought Steel Buttweld Fittings .....	ANSI B16.9
Buttwelding Ends for Pipe, Valves, Flanges and Fittings .....	ANSI B16.25
Spec. for Piping Fittings of Wrought Carbon Steel and Alloy Steel for Moderate and Elevated Temperatures .....	ASTM A234
Steel Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings .....	ANSI B16.5
Forged Steel Fittings, Socket Welded and Threaded .....	ANSI B16.11
<b>Copper</b>	
Wrought Copper and Bronze Solder-Joint Pressure Fittings .....	ANSI B16.22
Cast Bronze Solder Joint Pressure Fittings .....	ANSI B16.18

\*See Appendix E.

**3-13.1.2** Other types of fittings may be used, but only those investigated and listed for this service.

*Exception: Welded fittings or formations as permitted in 3-12.2.*

**3-13.1.3** Fittings used in sprinkler systems shall be extra heavy pattern where pressures exceed 175 psi (12.1 bars).

*Exception No. 1: Standard weight pattern cast-iron fittings 2 inch size and smaller may be used where pressures do not exceed 300 psi (20.7 bars).*

*Exception No. 2: Standard weight pattern malleable iron fittings 6 inch size and smaller may be used where pressures do not exceed 300 psi (20.7 bars).*

*Exception No. 3: Fittings may be used for system pressures up to the limits specified in listings by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.*

**3-13.1.4** Where water pressures are 175 to 300 psi (12.1 to 20.7 bars), the ANSI standards permit the use of standard wall pipe and extra heavy valves. Until pressure ratings for valves are standardized, the manufacturers' ratings shall be observed.

**3-13.1.5\*** When risers are 3 inches in size or larger, a flanged joint or mechanical coupling shall be used at the riser at each floor.

**3-13.2\* Couplings and Unions.** Screwed unions shall not be used on pipe larger than 2 inches. Couplings and unions of other than screwed type shall be of types approved specifically for use in sprinkler systems. Unions, screwed or mechanical couplings, or flanges may be used to facilitate installation.

**3-13.3 Reducers and Bushings.** A one-piece reducing fitting shall be used wherever a change is made in the size of the pipe.

*Exception: Hexagonal or face bushings may be used in reducing the size of openings of fittings when standard fittings of the required size are not available.*

### **3-14 Valves.**

#### **3-14.1 Types of Valves to Be Used.**

**3-14.1.1** All valves on connections to water supplies and in supply pipes to sprinklers shall be listed indicating valves, unless a nonindicating valve, such as an underground gate valve with approved roadway box complete with T-wrench, is accepted by the authority having jurisdiction.



Such valves shall not close in less than five seconds when operated at maximum possible speed from the fully open position. This is to avoid damage to piping by water hammer.

The following may not incorporate indicating devices as part of the valve, but the valve assembly described shall qualify as an indicating valve:

- (a) an underground gate valve of listed type equipped with a listed indicator post,
- (b) a listed water control valve assembly which is normally open and requires constant energy application to close and keep closed,
- (c) a listed water control valve assembly which has a reliable position indication connected to a remote supervisory station.

**3-14.1.2** Drain valves and test valves shall be of listed type of 175 psi (12.1 bars) cold water [125 psi (8.6 bars) saturated steam] pressure rating.

**3-14.1.3** Check valves shall be of listed type and may be installed in a vertical or horizontal position.

### **3-14.2\* Valves Controlling Sprinkler Systems.**

**3-14.2.1\*** Each system shall be provided with a listed indicating valve so located as to control all sources of water supply except fire department connections when arranged as specified in 2-7.3.

**3-14.2.2** At least one listed indicating valve shall be installed in each source of water supply except fire department connections.

**3-14.2.3** Valves controlling sprinkler systems, except underground gate valves with roadway boxes, shall be supervised open by one of the following methods:

- (a) Central station, proprietary or remote station alarm service,
- (b) Local alarm service which will cause the sounding of an audible signal at a constantly attended point,
- (c) Locking valves open,
- (d) Sealing of valves and approved weekly recorded inspection when valves are located within fenced enclosures under the control of the owner.

**3-14.2.4** When there is more than one source of water supply, a check valve shall be installed in each connection.

*Exception: When cushion tanks are used with automatic fire pumps, no check valve is required in the cushion tank connection.*

**3-14.2.5\*** A check valve shall be installed in each water supply connection if there is a fire department connection on the system.

**3-14.2.6\*** When a single wet-pipe sprinkler system is equipped with a fire department connection the alarm valve is considered a check valve and an additional check valve shall not be required.

**3-14.2.7** In a city connection serving as one source of supply the city valve in the connection may serve as one of the required valves. A listed indicating valve or an indicator post valve shall be installed on the system side of the check valve. (*See Figure A-3-14.2.5.*)

**3-14.3\* Identification of Valves.** When there is more than one control valve, identification signs indicating the portion of the system controlled by each valve shall be provided.

### **3-15 Hangers.**

#### **3-15.1\* General.**

**3-15.1.1** The components of hanger assemblies which directly attach to the pipe or to the building structure shall be listed.

*Exception: Mild steel hangers formed from rods need not be listed.*

**3-15.1.2** Sprinkler piping shall be substantially supported from the building structure which must support the added load of the water-filled pipe plus a minimum of 250 lbs (114 kg) applied at the point of hanging.

**3-15.1.3** Types of hangers and installation methods shall be in accordance with the requirements of Section 3-15, unless they are certified by a registered professional engineer for the following:

(a) Designed to support five times the weight of the water-filled pipe plus 250 lbs (114 kg) at each point of piping support,

(b) These points of support are enough to support the sprinkler system,

(c) Ferrous materials are used for hanger components.

Detailed calculations shall be submitted, when required by the reviewing authority, showing stresses developed both in hangers and piping and safety factors allowed.

**3-15.1.4** Sprinkler piping shall be supported independently of the ceiling sheathing.

*Exception: Toggle hangers shall be used only for the support of branch lines under ceilings of hollow tile or metal lath and plaster.*

**3-15.1.5** When sprinkler piping is installed below ductwork, piping shall be substantially supported from the building structure or from the steel angles supporting the duct work provided the angles conform to Table 3-15.1.6.

**3-15.1.6** For trapeze hangers, the minimum size of steel angle or pipe span between purlins or joists shall be as shown in Table 3-15.1.6, all angles to be used with longer leg vertical. Any other sizes or shapes giving equal or greater section modulus will be acceptable. The trapeze bar shall be secured to prevent slippage.

**3-15.1.7** The size of hanger rods and fasteners required to support the steel angle iron or pipe indicated in Table 3-15.1.6 shall comply with 3-15.4.

**3-15.1.8** Eye rods and ring hangers shall be secured with necessary lock washers to prevent lateral motion at the point of support.

**3-15.1.9** Holes through concrete beams may also be considered as a substitute for hangers for the support of pipes.

**3-15.1.10\* Maximum Distance Between Hangers.** With steel pipe or copper tube as specified in 3-1.1.1, the maximum distance between hangers shall not exceed 12 ft (3.7 m) for 1- and 1¼-inch sizes nor 15 ft (4.6 m) for sizes 1½-inch and larger except as provided in 3-15.6. (*See Figure A-3-15.1.10.*)

## **3-15.2 Hangers in Concrete.**

**3-15.2.1** Listed inserts set in concrete may be installed for the support of hangers. Wood plugs shall not be used.

**3-15.2.2** Listed expansion shields for supporting pipes under concrete construction may be used in a horizontal position in the sides of beams. In concrete having gravel or crushed stone aggregate, expansion shields may be used in the vertical position to support pipes 4 inches or less in diameter.

**3-15.2.3** For the support of pipes 5 inches and larger, expansion shields if used in the vertical position shall alternate with hangers connected directly to the structural members such as trusses and girders, or to the sides of concrete beams. In the absence of convenient structural members, pipes 5 inches and larger may be supported entirely by expansion shields in the vertical position, but spaced not over 10 ft (3 m) apart.

Table 3-15.1.6 Trapeze Bars — One foot, six inches to 10 foot spans.

Span of Trapeze Bars	Pipe Size	2½" or Less	3"	3½"	4"	5"	6"	8"	10"
	1' 6"	1½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	1½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	1½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2" Pipe
	2' 0"	1½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2" Pipe
	2' 6"	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2" Pipe
	3' 0"	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1" Pipe	2" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe
	4' 0"	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	4" x 3" x ⅜" 3½" Pipe
	5' 0"	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	4" x 3" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	5" x 3½" x ⅜" 4" Pipe
	6' 0"	2½" x 1½" x ⅜" 1½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	4" x 3" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	4" x 3" x ⅜" 3" Pipe	5" x 3½" x ⅜" 4" Pipe
	7' 0"	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2½" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	4" x 3" x ⅜" 3" Pipe	5" x 3½" x ⅜" 3" Pipe	6" x 4" x ¼" 4" Pipe
	8' 0"	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2½" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 3" Pipe	4" x 3" x ⅜" 3" Pipe	5" x 3½" x ⅜" 3½" Pipe	6" x 4" x ¼" 4" Pipe
	9' 0"	3" x 2" x ⅜" 2" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2½" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 3" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 3½" Pipe	4" x 3" x ⅜" 3½" Pipe	5" x 3½" x ⅜" 4" Pipe	6" x 4" x ⅜" 5" Pipe
	10' 0"	3" x 2" x ¼" 2½" Pipe	3" x 2" x ¼" 2½" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 2½" Pipe	3½" x 2½" x ⅜" 3" Pipe	4" x 3" x ⅜" 3½" Pipe	5" x 3½" x ⅜" 3½" Pipe	6" x 4" x ¼" 4" Pipe	6" x 4" x ⅜" 5" Pipe

For SI units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**3-15.2.4** Expansion shields shall not be used in ceilings of gypsum or similar soft material. In cinder concrete, expansion shields shall not be used except on branch lines where they shall alternate with through bolts or hangers attached to beams.

**3-15.2.5** When expansion shields are used in the vertical position, the holes shall be drilled to provide uniform contact with the shield over its entire circumference. Depth of the hole shall be not less than specified for the type of shield used.

**3-15.2.6** Holes for expansion shields in the side of concrete beams shall be above the center line of the beam or above the bottom reinforcement steel rods.

### **3-15.3 Powder Driven Studs and Welding Studs.**

**3-15.3.1\*** Powder driven studs, welding studs, and the tools used for installing these devices shall be listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory and installed within the limits of pipe size, installation position, and construction material into which they are installed, as expressed in individual listings or approvals.

**3-15.3.2** The ability of concrete to hold the studs varies widely according to type of aggregate and quality of concrete, and it shall be established in each case by testing concrete on the job to determine that the studs will hold a minimum load of 750 lbs (341 kg) for 2-inch or smaller pipe, 1000 lbs (454 kg) for 2½-, 3-, or 3½-inch pipe, and 1200 lbs (545 kg) for 4- or 5-inch pipe.

**3-15.3.3** When increaser couplings are used, they shall be attached directly to the powder driven stud or welding stud.

**3-15.3.4** Welded studs or other hanger parts shall not be attached by welding to steel less than U. S. Standard, 12 gage.

### **3-15.4 Rods and "U" Hooks.**

**3-15.4.1** Hanger rod size shall be the same as that approved for use with the hanger assembly and the size of rods shall not be less than that given in Table 3-15.4.1.

*Exception: Rods of smaller diameter may be used when the hanger assembly has been tested and listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory and installed within the limits of pipe sizes expressed in individual listings or approvals. For rolled threads, the rod size shall not be less than the root diameter of the thread.*

Table 3-15.4.1

Pipe Size	Dia. of Rod		Pipe Size	Dia. of Rod	
	in.	mm		in.	mm
Up to and including 4 in.	$\frac{3}{8}$	9.5	5, 6 and 8 in. 10 and 12 in.	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{8}$	12.7 15.9

**3-15.4.2 "U" Hooks.** The size of the rod material of "U" hooks shall be not less than that given in Table 3-15.4.2.

Table 3-15.4.2

Pipe Size	Hook Material Diameter	
	in.	mm
Up to 2 in.	$\frac{3}{16}$	7.9
2½ in. to 8 in.	$\frac{3}{8}$	9.5

**3-15.4.3** The size of the rod material for eye rods shall not be less than specified in Table 3-15.4.3.

Table 3-15.4.3

Pipe Size	Diameter of Rod			
	With Bent Eye in.	mm	With Welded Eye in.	mm
Up to 4 in.	$\frac{3}{8}$	9.5	$\frac{3}{8}$	9.5
5-6 in.	$\frac{1}{2}$	12.7	$\frac{1}{2}$	12.7
8 in.	$\frac{3}{4}$	19.1	$\frac{1}{2}$	12.7

**3-15.4.4 Screws.** For ceiling flanges and "U" hooks, screw dimensions shall be not less than those given in Table 3-15.4.4.

*Exception: When the thickness of planking and thickness of flange does not permit the use of screws 2 in. (51 mm) long, screws of 1¾ in. (44 mm) long may be permitted with hangers spaced not over 10 ft (3 m) apart. When the thickness of beams or joists does not permit the use of screws 2½ in. (64 mm) long, screws 2 in. (51 mm) long may be permitted with hangers spaced not over 10 ft (3 m) apart.*

**Table 3-15.4.4**

Pipe Size Up to 2 in.	2 Screw Flanges Wood Screw No. 18 x 1½ in.
Pipe Size Up to 2 in. 2½ in., 3 in., 3½ in. 4 in., 5 in., 6 in. 8 in.	3 Screw Flanges Wood Screw No. 18 x 1½ in. Lag Screw ¾ in. x 2 in. Lag Screw ½ in. x 2 in. Lag Screw ¾ in. x 2 in.
Pipe Size Up to 2 in. 2½ in., 3 in., 3½ in. 4 in., 5 in., 6 in. 8 in.	4 Screw Flanges Wood Screw No. 18 x 1½ in. Lag Screw ¾ in. x 1½ in. Lag Screw ½ in. x 2 in. Lag Screw ¾ in. x 2 in.
Pipe Size Up to 2 in. 2½ in., 3 in., 3½ in. 4 in., 5 in., 6 in. 8 in.	"U" Hooks Drive Screw No. 16 x 2 in. Lag Screw ¾ in. x 2½ in. Lag Screw ½ in. x 3 in. Lag Screw ¾ in. x 3 in.

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**3-15.4.5** The size bolt or lag (coach) screw used with an eye rod or flange on the side of the beam shall not be less than specified in Table 3-15.4.5.

*Exception: When the thickness of beams or joists does not permit the use of screws 2½ in. (64 mm), screws 2 in. (51 mm) may be permitted with hangers spaced not over 10 ft (3 m) apart.*

**Table 3-15.4.5**

Size of Pipe	Size of Bolt or Lag Screw		Length of Lag Screw Used with Wood Beams	
	in.	mm	in.	mm
Up to and including 2 in.	¾	9.5	2½	64
2½ to 6 in. (inclusive)	½	12.7	3	76
8 in.	¾	15.9	3	76

**3-15.4.6** Drive screws shall be used only in a horizontal position as in the side of a beam. Wood screws shall not be driven. Nails are not acceptable for fastening hangers.

**3-15.4.7** Screws in the side of a timber or joist shall be not less than 2½ in. (64 mm) from the lower edge when supporting branch lines, and not less than 3 in. (76 mm) when supporting main lines. This shall not apply to 2-in. (51-mm) or thicker nailing strips resting on top of steel beams.

**3-15.4.8** The minimum thickness of plank and the minimum width of lower face of beams or joists in which lag screw rods are used shall be as given in Table 3-15.4.8.

**Table 3-15.4.8**

Pipe Size	Nominal Plank Thickness		Nominal Width of Beam Face	
	in.	mm	in.	mm
Up to 2 in.	3	76	2	51
2½ in. to 3½ in.	4	102	2	51
4 in. and 5 in.	4	102	3	76
6 in.	4	102	4	102

Lag screw rods shall not be used for support of pipes larger than six inches. All holes for lag screw rods shall be pre-drilled ⅛ in. (3.2 mm) less in diameter than the root diameter of the lag screw thread.

**3-15.5 Location of Hangers on Branch Lines.** This subsection applies to the support of steel pipe or copper tube as specified in 3-1.1.1, subject to the provisions of 3-15.1.10.

**3-15.5.1** On branch lines, there shall be not less than one hanger for each length of pipe.

*Exception: Hangers may be located as provided in 3-15.5.2 to 3-15.5.6 inclusive.*

**3-15.5.2** The distance between the hanger and centerline of upright sprinkler shall be no less than 3 in. (76 mm).

**3-15.5.3\*** The unsupported length between the end sprinkler and the last hanger shall be not more than 36 in. (914 mm) for 1-inch pipe, or 48 in. (1219 mm) for 1¼-inch pipe. When these limits are exceeded, the pipe shall be extended beyond the end sprinkler and supported by an additional hanger.

**3-15.5.4\*** When sprinklers are less than 6 ft (1.8 m) apart, hangers may be spaced up to, but not exceeding, 12 ft (3.7 m). (*See Figure A-3-15.5.4.*)

**3-15.5.5** Starter lengths less than 6 ft (1.8 m) do not require a hanger, except on the end line of a side-feed system, or where an intermediate cross main hanger has been omitted.

**3-15.5.6\*** Hangers are not required on 1-inch arms not over 12 in. (305 mm) long for copper tube, nor 24 in. (610 mm) long for steel pipe from branch lines or cross mains.



**3-15.6 Location of Hangers on Cross Mains.** This subsection applies to the support of steel pipe only as specified in 3-1.1.1, subject to the provisions of 3-15.1.10. Intermediate hangers shall not be omitted for copper tube.

**3-15.6.1\*** On cross mains, there shall be at least one hanger between each two branch lines.

*Exception No. 1: In bays having two branch lines, the intermediate hanger may be omitted provided that a hanger attached to a purlin is installed on each branch line located as near to the cross main as the location of the purlin permits. [See Figure A-3-15.6.1(A).] Remaining branch line hangers shall be installed in accordance with 3-15.5.*

*Exception No. 2: In bays having three or more branch lines, either side or center feed, one (only) intermediate hanger may be omitted provided that a hanger attached to a purlin is installed on each branch line located as near to the cross main as the location of the purlin permits. [See Figures A-3-15.6.1(B) and A-3-15.6.1(C).] Remaining branch line hangers shall be installed in accordance with 3-15.5.*

**3-15.6.2** At the end of the cross main, intermediate trapeze hangers shall be installed unless the cross main is extended to the next framing member with an ordinary hanger installed at this point, in which event an intermediate hanger may be omitted in accordance with 3-15.6.1, Exception Nos. 1 and 2.

### **3-15.7 Support of Risers.**

**3-15.7.1** Risers shall be supported by attachments directly to the riser or by hangers located on the horizontal connections close to the riser.

**3-15.7.2** In buildings designed for live floor loads in excess of 125 lbs per sq ft (611 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), riser supports shall be provided at the ground level and at each fourth level above. In buildings designed for live floor loads less than 125 lbs per sq ft (611 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), riser supports shall be provided at ground level and at each third level above. Where risers are supported from the ground, the ground support constitutes the first level of riser support. Where risers are offset or do not rise from the ground the first ceiling level above the offset constitutes the first level of riser support.

**3-15.7.3** Sprinkler and tank risers in vertical shafts, or in buildings with ceilings over 25 ft (7.6 m) high shall have at least one support for each riser pipe section.

**3-15.7.4** Clamps supporting pipe by means of set screws shall not be used.

### 3-16 Sprinklers.

**3-16.1 Working Pressure for Sprinklers.** Sprinklers shall not be used for system working pressures exceeding 175 psi (12.1 bars).

*Exception: Higher design pressures may be used when sprinklers are listed for those pressures.*

### 3-16.2 Types of Sprinklers.

**3-16.2.1** Only listed sprinklers shall be used. Sprinklers shall not be altered in any respect, nor have any type of ornamentation or coatings applied after shipment from the place of manufacture.

**3-16.2.2\*** The character of the discharge of sprinklers is such that it is necessary to use two distinct designs — one approved for the upright and the other for the pendent position.

**3-16.2.3** Sprinklers used for the special purposes and locations described in 3-16.2.4 to 3-16.4, inclusive, shall be of types specifically approved for such use.

**3-16.2.4** Open sprinklers may be used to protect special hazards, for protection against exposures, or in other special locations.

**3-16.2.5** For locations or conditions not requiring as much water as is discharged by a nominal ½-in. (12.7-mm) orifice sprinkler, sprinklers having a smaller orifice may be used subject to the following restrictions:

(a) Small orifice sprinklers shall not be used on dry-pipe or pre-action systems.

(b) An approved strainer shall be provided in the riser or feed main which supplies sprinklers having orifices smaller than ⅜ in. (9.5 mm).

**3-16.2.6\*** For locations or conditions requiring more water than is discharged by a nominal ½-in. (12.7-mm) orifice sprinkler, a sprinkler having a larger orifice may be used. Large orifice sprinklers having ½-inch iron pipe thread shall not be installed in new sprinkler systems.

**3-16.2.7** In situations involving special problems of water distribution, sprinklers having a discharge other than that which is characteristic of the ordinary types may be used. These will usually

have special deflectors. Sprinklers having special discharge characteristics may be required where either a fine spray or directional discharge of water is needed (e.g., directional discharge may be needed to properly protect substructures of piers and wharves due to the arrangement of structural supporting members. See NFPA 87, *Standard for the Construction and Protection of Piers and Wharves* [see Appendix E].)

**3-16.2.8\*** Standard sprinklers may be used to replace old-style sprinklers.

*Exception: For installation under piers and wharves where construction features require upward discharge to wet the underside of decks and structural members supporting the decks, a sprinkler that projects water upward to wet the overhead shall be used. This can be accomplished by using the standard pendent sprinkler installed in an upright position or by the use of the old-style sprinklers.*

**3-16.2.9** Old-style sprinklers may be used to replace old-style sprinklers.

**3-16.2.10** Old-style sprinklers shall not be used to replace standard sprinklers without a complete engineering review of the system which may result in major changes.

### **3-16.3 Corrosion-Resistant Sprinklers.**

**3-16.3.1** Listed corrosion-resistant or special coated sprinklers shall be installed in locations where chemicals, moisture or other corrosive vapors exist sufficient to cause corrosion of such devices as in paper mills, packing houses, tanneries, alkali plants, organic fertilizer plants, foundries, forge shops, fumigation, pickle and vinegar works, stables, storage battery rooms, electroplating rooms, galvanizing rooms, steam rooms of all descriptions, including moist vapor dry kilns, salt storage rooms, locomotive sheds or houses, driveways, areas exposed to outside weather such as piers and wharves exposed to salt air, areas under sidewalks, around bleaching equipment in flour mills, all portions of cold storage buildings where a direct ammonia expansion system is used, portions of any plant where corrosive vapors prevail.

### **3-16.3.2 Wax-coated or Similar Sprinklers.**

**3-16.3.2.1** Care shall be taken in the handling and installation of wax-coated or similar sprinklers to avoid damaging the coating.

**3-16.3.2.2** The color identification for coated sprinklers may be a dot on the top of the deflector, the color of the coating material or coating frame arms.

**3-16.3.2.3** Color identification is not required for plated sprinklers, ceiling sprinklers or similar decorative types.

**3-16.3.3** Corrosion-resistant coatings shall not be applied to sprinklers by anyone other than the manufacturer of the sprinklers.

*Exception: Any damage to the protective coating occurring at the time of installation shall be repaired at once using only the coating of the manufacturer of the sprinkler in the approved manner so that none of the sprinkler will be exposed after installation has been completed.*

**3-16.4 Sidewall Sprinklers.** Sidewall sprinklers are special sprinklers and their use shall be confined to light hazard occupancies as defined in 1-7.1.1, unless specifically designed and listed for ordinary hazard occupancies, or unless used in accordance with 3-16.2.7.

**3-16.5\* Discharge Capacities.** Table 3-16.5 shows the K factor, relative discharge and identification for sprinklers having different orifice sizes.

*Exception: Special listed sprinklers may have pipe threads different from those shown in Table 3-16.5.*

**Table 3-16.5**

Nominal Orifice (in.)	"K" Factor	Percent of Nominal ½-inch Discharge	Identification <sup>2</sup>
¼	1.3-1.5	25	½ in. NPT — Pintle
⅜	1.8-2.0	33.3	½ in. NPT — Pintle
½	2.6-2.9	50	½ in. NPT — Pintle
⅝	4.0-4.4	75	½ in. NPT — Pintle
¾	5.3-5.8	100	½ in. NPT
1½	7.4-8.2	140	¾ in. NPT
			or ½ in. NPT — Pintle

<sup>1</sup>"K" factor is the constant in the formula.

$$Q = K \sqrt{P}$$

Where Q = Flow in GPM  
P = Pressure in PSI

<sup>2</sup>With the exception of ½-in. (12.7-mm) orifice and 1½-in. (38.1-mm) orifice, ¾-in. NPT (iron pipe thread) sprinklers, the nominal orifice size is cast or stamped on the wrench boss of the sprinkler frame.

For SI Units: Qm = Km  $\sqrt{Pm}$ ; Qm = Flow in L/min; Pm = Pressure in bars; Km = 14.4 K; 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

### 3-16.6\* Temperature Ratings.

**3-16.6.1** The standard temperature ratings of automatic sprinklers are shown in Table 3-16.6.1. Automatic sprinklers shall have their frame arms colored in accordance with the color code designated in Table 3-16.6.1 with the following exceptions:

*Exception No. 1: The color identification for coated sprinklers may be a dot on the top of the deflector, the color of the coating material or colored frame arms.*

*Exception No. 2: Color identification is not required for plated sprinkler, ceiling sprinklers or similar decorative types.*

**Table 3-16.6.1**

#### Temperature Ratings, Classifications and Color Codings

Maximum Ceiling Temperature		Temperature Rating		Temperature Classification	Color Code
°F	°C	°F	°C		
100	38	135 to 170	57 to 77	Ordinary	Uncolored
150	66	175 to 225	79 to 107	Intermediate	White
225	107	250 to 300	121 to 149	High	Blue
300	149	325 to 375	163 to 191	Extra High	Red
375	191	400 to 475	204 to 246	Very Extra High	Green
475	246	500 to 575	260 to 302	Ultra High	Orange

**3-16.6.2** When higher temperature sprinklers are necessary to meet extraordinary conditions, special sprinklers as high as 650°F (343°C) are obtainable and may be used.

**3-16.6.3** The use of sprinklers with temperature ratings higher than ordinary shall be in accordance with the maximum ceiling temperature given in Table 3-16.6.1.

*Exception: Intermediate or high temperature sprinklers may be used in other than light hazard occupancies. For situations involving high piled or rack storage refer to NFPA 231, Standard on Indoor General Storage, and NFPA 231C, Standard for Rack Storage of Materials. (See Appendix E.)*

**3-16.6.4** The following practices shall be observed when installing high temperature sprinklers, unless maximum expected temperatures are otherwise determined or unless high temperature sprinklers are used throughout.

(a) Sprinklers near unit heaters. Where steam pressure is not more than 15 lbs per sq in. (1 bar), sprinklers in the heater zone shall be high and sprinklers in the danger zone intermediate temperature classification.

(b) Sprinklers located within 12 in. (305 mm) to one side or 30 in. (762 mm) above an uncovered steam main, heating coil or radiator shall be intermediate temperature classification.

(c) Sprinklers within 7 ft (2.1 m) of a low pressure blow-off valve which discharges free in a large room shall be high temperature classification.

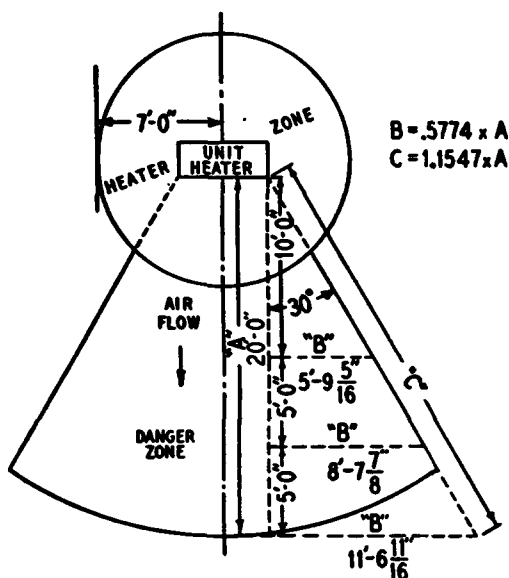
(d) Sprinklers under glass or plastic skylights exposed to the direct rays of the sun shall be intermediate temperature classification.

(e) Sprinklers in an unventilated concealed space under an uninsulated roof, or in an unventilated attic, shall be of intermediate temperature classification.

(f) Sprinklers in unventilated show windows having high-powered electric lights near the ceiling shall be intermediate temperature classification.

(g) Where a locomotive enters a building, sprinklers shall be located not nearer than 5 ft (1.5 m) from the center line of the track.

(h) For sprinklers protecting commercial-type cooking equipment and ventilation systems, temperature classifications of intermediate, high or extra high shall be provided as determined by use of a temperature measuring device (*see 4-4.18.2*).



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure 3-16.6.4(a) Heater and Danger Zones at Unit Heaters.

Table 3-16.6.4(A) Distance of Sprinklers from Heat Sources

Type of Heat Condition	Ordinary Degree Rating	Intermediate Degree Rating	High Degree Rating
1. Heating Ducts			
(a) Above	More than 2 ft 6 in.	2 ft 6 in. or less	—
(b) Side and Below	More than 1 ft 0 in.	1 ft 0 in. or less	—
(c) Diffuser Downward Discharge Horizontal Discharge	Any distance except as shown under Inter- mediate	<i>Downward:</i> Cylinder with 1 ft 0 in. radius from edge, extending 1 ft 0 in. below and 2 ft 6 in. above <i>Horizontal:</i> Semi-cylinder with 2 ft 6 in. radius in direction of flow, extending 1 ft 0 in. below and 2 ft 6 in. above	—
2. Unit Heater			
(a) Horizontal Discharge	—	<i>Discharge Side:</i> 7 ft. 0 in. to 20 ft 0 in. radius pie- shaped cylinder [see Figure 3-16.6.4 (a)] extending 7 ft 0 in. above and 2 ft 0 in. below unit heater; also 7 ft 0 in. radius cylinder more than 7 ft 0 in. above unit heater	7 ft 0 in. radius cylinder extending 7 ft 0 in. above and 2 ft 0 in. below unit heater
(b) Vertical Downward Discharge [Note: For sprinklers below unit heater, see Figure 3-16.6.4(a).]	—	7 ft 0 in. radius cylinder extending upward from an elevation 7 ft 0 in. above unit heater	7 ft 0 in. radius cylinder extending from the top of the unit heater to an elevation 7 ft 0 in. above unit heater
3. Steam Mains (Uncovered)			
(a) Above	More than 2 ft 6 in.	2 ft 6 in. or less	—
(b) Side and Below	More than 1 ft 0 in.	1 ft 0 in. or less	—
(c) Blow-off Valve	More than 7 ft 0 in.	—	7 ft 0 in. or less

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Table 3-16.6.4(B) Ratings of Sprinklers in Specified Locations

Location	Ordinary Degree Rating	Intermediate Degree Rating	High Degree Rating
Skylights	—	Glass or plastic	—
Attics	Ventilated	Unventilated	—
Peaked Roof: Metal or thin boards; concealed or not concealed; insulated or uninsulated	Ventilated	Unventilated	—
Flat Roof: Metal; not concealed; insulated or uninsulated	Ventilated or unventilated	Note: For uninsulated roof, climate and occupancy may require Intermediate sprinklers. Check on job.	—
Flat Roof: Metal; concealed; insulated or uninsulated	Ventilated	Unventilated	—
Show Windows	Ventilated	Unventilated	—

NOTE: A check of job condition by means of thermometers may be necessary.



**3-16.6.5** In case of change of occupancy involving temperature change, the sprinklers shall be changed accordingly.

**3-16.7\* Stock of Spare Sprinklers.**

**3-16.7.1** There shall be maintained on the premises a supply of spare sprinklers (never less than six) so that any sprinklers that have operated or been damaged in any way may promptly be replaced. These sprinklers shall correspond as to types and temperature ratings with the sprinklers in the property. The sprinklers shall be kept in a cabinet located where the temperature to which they are subjected will at no time exceed 100°F (38°C).

**3-16.7.2** A special sprinkler wrench shall also be provided and kept in the cabinet, to be used in the removal and installation of sprinklers.

**3-16.7.3** The stock of spare sprinklers shall be as follows:

For equipments not over 300 sprinklers, not less than 6 sprinklers

For equipments 300 to 1,000 sprinklers, not less than 12 sprinklers

For equipments above 1,000 sprinklers, not less than 24 sprinklers

Stock of spare sprinklers shall include all types and ratings installed.

**3-16.8\* Guards and Shields.** Sprinklers which are so located as to be subject to mechanical injury (in either the upright or the pendent position) shall be protected with approved guards.

**3-16.9 Painting and Ornamental Finishes.**

**3-16.9.1\*** When the sprinkler piping is given any kind of coating, such as whitewash or paint, care shall be exercised to see that no automatic sprinklers are coated.

**3-16.9.2\*** Sprinkler frames may be factory painted or enameled for the purpose of identifying sprinklers of different temperature ratings in accordance with 3-16.6.1 or as ornamental finish in accordance with 3-16.9.3. Otherwise, sprinklers shall not be painted and any sprinklers which have been painted, except for factory applied coatings, shall be replaced with new listed sprinklers.

**3-16.9.3** Ornamental finishes shall not be applied to sprinklers by anyone other than the sprinkler manufacturer and only sprinklers listed with such finishes shall be used.

### 3-17 Sprinkler Alarms.

**3-17.1 Definition.** A local alarm unit is an assembly of apparatus approved for the service and so constructed and installed that any flow of water from a sprinkler system equal to or greater than that from a single automatic sprinkler will result in an audible alarm signal on the premises.

**3-17.2\* Where Required.** Local waterflow alarms shall be provided on all sprinkler systems having more than 20 sprinklers.

#### 3-17.3 Water Flow Detecting Devices.

**3-17.3.1 Alarm Check Valves.** The alarm apparatus for a wet-pipe system shall consist of a listed alarm check valve or other approved waterflow detecting alarm device with the necessary attachments required to give an alarm.

**3-17.3.2 Dry-Pipe Valves.** The alarm apparatus for a dry-pipe system shall consist of listed alarm attachments to the dry-pipe valve. When a dry-pipe valve is located on the system side of an alarm valve, the actuating device of the alarms or the dry-pipe valve may be connected to the alarms on the wet-pipe system.

**3-17.3.3\* Preaction and Deluge Valves.** The alarm apparatus for preaction and deluge systems shall consist of listed alarm attachments, actuated by a detection system independent of flow of water in the system.

**3-17.3.4** Waterflow alarm indicators (paddle type) shall not be installed in dry-pipe, preaction or deluge systems. The surge of water when valve trips may seriously damage the device.

#### 3-17.4 Attachments — General.

**3-17.4.1\*** An alarm unit shall include a listed mechanical alarm, horn or siren, or an approved weatherproof electric gong, bell, horn or siren.

**3-17.4.2\*** Outdoor mechanical or electrically operated bells shall be of weatherproof and guarded type.

**3-17.4.3** On each alarm check valve used under conditions of variable water pressure, a retarding device shall be installed. Valves shall be provided in the connections to retarding chambers, to permit repair or removal without shutting off sprinklers; these valves shall be so arranged that they may be locked or sealed in the open position.

**3-17.4.4 Dry-pipe, preaction and deluge valves** shall be fitted with a test connection for electric alarm switch or water motor gong or both. This pipe connection shall be made on the water side of the system and provided with a control valve and drain for the alarm piping. A check valve shall be installed in the pipe connection to the intermediate chamber of the dry-pipe valve.

**3-17.4.5** A control valve shall be installed in connection with pressure-type contactor or water-motor-operated alarm devices and such valves shall be of the type which will clearly indicate whether they are open or closed and be so constructed that they may be locked or sealed in the open position. The control valve for the retarding chamber on alarm check valves of wet-pipe systems may be accepted as complying with this paragraph.

**3-17.5\* Attachments — Mechanically Operated.** For all types of sprinkler systems employing water-motor-operated alarms, an approved  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch strainer shall be installed at the alarm outlet of the waterflow detecting device except that when a retarding chamber is used in connection with an alarm valve, the strainer shall be located at the outlet of the retarding chamber unless the retarding chamber is provided with an approved integral strainer in its outlet. Water-motor-operated devices shall be protected from the weather, and shall be properly aligned and so installed as not to get out of adjustment. All piping to these devices shall be galvanized or brass or other approved corrosion resistant material of a size not less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

### **3-17.6 Attachments — Electrically Operated.**

**3-17.6.1** Electrically operated alarm attachments forming part of an auxiliary, central station, proprietary or remote station signaling system shall be installed in accordance with the following applicable NFPA standards.

- (a) *Central Station Signaling Systems*, NFPA 71
- (b) *Auxiliary Protective Signaling Systems*, NFPA 72B
- (c) *Remote Station Protective Signaling Systems*, NFPA 72C
- (d) *Proprietary Protective Signaling Systems*, NFPA 72D

(See *Appendix E*.)

**3-17.6.2\*** Electrically operated alarm attachments forming part of a local sprinkler waterflow alarm system shall be installed in accordance with the local alarm system provisions of NFPA 72A, *Standard*

*for Local Protective Signaling Systems (see Appendix E) and in accordance with the provisions of 3-17.6.3, A-3-17.6.2, and 3-17.6.4. This standard permits local electrical waterflow alarms to be of open circuit type.*

**3-17.6.3** Waterflow detecting devices, including the associated alarm circuits, shall be tested by an actual waterflow through use of a test connection. *(See 3-17.7.)*

**3-17.6.4** Outdoor electric alarm devices shall be of a type specifically listed for outdoor use, and the outdoor wiring shall be in approved conduit, properly protected from the entrance of water in addition to the requirements of 3-17.6.1.

**3-17.7 Drains.** Drains from alarm devices shall be so arranged that there will be no danger of freezing, and so that there will be no overflowing at the alarm apparatus at domestic connections or elsewhere with the sprinkler drains wide open and under system pressure. *(See 3-11.4.)*

## **Chapter 4 Spacing, Location and Position of Sprinklers**

### **4-1 General Information.**

#### **4-1.1\* Basic Principles.**

**4-1.1.1** The basic principles for providing proper protection are namely: (1) Sprinklers installed throughout the premises, including basements, lofts and all of the locations herein specified. (2) Definite maximum protection area per sprinkler. (3) Minimum interference to discharge pattern by beams, bracing, girders, trusses, piping, lighting fixtures and air conditioning ducts. (4) Correct location of automatic sprinklers with respect to ceilings, or beams and wood joists to obtain suitable sensitivity.

**4-1.1.2** The installation requirements are specific for the normal arrangement of structural members. There will be arrangements of structural members not specifically detailed by the requirements. By applying the basic principles, layouts for such construction can vary from specific illustrations provided the maximum specified for the Spacing of Sprinklers (Section 4-2) and Position of Sprinklers (Section 4-3) are not exceeded.

**4-1.1.3** **Special Sprinklers** may be installed with larger protection areas or distances between sprinklers than are specified in Sections 4-2 and 4-5 when such installations are made in accordance with approvals or listings of a testing laboratory.

**4-1.1.4\*** Clearance between sprinklers and structural member shall comply with this standard unless tests are performed which show that deviations offer no obstruction to spray discharge.

**4-1.2\* Partial Installations.** When partial sprinkler installations are installed, the requirements of this standard shall be used insofar as they are applicable. The authority having jurisdiction shall be consulted in each case.

#### **4-1.3 Definitions.**

**4-1.3.1 Smooth Ceiling Construction.** The term smooth ceiling construction as used in this standard includes:

(a) Flat slab, pan-type reinforced concrete, concrete joist less than 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers.

(b) Continuous smooth bays formed by wood, concrete or steel beams spaced more than  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ft (2.9 m) on centers — beams supported by columns, girders or trusses.

(c) Smooth roof or floor decks supported directly on girders or trusses spaced more than  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ft (2.9 m) on centers.

(d) Smooth monolithic ceilings of at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. (19 mm) of plaster on metal lath or a combination of materials of equivalent fire-resistive rating attached to the underside of wood or bar joists.

(e) Open web-type steel beams regardless of spacing.

(f) Smooth shell-type roofs, such as folded plates, hyperbolic paraboloids, saddles, domes and long barrel shells.

(g) In (b) through (f) above, the roof and floor decks may be noncombustible or combustible. Item (b) would include standard mill construction.

(h) Suspended ceilings of noncombustible construction.

(i) Suspended ceilings of combustible construction where there is a full complement of sprinklers in the space immediately above such a ceiling and the space is unfloored and unoccupied.

(j) Smooth monolithic ceilings with fire resistance less than that specified under item (d) attached to the underside of wood or bar joists.

(k) Combustible suspended ceilings arranged other than as specified under item (i).

**4-1.3.2 Beam and Girder Construction.** The term beam and girder construction as used in this standard includes non-combustible and combustible roof or floor decks supported by wood beams of 4 in. (102 mm) or greater nominal thickness or concrete or steel beams spaced 3 to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ft (0.9 to 2.3 m) on centers and either supported on or framed into girders. (When supporting a wood plank deck, this includes semi-mill and panel construction and when supporting [with steel framing] gypsum plank, steel deck, concrete, tile, or similar material would include much of the so-called non-combustible construction.)

**4-1.3.3 Bar Joist Construction.** The term bar joist construction refers to construction employing joists consisting of steel truss-shaped members. This definition includes noncombustible and combustible roof and floor decks supported on bar joists.

**4-1.3.4 Panel Construction.** The term panel construction as used in this standard includes ceiling panels formed by members capable of trapping heat to aid the operation of sprinklers and limited to a

maximum of 300 sq ft (27.9 m<sup>2</sup>) in area. Beams spaced more than 7½ ft (2.3 m) apart and framed into girders qualify for panel construction provided the 300 sq ft (27.9 m<sup>2</sup>) area limitation is met.

**4-1.3.5 Standard Mill Construction.** The term standard mill construction as used in this standard refers to heavy timber construction as defined in NFPA 220, *Standard Types of Building Construction*. (See Appendix E.)

**4-1.3.6 Semi-Mill Construction.** The term semi-mill construction as used in this standard refers to a modified standard mill construction where greater column spacing is used and beams rest on girders.

**4-1.3.7 Wood Joist Construction.** The term wood joist construction refers to wood boards or planks on wooden beams spaced less than 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers. Wooden beams less than 4 in. (102 mm) nominal thickness spaced more than 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers are also considered as wood joist construction.

**4-1.3.8 High-Piled Storage.** High-piled storage is defined as solid piled storage in excess of 15 ft (4.6 m) in height or palletized or rack storage in excess of 12 ft (3.7 m) in height. See Appendix for availability of information for sprinkler protection of high-piled storage.

**4-2 Spacing and Location of Sprinklers.** (See also Sections 4-3 and 4-4.)

**4-2.1 Distance Between the Branch Lines and Between Sprinklers on the Branch Lines.**

**4-2.1.1** For light hazard occupancies the distance between branch lines and between sprinklers on the branch lines shall not exceed 15 ft (4.6 m).

**4-2.1.2\*** For ordinary hazard occupancies, except high-piled stock, the distance between the branch lines and between sprinklers on branch lines shall not exceed 15 ft (4.6 m). In buildings used for high-piled storage (as defined in 4-1.3.8) the distance between the branch lines and between sprinklers on the branch lines shall not exceed 12 ft (3.7 m) except, in bays 25 ft (7.6 m) wide, a spacing of 12 ft 6 in. (3.8 m) between branch lines is permitted.

**4-2.1.3** For extra hazard occupancy, the distance between the branch lines and between sprinklers on the branch lines shall not exceed 12 ft (3.7 m).

**4-2.1.4 Distance from Walls.** The distance from the walls to the end sprinklers on the branch lines shall not exceed one-half of the allowable distance between sprinklers on the branch lines. The distance from the walls to the end branch lines shall not exceed one-half the allowable distance between the branch lines. For exception relating to small rooms, refer to 4-4.20.

## **4-2.2 Protection Area Limitations.**

### **4-2.2.1 Light Hazard Occupancy.**

**4-2.2.1.1** Under smooth ceiling construction and under beam and girder construction [as defined in 4-1.3.1 items (a) through (i), and 4-1.3.2] the protection area per sprinkler shall not exceed 200 sq ft (18.6 m<sup>2</sup>). For hydraulically designed sprinkler systems the protected area limit per sprinkler may be increased to 225 sq ft (20.9 m<sup>2</sup>).

**4-2.2.1.2\*** Under open wood joist construction (as defined in 4-1.3.7) the protection area per sprinkler shall not exceed 130 sq ft (12.1 m<sup>2</sup>).

**4-2.2.1.3** For other types of construction the protection area per sprinkler shall not exceed 168 sq ft (15.6 m<sup>2</sup>).

**4-2.2.2 Ordinary Hazard Occupancy.** For all types of construction the protection area per sprinkler shall not exceed 130 sq ft (12.1 m<sup>2</sup>), except that in buildings used for high-piled storage (as defined in 4-1.3.8) the protection area per sprinkler shall not exceed 100 sq ft (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>).

*Exception: Sprinkler spacing may exceed 100 sq ft (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>) but shall not exceed 130 sq ft (12.1 m<sup>2</sup>) in systems hydraulically designed in accordance with NFPA 231 and 231C (see Appendix E) for densities below 0.25 gpm per sq ft [(10.2 L/min)/m<sup>2</sup>].*

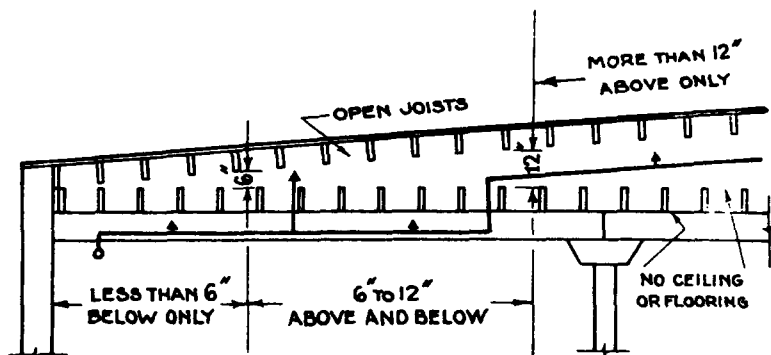
**4-2.2.3 Extra Hazard Occupancy.** The protection area per sprinkler shall not exceed 90 sq ft (8.4 m<sup>2</sup>) for any type of building construction, except protection area per sprinkler shall not exceed 100 sq ft (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>) where the system is hydraulically designed.

### **4-2.3\* Location of Sprinklers and Branch Lines with Respect to Structural Members.**

**4-2.3.1** Sprinklers may be located under beams, in bays, or combination of both, but the locations must meet the provisions outlined in 4-2.4 and Section 4-3.



**4-2.3.2** Where there are two sets of joists under a roof or ceiling and there is no flooring over the lower set, sprinklers shall be installed above and below the lower set of joists where there is a clearance of from 6 in. to 12 in. (152 mm to 305 mm) between the top of the lower joist and bottom of the upper joist. (See Figure 4-2.3.2.)



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure 4-2.3.2** Arrangement of Sprinklers under Two Sets of Open Joists — No Sheathing on Lower Joists.

#### 4-2.4 Clearance Between Sprinklers and Structural Members.

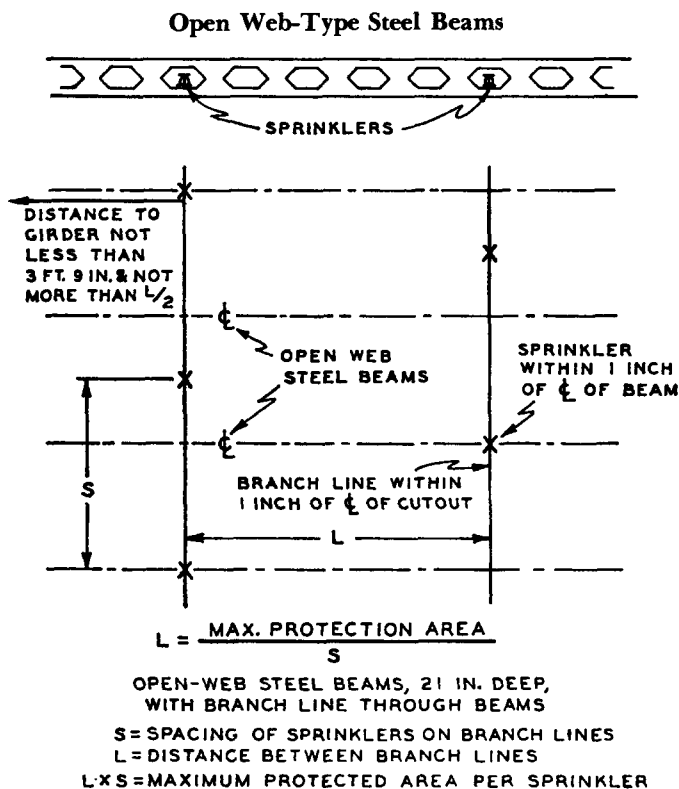
**4-2.4.1 Trusses.** Sprinklers shall be at least 2 ft (0.6 m) laterally from truss members (web or chord) more than 4 in. (102 mm) wide, and at least 1 ft (0.3 m) laterally from truss members 4 in. (102 mm) or less in width. When sprinkler lines run above or through trusses, the sprinklers may be located on center line of truss, provided chord members are not more than 8 in. (203 mm) wide, and the deflector is at least 6 in. (152 mm) above the chord member. When sprinklers are located laterally beside chord members, clearances between the chord members and the sprinkler deflectors shall be in accordance with 4-2.4.6.

**4-2.4.2 Girders.** When sprinkler lines are located perpendicular to and above girders, sprinklers shall be at least 3 ft, 9 in. (229 mm) from girders except that they may be located directly above girders with the top flange not more than 8 in. (203 mm) wide, in which case the deflectors shall be at least 6 in. (152 mm) above the top of the girder.

**4-2.4.3** When sprinkler deflectors are in accordance with Table 4-2.4.6, the girders may be disregarded in the spacing of the branch lines.

**4-2.4.4 Open Web-Type Steel Beams.** (See Figure 4-2.4.4.) When branch lines are run across and through openings of open web-type steel beams, sprinklers may be spaced bay and beam provided:

- the distance between sprinklers and between branch lines conforms to 4-2.1,
- sprinklers in the beam openings are located within 1 in. (25 mm) horizontally of the opening center line.
- the branch line is located within 1 in. (25 mm) horizontally of the opening center line, and
- sprinklers on alternate lines are staggered.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-2.4.4 Location of Branch Lines and Sprinklers.**

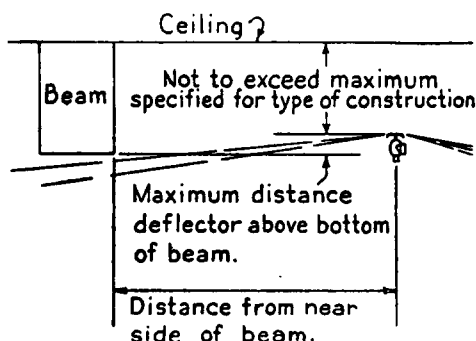
**4-2.4.5 Bar Joists.** Sprinklers shall be at least 3 in. (76 mm) laterally from web members of open bar joists which do not exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (13 mm) or at least 6 in. (152 mm) laterally from web members which do not exceed 1 in. (25 mm). When the dimensions of the web member exceed 1 in. (25 mm), see 4-2.4.1.

**4-2.4.6 Beams.** Deflectors of sprinklers in bays shall be at sufficient distances from the beams, as shown in Table 4-2.4.6 and Figure 4-2.4.6, to avoid obstruction to the sprinkler discharge pattern. Otherwise the spacing of sprinklers on opposite sides of the beams shall be measured from the beam and the distance shall not exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the allowable distance between sprinklers.

**Table 4-2.4.6 Position of Deflector when Located above Bottom of Beam**

Distance from Sprinkler to Side of Beam	Maximum Allowable Distance Deflector above Bottom of Beam
Less than 1 ft	0 in.
1 ft to less than 2 ft	1 in.
2 ft to less than 2 ft 6 in.	2 in.
2 ft 6 in. to less than 3 ft	3 in.
3 ft to less than 3 ft 6 in.	4 in.
3 ft 6 in. to less than 4 ft	6 in.
4 ft to less than 4 ft 6 in.	7 in.
4 ft 6 in. to less than 5 ft	9 in.
5 ft to less than 5 ft 6 in.	11 in.
5 ft 6 in. to less than 6 ft	14 in.

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.



**Figure 4-2.4.6 Position of Deflector, Upright or Pendent, When Located Above Bottom of Beam.**

**4-2.4.7 Position of Deflectors.** Deflectors of sprinklers shall be parallel to ceilings, roofs, or the incline of stairs, but when installed in the peak of a pitched roof they shall be horizontal. Low-pitched roofs having slopes not greater than 1 in. per ft (83 mm/m) may be considered as level in the application of this rule and sprinklers may be installed with deflectors horizontal.

**4-2.5 Clear Space Below Sprinklers.** A minimum of 18 in. (457 mm) clearance shall be maintained between top of storage and ceiling sprinkler deflectors. For in-rack sprinklers, the clear space shall be in accordance with NFPA 231C, *Rack Storage of Materials*. (See Appendix E.)

### **4-3 Position of Sprinklers.**

#### **4-3.1 Smooth Ceiling Construction** *(as defined in 4-1.3.1).*

**4-3.1.1** Deflectors of sprinklers in bays shall be located 1 in. to 10 in. (25 mm to 254 mm) below combustible ceilings or 12 in. (305 mm) below noncombustible ceilings.

**4-3.1.2** Deflectors of sprinklers under beams shall be located 1 in. to 4 in. (25 mm to 102 mm) below beams, and not more than 14 in. (356 mm) below combustible ceilings or not more than 16 in. (406 mm) below non-combustible ceilings.

**4-3.1.3** When sprinklers approved for pendent use are installed in the pendent position under smooth ceilings the deflectors shall be not less than 2½ in. (64 mm) from ceiling. Special approved type pendent sprinklers (flush type, ceiling type) may have deflectors nearer the ceiling.

#### **4-3.2 Beam and Girder Construction** *(as defined in 4-1.3.2).*

**4-3.2.1** Deflectors of sprinklers in bays shall be located 1 in. to 16 in. (25 mm to 406 mm) below combustible or noncombustible roof or floor decks.

**4-3.2.2** Deflectors of sprinklers under beams shall be located 1 in. to 4 in. (25 mm to 102 mm) below beams and not more than 20 in. (508 mm) below combustible or noncombustible roof or floor decks.

**4-3.2.3** When concrete tee construction is encountered with the stems of the tees spaced less than 7½ ft (2.3 m) on centers but more than 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers, 4-3.2.1 and 4-3.4.1 do not apply when the sprinkler deflectors are located at or above the level of the stems and the deflectors of the sprinklers are located as specified in Table 4-2.4.6.

**4-3.3 Open Bar Joist Construction** *(as defined in 4-1.3.3).* Deflectors of sprinklers shall be located 1 in. to 10 in. (25 mm to 254 mm) below combustible or not more than 12 in. (305 mm) below noncombustible roof or floor decks.

**4-3.4 Panel Construction** *(as defined in 4-1.3.4).*

**4-3.4.1** Deflectors of sprinklers in bays formed by members, such as beams framed into girders, resulting in panels up to 300 sq ft (27.9 m<sup>2</sup>) shall be located 1 in. to 18 in. (25 mm to 457 mm) below combustible or noncombustible roof or floor decks.

**4-3.4.2** Deflectors of sprinklers under the members, such as under beams framed into girders, forming panels up to 300 sq ft (27.9 m<sup>2</sup>) shall be located 1 in. to 4 in. (25 mm to 102 mm) below such members and not more than 22 in. (559 mm) below combustible or noncombustible roof or floor decks.

**4-3.5 Open Wood Joist Construction** *(as defined in 4-1.3.7).* In open joist construction with joists spaced 3 ft (0.9 m) or less on centers, sprinklers shall be located with deflectors 1 in. to 6 in. (25 mm to 152 mm) below the bottom of the joists. If open joists are spaced more than 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers, sprinklers shall be located with deflectors placed in accordance with 4-3.1 or 4-3.2.

**4-3.6 Location Under Sheathed or Suspended Ceiling Under Any Type of Construction.** The position of sprinklers under sheathed or suspended ceilings with any type of construction shall be the same as for smooth ceiling construction; see 4-3.1.1 and 4-3.1.3.

**4-4\* Locations or Conditions Involving Special Consideration.**

**4-4.1 Combustible Form Board.** When roof or floor decks consist of poured gypsum or concrete on combustible form board supported on steel supports, the position of sprinkler deflectors shall be the same as for noncombustible construction as stated in Section 4-3. When combustible form board is located above suspended ceilings or in blind spaces, see 4-4.4.1.

**4-4.2 Metal Roof Decks.** When roof decks are metal with combustible adhesives or vapor seal, the position of sprinklers shall be the same as for combustible construction.

**4-4.3 Spaces Under Ground Floors.** Sprinklers shall be installed in all spaces below combustible ground floors except that, by permission of the authority having jurisdiction, sprinklers may be omitted when all of the following conditions prevail:

(a) The space is not accessible for storage purposes or entrance of unauthorized persons and is protected against accumulation of wind-borne debris;

(b) The space contains no equipment such as steam pipes, electric wiring, shafting, or conveyors;

(c) The floor over the space is tight;

(d) No flammable liquids are processed, handled or stored on the floor above.

#### **4-4.4 Blind Spaces.**

**4-4.4.1** Sprinklers shall be installed in all blind spaces enclosed wholly or partly by exposed combustible construction, as in walls, floors and ceilings, except as modified by 4-4.4.2 and 4-4.4.3. In spaces formed by studs or joists, sprinklers shall be provided where there is 6 in. (152 mm) or more clearance between the inside or near edges of the studs or joists which form the opposite sides of the space; the distance from the first sprinkler to the wall, however, need not be less than specified in 4-2.1.4. In partly or wholly combustible bar joist construction, sprinklers shall be installed wherever the total depth of the space exceeds 6 in. (152 mm) between roof or floor deck and ceiling; the spacing of sprinklers in that case may be on the basis of light hazard classification provided the space is not accessible for storage or other use.

**4-4.4.2** Sprinklers may be omitted from combustible blind spaces when any of the following conditions prevail:

(a) When the ceiling is attached directly to the underside of the supporting beams of a combustible roof or floor deck.

(b) When concealed space is entirely filled with a non-combustible insulation. In solid joisted construction the insulation need fill only the space from the ceiling to the bottom edge of the joist of the roof or floor deck.

(c) When there are small concealed spaces over rooms that do not exceed 50 sq ft (4.6 m<sup>2</sup>) in area.

**4-4.4.3** In blind spaces having exposed combustible construction or containing exposed combustibles in localized areas, the combustibles shall be protected as follows:

(a) If the exposed combustibles are in the vertical partitions or walls around all or a portion of the enclosure a single row of sprin-

klers spaced not over 12 ft (3.7 m) apart nor more than 6 ft (1.8 m) from the inside of the partition may be installed to protect the surface. The first and last sprinklers in such a row shall not be over 5 ft (1.5 m) from the ends of the partitions.

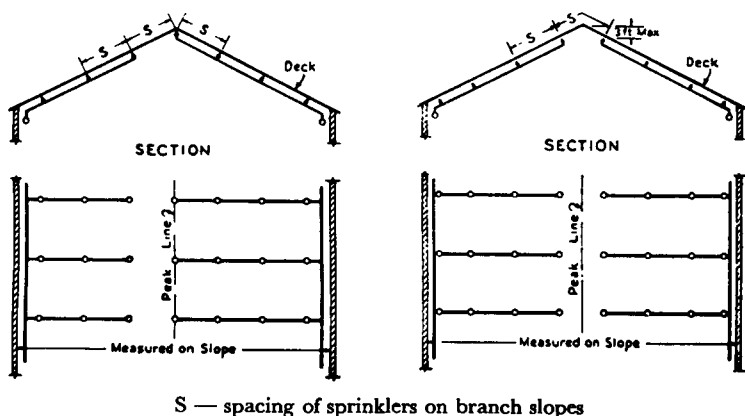
(b) If the exposed combustibles are in the horizontal plane, permission may be given to protect the area of the combustibles on a light hazard spacing and add a row of sprinklers not over 6 ft (1.8 m) outside the outline of the area and not over 12 ft (3.7 m) along the outline. When the outline returns to a wall or other obstruction, the last sprinkler shall not be over 6 ft (1.8 m) from wall or obstruction.

#### 4-4.5 Spacing of Sprinklers Under Pitched Roofs.

4-4.5.1 Branch lines parallel to peaks of pitched roofs and sprinklers on lines perpendicular to peaks shall be spaced throughout the distance measured along the slope. This will place a row of sprinklers either in the peak or one-half the spacing down the slope from the peak.

4-4.5.2 Under saw-toothed roofs, the row of sprinklers at the highest elevation shall be not more than 3 ft (0.9 m) down the slope from the peak.

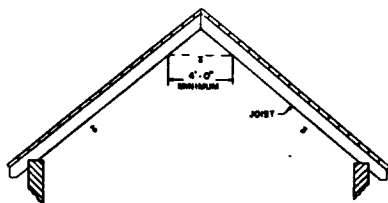
4-4.5.3 In 4-4.5.1 or 4-4.5.2 sprinklers in or near the peak shall have deflectors not more than 3 ft (0.9 m) vertically down from the peak. (See Figure 4-4.5.3.)



For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure 4-4.5.3 Sprinklers at Pitched Roofs; Branch Lines Run Up the Slope.

**4-4.5.4** In a steeply pitched roof, the distance from the peak to deflectors may be increased to maintain a horizontal clearance of not less than 2 ft (0.6 m). (See Figure 4-4.5.4.)



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-4.5.4** Desirable Horizontal Clearance for Sprinklers at Peak of Pitched Roof.

#### **4-4.6 Spacing of Sprinklers Under Curved Roof Buildings.**

**4-4.6.1** When roofs are curved down to the floor line, the horizontal distance measured at the floor level from the side wall or roof construction to the nearest sprinklers shall not be greater than one-half the allowable distance between sprinklers in the same direction.

**4-4.6.2** Deflectors of sprinklers shall be parallel with the curve of the roof or tilted slightly toward the peak of the roof. Deflectors of sprinklers shall be located as described for beam and girder construction or for the closest comparable type of ceiling construction.

**4-4.6.3** When extra hazard occupancy spacing of sprinklers is used under curved ceilings of other than fire-resistive construction, as in aircraft storage or servicing areas, the spacing as projected on the floor shall be not wider than required for extra hazard occupancies, but in no case shall the spacing on the roof or ceiling be wider than required for ordinary hazard occupancies.

**4-4.7 Narrow Pockets.** Girders, beams or trusses forming narrow pockets of combustible construction along walls when of a depth which will obstruct the spray discharge pattern may require additional sprinklers positioned in accordance with Table 4-2.4.6.



#### **4-4.8 Elevators, Stairs and Shafts.**

##### **4-4.8.1 Vertical Shafts.**

**4-4.8.1.1** Within vertical shafts having combustible sides, sprinklers shall be provided for each 200 sq ft (18.6 m<sup>2</sup>) of combustible surface, in addition to sprinklers at tops of shafts. Such sprinklers shall be installed at each floor level when shaft is trapped.

**4-4.8.1.2** When vertical openings are not protected by standard enclosures, sprinklers shall be so placed as to fully cover them. This necessitates placing sprinklers close to such openings at each floor level.

##### **4-4.8.2\* Stairways.**

**4-4.8.2.1** Stairways of combustible construction shall be sprinklered underneath whether risers are open or not.

**4-4.8.2.2** Stairways of noncombustible construction with combustible storage beneath shall be sprinklered.

**4-4.8.2.3\*** When moving stairways, large monumental staircases, or similar floor openings are unenclosed, the floor openings involved shall be protected by draft stops in combination with close spaced sprinklers.

**4-4.8.3** Noncombustible stair shafts ordinarily will require sprinklers only at the top and lower tiers except when serving two or more separate fire sections when sprinklers will also be required at each floor landing.

**4-4.9\* Building Service Chutes.** Building service chutes (linen, rubbish, etc.) shall be protected internally by automatic sprinklers. This will require a sprinkler at the top of the chute and, in addition, a sprinkler shall be installed within the chute at alternate floor levels in buildings over two stories in height. The room or area into which the chute discharges shall also be protected by automatic sprinklers.

##### **4-4.10 Exterior Canopies, Docks, and Platforms.**

**4-4.10.1** Sprinklers shall be installed under roofs or canopies over outside-loading platforms, docks, or other areas where combustibles are stored or handled.

**4-4.10.2** Sprinklers shall be installed under exterior combustible roofs or canopies exceeding 4 ft (1.2 m) in width.

*Exception: Sprinklers may be omitted where construction is noncombustible and areas under the canopies are not used for storage or handling.*

**4-4.10.3** Sprinklers shall be installed under exterior docks and platforms of combustible construction unless such space is closed off and protected against accumulation of debris.

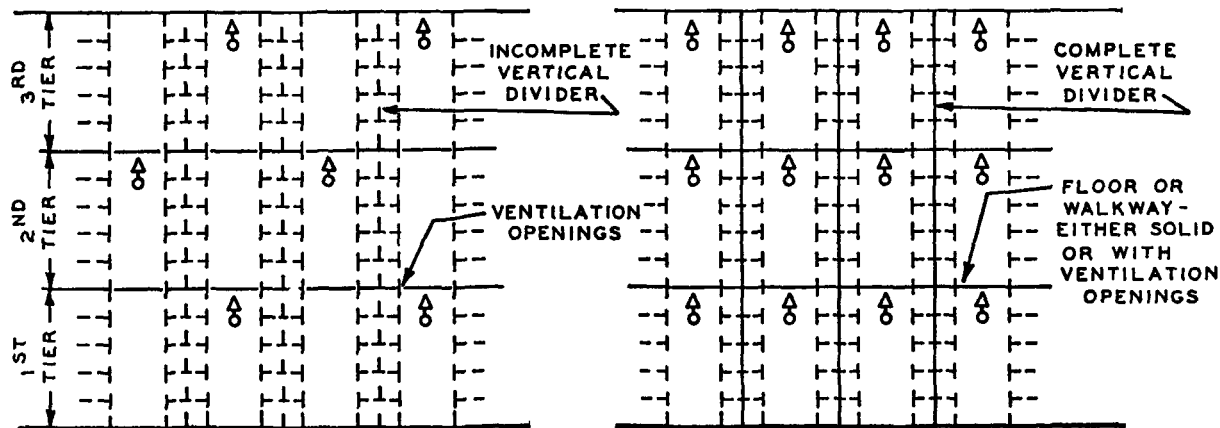
**4-4.11\* Decks.** Sprinklers shall be installed under decks and galleries which are over 4 ft (1.2 m) wide. Slatting of decks, walkways or the use of open gratings as a substitute for such sprinklers is not acceptable.

**4-4.12 Library Stack Rooms.** For single tier stacks where 18-in. (457-mm) clearance can be provided between sprinkler deflectors and top of stacks, sprinklers shall be located without regard to stacks. For multi-tier stacks and for single-tier stacks where 18-in (457-mm) clearance is not available between sprinkler deflectors and tops of stacks, branch lines shall be located in alternate aisles or in each aisle, depending on the arrangement of vertical shelf dividers. When vertical shelf dividers are incomplete, branch lines should be located in alternate aisles. If there are ventilation openings through floors or walkways, the location of branch lines shall be staggered in a vertical plane. When vertical shelf dividers are complete, so that lateral spread of sprinkler discharge will be prevented, branch lines shall be located in each aisle. (See Figure 4-4.12.)

**4-4.13\* Ducts.** Sprinklers shall be installed beneath ducts over 4 ft (1.2 m) wide unless ceiling sprinklers can be spaced in accordance with Table 4-2.4.6.

**4-4.14 Generator and Transformer Rooms.** When sprinkler protection is provided in generator and transformer rooms, hoods or shields installed to protect important electrical equipment shall be noncombustible.

**4-4.15\* Open Grid Ceilings.** The following requirements are applicable to open grid ceilings in which the openings are  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6.4 mm) or larger in least dimension, when the thickness or depth of the material does not exceed the least dimension of the openings and when such openings constitute at least 70 percent of the area of the ceiling material. Other types of open grid ceilings shall not be installed beneath sprinklers unless they are listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory and are installed in accordance with the instruc-



**SPRINKLERS IN MULTITIER LIBRARY BOOKSTACKS**

Figure 4-4.12

tions contained in each package of the ceiling material. Ceilings made of highly flammable material may spread fire faster than sprinklers can control.

(a) In light hazard occupancies when spacing of sprinklers of either standard or old style is not wider than 10 by 10 ft (3 x 3 m), a minimum clearance of at least 18 in. (457 mm) shall be provided between the sprinkler deflectors and the upper surface of the open grid ceiling. When spacing is wider than 10 by 10 ft (3 x 3 m) but not wider than 10 by 12 ft (3 x 3.7 m), a clearance of at least 24 in. (610 mm) shall be provided from standard sprinklers and at least 36 in. (914 mm) from old style sprinklers. When spacing is wider than 10 by 12 ft (3 x 3.7 m), a clearance of at least 48 in. (1219 mm) shall be provided.

(b) In ordinary hazard occupancies, open grid ceilings may be installed beneath sprinklers only where such use is approved by the authority having jurisdiction, and shall be installed beneath standard sprinklers only. When sprinkler spacing is not wider than 10 by 10 ft (3 x 3 m), a minimum clearance of at least 24 in. (610 mm) shall be provided between the sprinkler deflectors and the upper surface of the open grid ceiling. When spacing is wider than 10 by 10 ft (3 x 3 m), a clearance of at least 36 in. (914 mm) shall be provided.

**4-4.16 Translucent Ceilings.** Translucent ceilings shall not be installed beneath sprinklers unless such ceilings are listed and are installed in accordance with their listing. The authority having jurisdiction shall be consulted in all cases.

#### **4-4.17 Fur Vaults.**

**4-4.17.1** Sprinklers in fur storage vaults shall be located centrally over the aisles between racks and shall be spaced not over 5 ft (1.5 m) apart along the aisles.

**4-4.17.2** When sprinklers are spaced 5 ft (1.5 m) apart along the sprinkler branch lines, pipe sizes may be in accordance with the following schedule:

1 in. pipe.....	4 sprinklers	2 in. pipe.....	20 sprinklers
1¼ in. pipe.....	6 sprinklers	2½ in. pipe.....	40 sprinklers
1½ in. pipe.....	10 sprinklers	3 in. pipe.....	80 sprinklers

**4-4.17.3** Sprinklers shall be of approved old style having orifice sizes selected to provide as closely as possible but not less than 20 gal per min (76 L/min) per sprinkler, based on the water pressure available.

NOTE: See NFPA 81, *Standard on Fur Storage, Fumigation and Cleaning*. For tests of sprinkler performance in fur vaults see Fact Finding Report on Automatic Sprinkler Protection for Fur Storage Vaults of Underwriters Laboratories Inc., dated November 25, 1947.

#### **4-4.18\* Commercial-type Cooking Equipment and Ventilation Systems.**

**4-4.18.1** In cooking areas protected by automatic sprinklers, sprinklers shall be provided to protect commercial-type cooking equipment and ventilation systems that are designed to carry away grease laden vapors unless otherwise protected. (See NFPA 96, *Standard for Vapor Removal from Cooking Equipment [see Appendix E]*.) Sprinklers shall be so located as to give complete coverage of cooking surfaces, within exhaust ducts, within exhaust hood plenum chamber, and under filters, if any.

**4-4.18.2** Sprinklers with temperature classifications of intermediate, high or extra high will be required. Use of a temperature measuring device may be necessary to determine the appropriate temperature classification. Sprinkler systems shall be designed so that a cooking surface fire will operate sprinklers protecting the cooking surface prior to or simultaneously with sprinklers protecting the plenum chamber and ventilation ducts. This may be accomplished by installing sprinklers in the plenum chamber and ducts at least two temperature ratings higher than those protecting the cooking surfaces and not less than 325°F (163°C) or by use of thermal control valves.

**4-4.18.3** Distance between sprinklers shall not exceed 10 ft (3 m) within and under exhaust hoods and in horizontal ducts. The first sprinkler in a horizontal duct shall be installed at the duct entrance.

**4-4.18.4** A standard one-half inch orifice pendent sprinkler with the frame parallel to the front edge of the deep fat fryer(s) shall be centered over each single or pair of fryers. A single sprinkler shall not protect more than 30 in. (762 mm) of deep fat fryer surface in any dimension. Sprinklers protecting deep fat fryers shall have their deflectors located at least 1 in. (25 mm) below the lower edge of the hood, and not less than 2 ft (0.6 m) nor more than 3 ft 6 in. (1.1 m) above the deep fat fryer cooking surface.

**4-4.18.5** Other sprinklers shall be arranged so that their run-off does not fall into deep fat fryers. This may be accomplished by the use of a shield or unducted hood placed above the deep fat fryer. The shield or hood shall be placed above the sprinkler protecting the deep fat fryer and so located that it will not interfere with the sprinkler discharge.

**4-4.18.6** One sprinkler shall be installed at the top of each vertical riser and an additional sprinkler shall be installed under any offset. Subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction, sprin-

klers may be omitted from a vertical riser located outside of a building provided the riser does not expose combustible material or the interior of a building and the horizontal distance between the hood outlet and the vertical riser is at least 25 ft (7.6 m).

**4-4.18.7** Sprinklers and piping located at the top of a vertical riser, near the extremity of an exhaust duct, or in other areas subject to freezing shall be properly protected against freezing by approved means.

**4-4.18.8** Release devices shall be checked at least twice a year for proper operation. Fusible links and automatic sprinklers shall be replaced annually. Other actuating devices shall be properly cleaned.

**4-4.19 Baffles.** Baffles (except for in-rack sprinklers, see NFPA 231C, *Standard on Rack Storage of Materials [see Appendix E]*) shall be installed whenever sprinklers are less than 6 ft (1.8 m) apart to prevent the sprinkler first opening from wetting adjoining sprinklers, thus delaying their operation. Baffles shall be located midway between sprinklers and arranged to baffle the actuating elements. Baffles may be of sheet metal about 8 in. (203 mm) wide and 6 in. (152 mm) high. When placed on branch line piping, the top of baffles shall extend 2 to 3 in. (51 to 76 mm) above the deflectors. (See Figure A-3-15.5.4.)

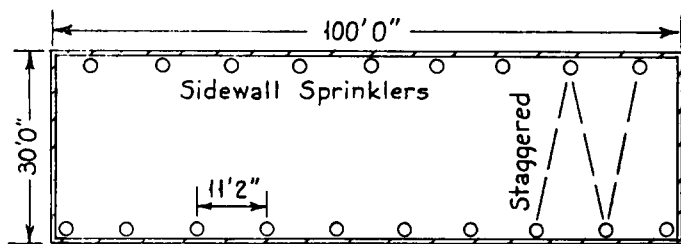
**4-4.20 Small Rooms.** Small room means a room with a smooth ceiling not exceeding 800 sq ft (74.3 m<sup>2</sup>) in area of light hazard occupancy classification such as rest rooms, toilets, closets, and offices.

**4-4.20.1\*** Within small rooms sprinklers may be located not over 9 ft (2.7 m) from any single wall; however, sprinkler spacing limitations of 4-2.1.1 and area limitations of 4-2.2.1.1 shall not be exceeded.

**4-5 Sidewall Sprinklers.** (See 3-16.4.)

**4-5.1 Distance Between Branch Lines and Sprinklers on Branch Lines.**

**4-5.1.1 Distance Between Branch Lines.** Rooms or bays having widths in excess of 15 ft up to 30 ft (4.6 m to 9.1 m) shall have sprinklers on two opposite walls or two opposite sides of bays with spacing as required in Section 4-5 and sprinklers regularly staggered. Additional branch lines shall be provided in rooms over 30 ft (9.1 m) in width except where special sprinklers are used (see 4-1.1.3).



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4mm, 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-5.1.1 Spacing of Sidewall Sprinklers under Smooth Ceilings, with Light Hazard Occupancy.**

**4-5.1.2\* Distance Between Sprinklers on Branch Lines.** Sidewall sprinklers shall be located not more than 10 ft (3 m) apart on walls for ordinary hazard occupancies and not more than 14 ft (4.3 m) apart for light hazard occupancies.

#### **4-5.2 Protection Area Limitations for Light Hazard Occupancy.**

**4-5.2.1** With noncombustible smooth ceiling the protection area allotted per sprinkler shall not exceed 196 sq ft (18.2 m<sup>2</sup>) with the distance between sprinklers on lines not in excess of 14 ft (4.3 m).

**4-5.2.2** With combustible smooth ceiling sheathed with plaster-board, metal, or wood lath and plaster the protection area allotted per sprinkler shall not exceed 168 sq ft (15.6 m<sup>2</sup>) with the distance between sprinklers on lines not in excess of 14 ft (4.3 m). When sheathing is combustible such as wood, fiberboard or other combustible material the protection area allotted per sprinkler shall not exceed 120 sq ft (11.1 m<sup>2</sup>) with the distance between sprinklers on lines not in excess of 14 ft (4.3 m).

#### **4-5.3 Protection Area Limitations for Ordinary Hazard Occupancy.**

**4-5.3.1** With noncombustible smooth ceiling the protection area allotted per sprinkler shall not exceed 100 sq ft (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>) with the distance between sprinklers on lines not in excess of 10 ft (3 m).

**4-5.3.2** With combustible smooth ceiling sheathed with plaster-board, metal, wood lath and plaster, wood, fiberboard or other combustible material, the protection area per sprinkler shall not exceed 80 sq ft (7.4 m<sup>2</sup>) per sprinkler with the distance between sprinklers on lines not in excess of 10 ft (3 m).

**4-5.4\* Position of Sidewall Sprinklers.** Sprinkler deflectors shall be at a distance from walls and ceilings not more than 6 in. (152 mm) or less than 4 in. (102 mm), unless special construction arrangements make a different position advisable for prompt operation and effective distribution.

*Exception: Horizontal-type sidewall sprinklers may be positioned 6 to 12 in. (152 to 305 mm) below noncombustible ceilings when listed for these positions.*



## Chapter 5 Types of Systems

### 5-1 Wet-Pipe Systems.

**5-1.1\* Definition.** A system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing water and connected to a water supply so that water discharges immediately from sprinklers opened by a fire.

**5-1.2 Pressure Gages.** Approved pressure gages conforming to 2-9.2.2 shall be installed in sprinkler risers, above and below each alarm check valve.

### 5-2 Dry-Pipe Systems.

**5-2.1\* Definition.** A system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing air or nitrogen under pressure, the release of which as from the opening of a sprinkler permits the water pressure to open a valve known as a dry-pipe valve. The water then flows into the piping system and out the opened sprinklers.

**5-2.2 Dry Pendent Sprinklers.** Automatic sprinklers installed in the pendent position shall be of the approved dry pendent type if installed in an area subject to freezing. The use of standard pendent sprinklers installed on return bends is permitted when both the sprinklers and the return bends are located in a heated area.

### 5-2.3\* Size of Systems.

#### 5-2.3.1 Volume Limitations.

**5-2.3.1.1** Except as provided in 5-2.3.1.2, not more than 750-gal (2839-L) system capacity shall be controlled by one dry-pipe valve, unless check valves are installed in branches of the system as provided for in 5-2.3.2.

**5-2.3.1.2** Where the piping volume exceeds 750 gal (2839 L) the system shall deliver water to the inspector's test pipe in not more than 60 seconds, starting at the normal air pressure on the system.

**5-2.3.2\* Check Valves in Dry-Pipe Systems.** Check valves may be installed in branches of the system to assist in more rapidly reducing the air pressure above the valve seat to the dry-pipe valve trip

point. Using such an arrangement, no system branch shall have a capacity exceeding 600 gal (2271 L), nor shall the total of a system branch plus common piping exceed 750 gal (2839 L). A hole  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. (3.2 mm) in diameter shall be drilled in the clapper of each check valve to permit equalization of air pressure among the various parts of the system. An approved indicating drain valve, connected by a bypass around each check valve shall be provided as a means for draining the system. All check valves shall be located in heated enclosures to prevent the formation of ice.

#### **5-2.4\* Quick-Opening Devices.**

**5-2.4.1 When Required.** Dry-pipe valves controlling systems having a capacity of more than 500 gal (1893 L) shall be provided with an approved quick-opening device.

**5-2.4.2** The quick-opening device shall be located as close as practical to the dry-pipe valve. To protect the restriction orifice and other operating parts of the quick-opening device against submergence, the connection to the riser shall be above the point at which water (priming water and back drainage) is expected when the dry-pipe valve and quick-opening device are set, except where design features of the particular quick-opening device made these requirements unnecessary.

**5-2.4.3** A soft disc globe or angle valve shall be installed in the connection between the dry-pipe sprinkler riser and the quick-opening device provided to accelerate operation of dry-pipe valve.

**5-2.4.4** A check valve shall be installed between the quick-opening device and the intermediate chamber of the dry-pipe valve. Should the quick-opening device require pressure feedback from the intermediate chamber, a valve of the type which will clearly indicate whether it is opened or closed may be installed in place of that check valve. This valve shall be constructed so that it may be locked or sealed in the open position.

**5-2.4.5** An approved antiflooding device shall be installed in the connection between the dry-pipe sprinkler riser and the quick-opening device, unless the particular quick-opening device has built-in antiflooding design features.

#### **5-2.5\* Location and Protection of Dry-Pipe Valve.**

**5-2.5.1** The dry-pipe valve and supply pipe shall be protected against freezing and mechanical injury.

**5-2.5.2** Valve rooms shall be lighted and heated.

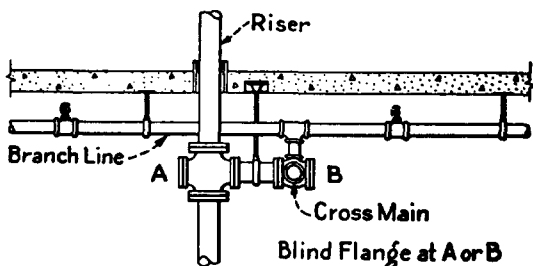
**5-2.5.3** The supply for the sprinkler in the dry-pipe valve enclosure shall be from the dry side of the system.

**5-2.5.4** Protection against accumulation of water above the clapper shall be provided for a low differential dry-pipe valve. This may be an automatic high water level signaling device or an automatic drain device.

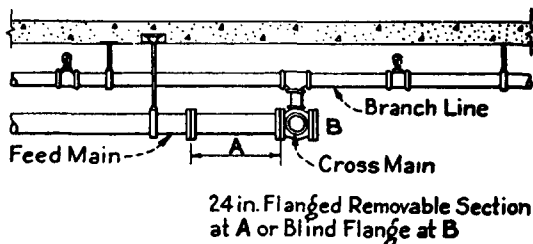
## **5-2.6\* Cold Storage Rooms.**

### **5-2.6.1 Fittings for Inspection Purposes.**

**5-2.6.1.1** Fittings for inspection purposes shall be provided whenever a cross main connects to a riser or feed main. This may be accomplished by a blind flange on a fitting (tee or cross) in the riser or cross main or a flanged removable section 24 in. (610 mm) long in the feed main as shown in Figure 5-2.6.1(A). Such fittings in con-



**(a) Elevation at Riser and Cross Main**



**(b) Elevation at Feed Main and Cross Main**

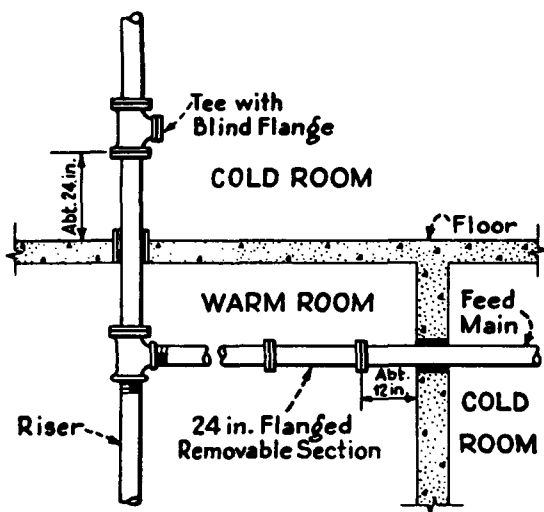
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 5-2.6.1(A) Fittings to Facilitate Examination of Feed Mains, Risers, and Cross Mains in Freezing Areas.**

junction with the flushing connections specified in 3-8.2 would permit examination of the entire lengths of the cross mains. Branch lines may be examined by backing the pipe out of fittings.

**5-2.6.1.2** Whenever feed mains change direction, facilities shall be provided for direct observation of every length of feed main within the refrigerated area. This may be accomplished by means of two-inch capped nipples or blind flanges on fittings.

**5-2.6.1.3** Fittings for inspection purposes shall be provided whenever a riser or feed main passes through a wall or floor from a warm room to a cold room. This may be accomplished at floor penetrations by a tee with a blind flange in the cold room and at wall penetrations by a 24-in. (610-mm) flanged removable section in the warm room as shown in Figure 5-2.6.1(B).



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048.

**Figure 5-2.6.1(B)** Fittings in Feed Main or Riser Passing Through Wall or Floor from Warm Room to Cold Room.

**5-2.6.2** A local low air-pressure alarm shall be installed on sprinkler systems supplying freezer sections.

**5-2.6.3** Piping in cold storage rooms shall be installed with pitch, as outlined in 3-11.1.3.

**5-2.6.4** The air supply for dry-pipe systems in cold storage plants shall be taken from the freezers of lowest temperature or through a chemical dehydrator. Compressed nitrogen gas from cylinders may be used in place of air in dry-pipe systems to eliminate introducing moisture.

## **5-2.7 Air Pressure and Supply.**

**5-2.7.1 Maintenance of Air Pressure.** Air or nitrogen pressure shall be maintained on dry-pipe systems throughout the year.

**5-2.7.2\* Air Supply.** The compressed air supply shall be from a source available at all times and having a capacity capable of restoring normal air pressure in the system within 30 minutes, except for low differential dry-pipe systems where this time may be 60 minutes. Where low differential dry-pipe valves are used, the air supply shall be maintained automatically.

**5-2.7.3 Air Filling Connection.** The connection pipe from the air compressor shall not be less than one-half inch and shall enter the system above the priming water level of the dry-pipe valve. A check valve shall be installed in this air line and a shutoff valve of renewable disc type shall be installed on the supply side of this check valve.

**5-2.7.4 Relief Valve.** An approved relief valve shall be provided between compressor and controlling valve set to relieve at a pressure 5 lb psi (0.3 bars) in excess of maximum air pressure which should be carried in the system.

**5-2.7.5 Shop Air Supply.** When the air supply is taken from a shop system having a normal pressure greater than that required for dry-pipe systems and an automatic air maintenance device is not used, the relief valve shall be installed between two control valves in the air line and a small air cock, which is normally left open, shall be installed in fitting below relief valve.

**5-2.7.6 Automatic Air Compressor.** When a dry-pipe system is supplied by an automatic air compressor or plant air system any device or apparatus used for automatic maintenance of air pressure shall be of a type specifically approved for such service and capable of maintaining the required air pressure on the dry-pipe system. Automatic air supply to more than one dry-pipe system shall be connected to enable individual maintenance of air pressure in each

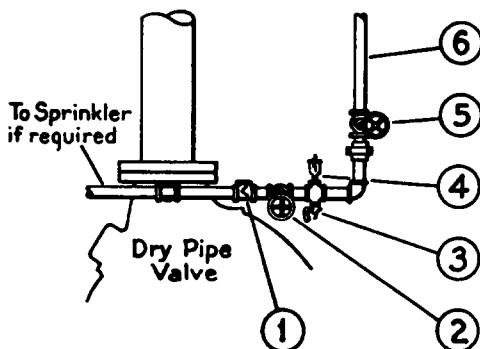


Figure 5-2.7.5 Air Supply from Shop System.

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Check Valve                         | 4. Relief Valve  |
| 2. Control Valve (Renewable Disc Type) | 5. Same as No. 2 |
| 3. Small Air Cock (Normally Open)      | 6. Air Supply    |

system. A check valve or other positive back flow prevention device shall be installed in the air supply to each system to prevent air or water flow from one system to another.

**5-2.7.7 Air Pressure to Be Carried.** The air pressure to be carried shall be in accordance with the instruction sheet furnished with the dry-pipe valve, when available, or 20 lb psi (1.4 bars) in excess of the calculated trip pressure of the dry-pipe valve, based on the highest normal water pressure of the system supply. The permitted rate of air leakage shall be as specified in 1-11.4.2.

**5-2.7.8** When used, nitrogen shall be introduced through a pressure regulator set to maintain system pressure in accordance with 5-2.7.7.

**5-2.8 Pressure Gages.** Approved pressure gages conforming to 2-9.2.2 shall be connected:

- On the water side and air side of dry-pipe valve,
- At the air pump supplying the air receiver,
- At the air receiver,
- In each independent pipe from air supply to dry-pipe system, and
- At exhausters and accelerators.

### 5-3 Pre-Action and Deluge Systems.

#### 5-3.1 Definitions.

**Pre-Action System** means a system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing air that may or may not be under pressure, with a supplemental fire detection system installed in the same areas as the sprinklers; actuation of the fire detection system as from a fire opens a valve which permits water to flow into the sprinkler piping system and to be discharged from any sprinklers which may be open.

**Deluge System** means a system employing open sprinklers attached to a piping system connected to a water supply through a valve which is opened by the operation of a fire detection system installed in the same areas as the sprinklers; when this valve opens water flows into the piping system and discharges from all sprinklers attached thereto.

**5-3.2\* Description.** Pre-action and deluge systems are normally without water in the system piping and the water supply is controlled by an automatic valve operated by means of fire detection devices and provided with manual means for operation which are independent of the sprinklers. Systems may have equipment of the types described in (a) through (f) below. (*See 5-3.5.1.*)

(a) Automatic sprinklers with both sprinkler piping and fire detection devices automatically supervised,

(b) Automatic sprinklers with sprinkler piping and fire detection devices not automatically supervised,

(c) Open sprinklers with only fire detection devices automatically supervised,

(d) Open sprinklers with fire detection devices not automatically supervised,

(e) Combination of open and automatic sprinklers with fire detection devices automatically supervised,

(f) Combination of open and automatic sprinklers with fire detection devices not automatically supervised.

#### 5-3.3\* General.

**5-3.3.1** A supply of spare fusible elements for heat-responsive devices, not less than two of each temperature rating, shall be maintained on the premises for replacement purposes.

**5-3.3.2** When hydraulic release systems are used, it is possible to water column the deluge valve or deluge-valve actuator if the heat-

actuated devices (fixed temperature or rate-of-rise) are located at extreme heights above the valve. Refer to the manufacturer for height limitations of a specific deluge valve or deluge valve actuator.

**5-3.3.3** All new pre-action or deluge systems shall be tested hydrostatically as specified in 1-11.3.1. In testing deluge systems, plugs shall be installed in fittings and replaced with open sprinklers after the test is completed, or automatic sprinklers may be installed and the operating parts removed after test is completed.

**5-3.4 Location and Spacing of Fire Detection Devices.** Spacing of fire detection devices shall be in accordance with their listing by nationally recognized testing laboratories or in accordance with manufacturer's specification.

**5-3.5 Pre-Action Systems.**

**5-3.5.1 Size of Systems.** Not more than 1,000 closed sprinklers shall be controlled by any one pre-action valve.

**5-3.5.2 Supervision.** Sprinkler piping and fire detection devices shall be automatically supervised when there are more than 20 sprinklers on the system.

**5-3.5.3 Pipe Schedule.** *(See Sections 3-5, 3-6, 3-7 and Chapter 7.)*

**5-3.5.4 Pendent Sprinklers.** Automatic sprinklers on pre-action systems installed in the pendent position shall be of the approved dry pendent type if installed in an area subject to freezing.

**5-3.6\* Deluge Systems.** The fire detection devices or systems shall be automatically supervised when there are more than 20 sprinklers on the system.

**5-3.7 Devices for Test Purposes and Testing Apparatus.**

**5-3.7.1** When fire detection devices installed in circuits are located where not readily accessible, an additional fire detection device shall be provided on each circuit for test purposes at an accessible location and shall be connected to the circuit at a point which will assure a proper test of the circuit.

**5-3.7.2** Testing apparatus capable of producing the heat or impulse necessary to operate any normal fire detection device shall be furnished to the owner of the property with each installation. Where explosive vapors or materials are present, hot water, steam or other methods of testing not involving an ignition source shall be used.



**5-3.7.3 Pressure Gages.** Approved pressure gages conforming to 2-9.2.2 shall be installed as follows:

- (a) Above and below pre-action valve and below deluge valve.
- (b) On air supply to pre-action and deluge valves.

## **5-4 Combined Dry-Pipe and Pre-Action Systems.**

### **5-4.1 General.**

**5-4.1.1\* Definition.** A Combined Dry-Pipe and Pre-Action Sprinkler System. A system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing air under pressure with a supplemental fire detection system installed in the same areas as the sprinklers; operation of the fire detection system, as from a fire, actuates tripping devices which open dry-pipe valves simultaneously and without loss of air pressure in the system. Operation of the fire detection system also opens approved air exhaust valves at the end of the feed main which facilitates the filling of the system with water which usually precedes the opening of sprinklers. The fire detection system also serves as an automatic fire alarm system.

**5-4.1.2** Combined automatic dry-pipe and pre-action systems shall be so constructed that failure of the fire detection system shall not prevent the system from functioning as a conventional automatic dry-pipe system.

**5-4.1.3** Combined automatic dry-pipe and pre-action systems shall be so constructed that failure of the dry-pipe system of automatic sprinklers shall not prevent the fire detection system from properly functioning as an automatic fire alarm system.

**5-4.1.4** Provisions shall be made for the manual operation of the fire detection system at locations requiring not more than 200 ft (61.0 m) of travel.

**5-4.1.5** Except as indicated in 5-2.2, automatic sprinklers installed in the pendent position shall be of the approved dry pendent type.

### **5-4.2 Dry-Pipe Valves in Combined Systems.**

**5-4.2.1** Where the system consists of more than 600 sprinklers or has more than 275 sprinklers in any fire area, the entire system shall be controlled through two 6-inch dry-pipe valves connected in parallel and shall feed into a common feed main. These valves shall be checked against each other. (See Figure 5-4.2.)

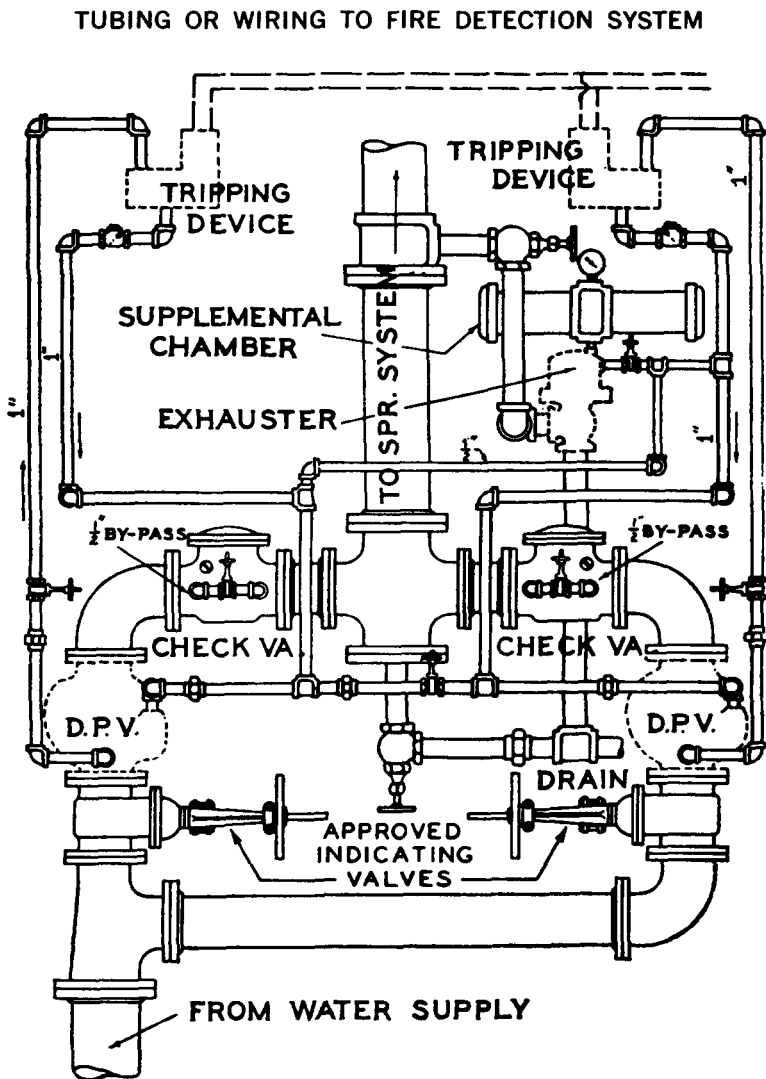


Figure 5-4.2 Header for Combined Dry-Pipe and Pre-Action Sprinkler System  
Standard Trimmings Not Shown.

**5-4.2.2** Each dry-pipe valve shall be provided with an approved tripping device actuated by the fire detection system. Dry-pipe valves shall be cross connected through a 1-inch pipe connection to permit simultaneous tripping of both dry-pipe valves. This 1-inch pipe connection shall be equipped with a gate valve so that either dry-pipe valve can be shut off and worked on while the other remains in service.

**5-4.2.3** The check valves between the dry-pipe valves and the common feed main shall be equipped with one-half inch bypasses so that a loss of air from leakage in the trimmings of a dry-pipe valve will not cause same to trip until the pressure in the feed main is reduced to the tripping point. A gate valve shall be installed in each of these bypasses so that either dry-pipe valve can be completely isolated from the main riser or feed main and from the other.

**5-4.2.4** Each combined dry-pipe and pre-action system shall be provided with approved quick opening devices at the dry-pipe valves.

**5-4.3\* Air Exhaust Valves.** One or more approved air exhaust valves of 2-inch or larger size controlled by operation of a fire detection system shall be installed at the end of the common feed main. (*See Figure A-5-4.3.*) These air exhaust valves shall have soft seated globe or angle valves in their intakes; also, approved strainers shall be installed between these globe valves and the air exhaust valves.

#### **5-4.4 Subdivision of System Using Check Valves.**

**5-4.4.1** Where more than 275 sprinklers are required in a single fire area, the system shall be divided into sections of 275 sprinklers or less by means of check valves. If system is installed in more than one fire area or story, not more than 600 sprinklers shall be supplied through any one check valve. Each section shall have a 1¼-inch drain on the system side of each check valve supplemented by a drum drip.

**5-4.4.2** Section drain lines and drum drips shall be located in heated areas or inside of thermostatically controlled electrically heated cabinets of sufficient size to enclose drain valves and drum drips for each section. Drum drips shall also be provided for all low points except that heated cabinets need not be required for 20 sprinklers or less.

**5-4.4.3** Air exhaust valves at end of feed main and associated check valves shall be protected against freezing.

**5-4.5 Time Limitation.** The sprinkler system shall be so constructed and the number of sprinkler heads controlled shall be so

limited that water shall reach the furthest sprinkler within a period of time not exceeding 1 minute for each 400 ft (122 m) of common feed main from the time the heat-responsive system operates. Maximum time permitted not to exceed 3 minutes.

**5-4.6 Inspector's Test Connection.** The end section shall have an inspector's test connection as required for dry-pipe systems.

## 5-5 Antifreeze Systems.

**5-5.1 Definition.** Antifreeze system means a system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing an antifreeze solution and connected to a water supply. The antifreeze solution, followed by water, discharges immediately from sprinklers opened by a fire.

**5-5.2\* Where Used.** The use of antifreeze solutions SHALL be in conformity with any state or local health regulations.

## 5-5.3 Antifreeze Solutions.

**5-5.3.1** When sprinkler systems are supplied by public water connections the use of antifreeze solutions other than water solutions of pure glycerine (C.P. or U.S.P. 96.5 percent Grade) or propylene glycol shall not be permitted. Suitable glycerine-water and propylene glycol-water mixtures are shown in Table 5-5.3.1.

**Table 5-5.3.1 Antifreeze Solutions**  
To Be Used if Public Water Is Connected to Sprinklers

Material	Solution (by Volume)	Spec. Grav. at 60°F (15.6°C)	Freezing Point	
			°F	°C
Glycerine C.P. or U.S.P. Grade*	50% Water	1.133	-15	-26.1
	40% Water	1.151	-22	-30.0
	30% Water	1.165	-40	-40.0
	Hydrometer Scale 1.000 to 1.200			
Propylene Glycol	70% Water	1.027	+ 9	-12.8
	60% Water	1.034	- 6	-21.1
	50% Water	1.041	-26	-32.2
	40% Water	1.045	-60	-51.1
Hydrometer Scale 1.000 to 1.120 (Subdivisions 0.002)				

\*C.P. — Chemically Pure.

U.S.P.— United States Pharmacopoeia 96.5%.

**5-5.3.2** If public water is not connected to sprinklers, the commercially available materials indicated in Table 5-5.3.2 are suitable for use in antifreeze solutions.

**Table 5-5.3.2 Antifreeze Solutions**

**Suitable for Use if Public Water Is Not Connected to Sprinklers**

Material	Solution (by Volume)	Spec. Grav. at 60°F (15.6°C)	Freezing Point	
			°F	°C
Glycerine	If glycerine is used, see Table 5-5.3.1.			
Diethylene Glycol	50% Water	1.078	-13	-25.0
	45% Water	1.081	-27	-32.8
	40% Water	1.086	-42	-41.1
Hydrometer Scale 1.000 to 1.120 (Subdivisions 0.002)				
Ethylene Glycol	61% Water	1.056	-10	-23.3
	56% Water	1.063	-20	-28.9
	51% Water	1.069	-30	-34.4
	47% Water	1.073	-40	-40.0
Hydrometer Scale 1.000 to 1.120 (Subdivisions 0.002)				
Propylene Glycol	If propylene glycol is used, see Table 5-5.3.1.			
Calcium Chloride 80% "Flake"	Lb CaCl <sub>2</sub> per gal of Water			
Fire Protection Grade*	2.83	1.183	0	-17.8
Add corrosion inhibitor	3.38	1.212	-10	-23.3
of sodium bichromate	3.89	1.237	-20	-28.9
¼ oz per gal water	4.37	1.258	-30	-34.4
	4.73	1.274	-40	-40.0
	4.93	1.283	-50	-45.6

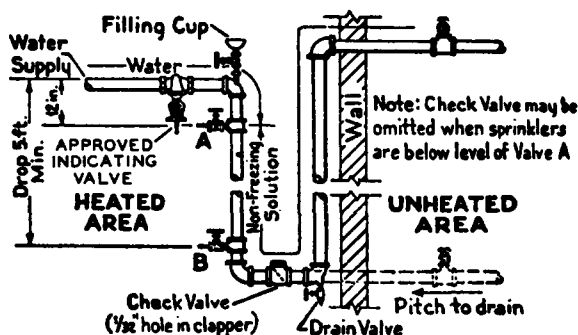
\*Free from magnesium chloride and other impurities.

**5-5.3.3\*** An antifreeze solution shall be prepared with a freezing point below the expected minimum temperature for the locality. The specific gravity of the prepared solution shall be checked by a hydrometer with suitable scale.

**5-5.4\*** **Arrangement of Supply Piping and Valves.** All permitted antifreeze solutions are heavier than water. At the point of contact (interface) the heavier liquid will be below the lighter liquid in order to prevent diffusion of water into the unheated areas. In most cases, this necessitates the use of a 5-ft (1.5-m) drop pipe or U-loop as illustrated in Figure 5-5.4. The preferred arrangement is to have the sprinklers below the interface between the water and the antifreeze solution.

If sprinklers are above the interface, a check valve with ½-in. (3.2-mm) hole in the clapper shall be provided in the U-loop. A

water control valve and two small solution test valves shall be provided as illustrated in Figure 5-5.4. An acceptable arrangement of filling cup is also shown.



NOTE: The  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. (3.2-mm) hole in the check valve clapper is needed to allow for expansion of the solution during a temperature rise and thus prevent damage to sprinkler heads.

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft. = 0.3048 m.

Figure 5-5.4 Arrangement of Supply Piping and Valves.

**5-5.5\* Testing.** Before freezing weather each year, the solution in the entire system shall be emptied into convenient containers and brought to the proper specific gravity by adding concentrated liquid as needed. The resulting solution may be used to refill the system.

## 5-6 Automatic Sprinkler Systems with Nonfire Protection Connections.

### 5-6.1 Circulating Closed Loop Systems.

**5-6.1.1 Definition.** A circulating closed loop is one with nonfire protection connections to automatic sprinkler systems in a closed loop piping arrangement for the purpose of utilizing sprinkler piping to conduct water for heating or cooling. Water is not removed or used from the system, but only circulated through the piping system.

### 5-6.1.2 System Components.

**5-6.1.2.1 Piping, fittings, valves and pipe hangers** shall meet requirements specified in Chapter 3.

**5-6.1.2.2** A dielectric fitting shall be installed in junction where dissimilar piping materials are joined, e.g., copper to steel.

*Exception: Dielectric fittings are not required at junction where sprinklers are connected to piping.*

**5-6.1.2.3** It is not required that other auxiliary devices be listed for sprinkler service; however, these devices such as pumps, circulating pumps, heat exchangers, radiators, luminaires shall be pressure rated at 175 or 300 psi (12.1 or 20.7 bars) (rupture pressure of  $5 \times$  rated water working pressure), to match required rating of sprinkler system components.

**5-6.1.2.4** Auxiliary devices shall incorporate materials of construction and be so constructed that they will maintain their physical integrity under fire conditions to avoid impairment to the fire protection system.

**5-6.1.2.5** Auxiliary devices where hung from the building structure shall be supported independently from the sprinkler portion of the system, following recognized engineering practices.

**5-6.1.3 Hydraulic Characteristics.** Piping systems for attached heating and cooling equipment shall have auxiliary pumps or an arrangement made to return water to the piping system in order to assure the following:

(a)\* Water for sprinklers shall not be required to pass through heating or cooling equipment. At least one direct path shall exist for water flow from the sprinkler water supply to every sprinkler. Pipe sizing in the direct path shall be in accordance with design requirements of this standard.

(b) No portions of the sprinkler piping shall have less than the sprinkler system design pressure regardless of the mode of operation of the attached heating or cooling equipment.

(c) There shall be no loss or outflow of water from the system due to or resulting from the operation of heating or cooling equipment.

(d) Shut-off valves and a means of drainage shall be provided on piping to heating or cooling equipment at all points of connection to sprinkler piping and shall be installed in such a manner as to make possible repair or removal of any auxiliary component without impairing the serviceability and response to the sprinkler system. All auxiliary components including strainer shall be installed on the auxiliary equipment side of the shut-off valves.

#### **5-6.1.4 Water Temperature.**

**5-6.1.4.1 Maximum.** In no case shall maximum water temperature flowing through the sprinkler portion of the system exceed 120°F (49.8°C). Protective control devices listed for this purpose shall be installed to shut down heating or cooling systems when temperature of water flowing through the sprinkler portion of the system exceeds 120°F (48.9°C). When water temperature exceeds 100°F (37.8°C), intermediate or higher temperature rated sprinklers shall be used.

**5-6.1.4.2 Minimum.** Precaution shall be taken to ensure that temperatures below 40°F (4.4°C) will not be permitted.

**5-6.1.5 Obstruction to Discharge.** Automatic sprinklers shall not be obstructed by auxiliary devices, piping, insulation, etc., from detecting fire or from proper distribution of water.

**5-6.1.6 Valve Supervision.** Position of all valves controlling sprinkler system (post indicator, main gate, sectional control) shall be supervised open by one of the following methods:

- (a) Central station, proprietary, or remote station alarm service.
- (b) Local alarm service, which will cause the sounding of an audible signal at a constantly attended point.

**5-6.1.7 Signs.** Caution signs shall be attached to all controlling sprinkler valves. The caution sign shall be worded as follows:

"This valve controls fire protection equipment. Do not close until after fire has been extinguished. Use auxiliary valves when necessary to shut supply to auxiliary equipment. CAUTION: Automatic alarm will be sounded if this valve is closed."

**5-6.1.8 Water Additives.** Materials added to water shall not adversely affect the fire fighting properties of the water and shall be in conformity with any state or local health regulations. Due care and caution shall be given to the use of additives which may remove or suspend scale from older piping systems. When additives are necessary for proper system operation, due care shall be taken to ensure additives are replenished after alarm testing or whenever water is removed from the system.

**5-6.1.9 Water Flow Detection.** The supply of water from sprinkler piping through auxiliary devices, circulatory piping, and pumps shall not under any condition or operation, transient or static, cause false sprinkler water flow signals.



**5-6.1.9.1** Sprinkler water flow signal shall not be impaired when water is discharged through opened sprinkler or through Inspector's Test Connection while auxiliary equipment is in any mode of operation (on, off, transient, stable).

**5-6.1.10\* Working Plans.** Working plans shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with Section 1-9. Special symbols shall be used and explained for auxiliary piping, pumps, heat exchangers, valves, strainers and the like, clearly distinguishing those devices and piping runs from those of the sprinkler system. Model number, type and manufacturer's name shall be identified for each piece of auxiliary equipment.

**5-6.1.11 Testing.**

**5-6.1.11.1** All sprinkler system and auxiliary system components shall be hydrostatically tested in accordance with 1-11.3.

**5-6.1.11.2** Sprinkler system discharge tests shall be conducted using system test pipes described in 3-9.1. Pressure gages shall be installed at critical points and readings taken under various modes of auxiliary equipment operation. Water flow alarm signals shall be responsive to discharge of water through system test pipes while auxiliary equipment is in each of the possible modes of operation.

**5-6.1.12 Contractor's Material and Test Certificate.** Additional information shall be appended to the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate described in Section 1-12 as follows:

(a) Certification that all auxiliary devices, such as heat pumps, circulating pumps, heat exchangers, radiators, and luminaires have a pressure rating of 175 or 300 psi (12.1 or 20.7 bars).

(b) All components of sprinkler system and auxiliary system have been pressure tested as a composite system in accordance with 1-11.3, Hydrostatic Tests.

(c) Water flow tests have been conducted and water flow alarms have operated while auxiliary equipment is in each of the possible modes of operation.

(d) With auxiliary equipment tested in each possible mode of operation and with no flow from sprinklers or test connection, water flow alarm signals did not operate.

(e) Excess temperature controls for shutting down the auxiliary system have been properly field tested.

## **Chapter 6 Outside Sprinklers for Protection Against Exposure Fires**

### **6-1 Water Supply and Control.**

#### **6-1.1 Water Supply.**

**6-1.1.1.\*** Sprinklers installed for protection against exposure fires shall be supplied from a standard water supply as defined in Chapter 2, or other supply such as manual valves, pumps or fire department connections when approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

**6-1.1.2** When automatic systems of sprinklers are installed, water supplies shall be from an automatic source.

**6-1.1.3** When water supply feeds other fire protection appliances, it shall be capable of furnishing total demand for such appliances as well as the outside sprinkler demand.

**6-1.1.4** When fire department connections are used for water supply, they shall be so located that they will not be affected by the exposing fire.

#### **6-1.2 Control.**

**6-1.2.1** Each system of outside sprinklers shall have an independent control valve. Where more than one valve is required, the division between sprinklers on each valve shall be vertical and not horizontal, except as noted in Appendix B-6-2.3.

**6-1.2.2** Manually controlled open sprinklers shall be used only where constant supervision is present.

**6-1.2.3** Automatic systems may be of the open or closed sprinkler head type. Closed sprinklers in areas subject to freezing shall be on dry-pipe or nonfreezing systems when not prohibited by local public health authorities.

**6-1.2.4\*** Automatic systems of open sprinklers shall be controlled by the operation of fire detection devices designed for the specific application.

## 6-2 System Components.

### 6-2.1\* Valves.

**6-2.1.1 Control valves** shall be of the approved indicating type and shall be distinctively marked by letters not less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (13 mm) high to clearly explain their use.

**6-2.1.2 Drain Valve.** Each system of outside sprinklers shall have a separate drain valve installed on system side of each control valve. Drain valves shall be in accordance with 3-11.2, except that in no case shall valves be smaller than 1 inch.

**6-2.1.3 Check Valves.** When sprinklers run on two adjacent sides of a building, protecting against two separate and distinct exposures, with separate control valves for each side, the end lines shall be connected together with check valves located so that one sprinkler around the corner will operate. The intermediate pipe between the two check valves shall be arranged to drain. As an alternate solution, an additional sprinkler shall be installed on each system located around the corner from the system involved.

**6-2.1.4** When one exposure affects two sides of the protected structure, the system shall not be subdivided between the two sides, but rather shall be arranged to operate as a single system.

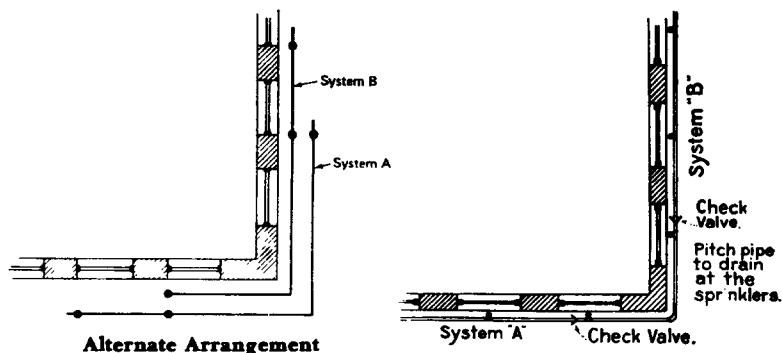


Figure 6-2.1.4 Arrangement of Check Valves.

**6-2.2 Pipe and Fittings.** Approved corrosion resistant pipe and fittings shall be used for the equipment as far back as the control valve on the water supply.

**6-2.3 Strainers.** An approved strainer shall be provided in the riser or feed main which supplies sprinklers having orifices smaller than  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. (9.5 mm).

**6-2.4 Gage Connections.** Pressure gage shall be installed just below control valve of each system.

**6-3 Sprinklers.<sup>1</sup>** Only sprinklers of such type as are approved for window, cornice, sidewall or ridge pole service shall be installed for such use except where adequate coverage by use of other types of approved sprinklers and/or nozzles has been demonstrated. Sprinklers may be of small orifice [ $\frac{1}{4}$  in.,  $\frac{5}{16}$  in. and  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. (6.4 mm, 7.9 mm and 9.5 mm)] or large orifice [ $\frac{1}{2}$  in.,  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. and  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. (12.7 mm, 15.9 mm and 19.1 mm)].

#### 6-4 Piping System.

**6-4.1\*** Pipe sizes of lines, risers, feed mains, and water supply shall be hydraulically calculated in accordance with Chapter 7 to furnish a minimum of 7 psi (0.5 bars) at any sprinkler with all sprinklers facing the exposure operating, or pipe sizes shall be in accordance with 6-4.2 and 6-4.3.

**6-4.2** Branch line sizes on pipe schedule systems shall be as follows:

**Table 6-4.2 Maximum Number of Sprinklers Supplied on Line**

Size of Pipe Inches	Orifice Size — In. (mm)						
	$\frac{1}{4}$ (6.4)	$\frac{5}{16}$ (7.9)	$\frac{3}{8}$ (9.5)	$\frac{1}{2}$ (11.1)	$\frac{1}{2}$ (12.7)	$\frac{3}{4}$ (15.9)	$\frac{3}{4}$ (19.1)
1	4	3	2	2	1	1	1
1 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	6	4	3	2	2	1
1 $\frac{1}{2}$		9	6	4	3	3	2
2				5	4	4	3

<sup>1</sup>For additional information on outside sprinklers see Appendix B-6-1.

**6-4.3** Risers and feed main sizes on pipe schedule systems shall be as follows for central feed risers:

Pipe Size	Number of Sprinklers		
	$\frac{3}{8}$ in. (9.5 mm) or smaller orifice	$\frac{1}{2}$ in. (12.7 mm) orifice	$\frac{3}{4}$ in. (19.1 mm) orifice
1½	6	3	2
2	10	5	4
2½	18	9	7
3	32	16	12
3½	48	24	17
4	65	33	24
5	120	60	43
6		100	70

## **6-5 Testing and Flushing.**

### **6-5.1 Tests.**

**6-5.1.1** All piping shall be tested hydrostatically as specified in 1-11.3.

**6-5.1.2** Operating tests shall be made of the system when completed, except where such tests may risk water damage.

**6-5.2 Flushing.** Flushing shall be conducted in accordance with 1-11.2.

## Chapter 7 Hydraulically Designed Sprinkler Systems

### 7-1 General.

#### 7-1.1 Definition.

**7-1.1.1** A hydraulically designed sprinkler system is one in which pipe sizes are selected on a pressure loss basis to provide a prescribed density (gal per min per sq ft [(L/min)/m<sup>2</sup>]) distributed with a reasonable degree of uniformity over a specified area. This permits the selection of pipe sizes in accordance with the characteristics of the water supply available. The stipulated design density and area of application will vary with occupancy hazard.

**7-1.1.2** The design basis for such a system supersedes the rules in the sprinkler standard governing pipe schedules, except that all systems continue to be limited by area, and pipe sizes shall be no less than 1-inch nominal for ferrous piping and ¾-inch nominal for copper tubing. The size of pipe, number of sprinklers per branch line, and number of branch lines per cross main are otherwise limited only by the available water supply. However, sprinkler spacing and all other rules covered in this and other applicable standards shall be observed.

**7-1.2\* Nameplate Data.** Unless an alternate means of identification is provided by owner, the installer shall properly identify a hydraulically designed automatic sprinkler system by a permanently attached placard indicating the location, and the basis of design (discharge density over designed area of discharge, including gallons per minute and residual pressure demand at base of riser). Such signs shall be placed at the controlling alarm valve, or dry-pipe valve, for the system containing the hydraulically designed layout.

### 7-2 Information Required.

**7-2.1 Basic Design Information.** Basic design criteria for hydraulically designed sprinkler systems shall be obtained from this or other applicable standards. Where no standards exist, the authority having jurisdiction shall be consulted.

**7-2.2 Sprinkler System Requirements.** The following information shall be included when applicable:

- (a) Area of water application. . . . .sq ft
- (b) Minimum rate of water application (density). . . . .  
gpm/sq ft
- (c) Area per sprinkler. . . . .sq ft

- (d) Allowance for inside hose and outside hydrants . . . . . gpm
- (e) Allowance for in-rack sprinklers . . . . . gpm

**7-2.3 Water Supply Information.** The following information shall be included: Water flow data with existing or proposed water supply, dead end or circulating:

- (a) Location and elevation of static and residual test gage with relation to the riser reference point
- (b) Flow location
- (c) Static pressure, psi
- (d) Residual pressure, psi
- (e) Flow, gpm
- (f) Date
- (g) Time
- (h) Test conducted by or information supplied by . . . . .

#### **7-2.4 Information Required on the Drawing.**

**7-2.4.1** In addition to the requirements of Section 1-9, the drawings shall also contain the information mentioned in the remainder of 7-2.4.

**7-2.4.2 Hydraulic Reference Points.** Reference points may be shown by a number and/or letter designation and shall correspond with comparable reference points shown on the hydraulic calculation sheets.

**7-2.4.3 Sprinklers.** Description of sprinklers used.

**7-2.4.4 System Design Criteria.** The minimum rate of water application (density), the design area of water application and the water required for hose streams both inside and outside shall be included.

**7-2.4.5 Actual Calculated Requirements.** The total quantity of water and the pressure required shall be noted at a common reference point for each system.

**7-2.4.6 Elevation Data.** Relative elevations of sprinklers, junction points and supply or reference points shall be noted.

#### **7-3 Data Sheets and Abbreviations.**

**7-3.1 General.** Hydraulic calculations shall be prepared on form sheets that include a summary sheet, detailed work sheets, and a graph sheet. (*See copy of typical forms, Figures A-7-3.3 and A-7-3.4.*)

**7-3.2 Summary Sheet.** The summary sheet shall contain the following information, when applicable:

- (a) Date
- (b) Location
- (c) Name of owner and occupant
- (d) Building number or other identification
- (e) Description of hazard
- (f) Name and address of contractor or designer
- (g) Name of approving agency
- (h) System design requirements
  - (1) Design area of water application .....sq ft
  - (2) Minimum rate of water application (density) ..... gpm per sq ft
  - (3) Area per sprinkler .....sq ft
- (i) Total water requirements as calculated including allowance for inside hose and outside hydrants
- (j) Water supply information.

**7-3.3\* Detailed Work Sheets.** Detailed work sheets (*for sample work sheet, refer to Figure A-7-3.3*) or computer printout sheets shall contain the following information:

- (a) Sheet number
- (b) Sprinkler description and discharge constant (K)
- (c) Hydraulic reference points
- (d) Flow in gpm
- (e) Pipe size
- (f) Pipe lengths, center to center of fittings
- (g) Equivalent pipe lengths for fitting and devices
- (h) Friction loss in psi per ft of pipe
- (i) Total friction loss between reference points
- (j) Elevation head in psi between reference points
- (k) Required pressure in psi at each reference point
- (l) Velocity pressure and normal pressure if included in calculations
- (m) Notes to indicate starting points, reference to other sheets or to clarify data shown
- (n)\* Sketch to accompany gridded system calculations to indicate flow quantities and directions for lines with sprinklers operating in the remote area. [*See Figure A-7-3.3(n).*]



**7-3.4\* Graph Sheet.** Water supply curves and system requirements, plus hose demand when applicable, shall be plotted on semi-logarithmic graph paper so as to present a graphic summary of the complete hydraulic calculation.

**7-3.5 Abbreviations and Symbols.** The following standard abbreviations and symbols shall be used on the calculation form:

Symbol or Abbreviation	Item
p	Pressure in psi
gpm	U.S. Gallons per minute
q	Flow increment in gpm to be added at a specific location
Q	Summation of flow in gpm at a specific location
$P_t$	Total pressure in psi at a point in a pipe
$P_f$	Pressure loss due to friction between points indicated in location column
$P_e$	Pressure due to elevation difference between indicated points. This can be a plus value or a minus value. Where minus, the (—) shall be used; where plus, no sign need be indicated.
$P_v$	Velocity pressure in psi at a point in a pipe
$P_n$	Normal pressure in psi at a point in a pipe
E	90° Ell
EE	45° Ell
Lt.E	Long Turn Elbow
Cr	Cross
T	Tee — flow turned 90 degrees
GV	Gate Valve
BV	Butterfly Valve
Del V	Deluge Valve
DPV	Dry-Pipe Valve
ALV	Alarm Valve
CV	Swing Check Valve
WCV	Butterfly (Wafer) Check Valve
St	Strainer
psi	Pounds per square inch
v	Velocity of water in pipe in feet per second

## 7-4 Calculation.

### 7-4.1 Formulas.

**7-4.1.1 Friction Loss Formula.** Pipe friction losses shall be determined on the basis of Hazen and Williams formula.

$$P = \frac{4.52}{C^{1.85}} \frac{Q^{1.85}}{d^{4.87}}$$

where  $p$  is the frictional resistance in pounds pressure per square inch per foot of pipe,  $Q$  is the gallons per minute flowing and  $d$  is the actual internal diameter of pipe in inches with  $C$  as the friction loss coefficient.

$$\text{For SI Units: } P_m = 6.05 \times \frac{Q_m^{1.85}}{C^{1.85} d_m^{4.87}} \times 10^5$$

$P_m$  is the functional resistance in bars per metre of pipe,  $Q_m$  is the flow in L/min and  $d_m$  is the actual internal diameter in mm with  $C$  as the function loss coefficient.

**7-4.1.2 Velocity Pressure Formula.** Velocity pressure shall be determined on the basis of the formula

$$P_v = 0.001123 Q^2 / D^4$$

$$P_v = \text{velocity pressure psi.}$$

where:

$$Q = \text{flow in gpm.}$$

$$D = \text{the inside diameter in inches.}$$

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 gal = 3.785 L; 1 psi = 0.0689 bars.

**7-4.1.3 Normal pressure  $P_n$**  shall be determined on the basis of the formula

$$P_n = P_t - P_v$$

where:

$$P_t = \text{total pressure in psi (bars)}$$

$$P_v = \text{velocity pressure in psi (bars)}$$

**7-4.1.4 Hydraulic Junction Points.** For gridded systems only, pressures at hydraulic junction points shall balance within 0.5 psi (0.03 bars). The highest pressure at the junction point shall be carried into the calculations.

**7-4.2 Equivalent Pipe Lengths of Valves and Fittings.** Table 7-4.2 shall be used to determine the equivalent length of pipe for fittings and devices unless manufacturer's test data indicates other factors are appropriate.

Table 7-4.2 Equivalent Pipe Length Chart

Fittings and Valves	Fittings and Valves Expressed in Equivalent Feet of Pipe.												
	¾ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.	2½ in.	3 in.	3½ in.	4 in.	5 in.	6 in.	8 in.	10 in. 12 in.
45° Elbow	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	4	5	7	9	11 13
90° Standard Elbow	2	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	12	14	18	22 27
90° Long Turn Elbow	1	2	2	2	3	4	5	5	6	8	9	13	16 18
Tee or Cross (Flow Turned 90°)	3	5	6	8	10	12	15	17	20	25	30	35	50 60
Butterfly Valve	—	—	—	—	6	7	10	—	12	9	10	12	19 21
Gate Valve	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	4	5 6
Swing Check*	—	5	7	9	11	14	16	19	22	27	32	45	55 65

For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Use with Hazen and Williams' C = 120 only. For other values of C, the figures in Table 7-4.2 should be multiplied by the factors indicated below:

Value of C	100	120	130	140	150
Multiplying factor	0.713	1.00	1.16	1.33	1.51

(This is based upon the friction loss through the fitting being independent of the C factor applicable to the piping.)

Specific friction loss values or equivalent pipe lengths for alarm valves, dry-pipe valves, deluge valves, strainers and other devices shall be made available to the authority having jurisdiction.

\*Due to the variations in design of swing check valves, the pipe equivalents indicated in the above chart to be considered average.

### 7-4.3\* Calculation Procedure.

**7-4.3.1\*** For all systems, the design area shall be the hydraulically most demanding "rectangular area" having a dimension parallel to the branch lines equal to, or greater than, 1.2 times the square root of the area of sprinkler operation corresponding to the density used. Any fractional sprinkler shall be carried to the next higher whole sprinkler.

*Exception: Where the design area under consideration consists of a corridor protected by one row of sprinklers, the maximum number of sprinklers that need be calculated is 5.*

**7-4.3.1.1\*** For gridded systems, the designer shall verify he is using the hydraulically most demanding area. A minimum of two additional sets of calculations shall be submitted to demonstrate peaking of demand area friction loss when compared to areas immediately adjacent on either side along the same branch lines.

*Exception: Computer programs which show the peaking of the demand area friction loss shall be acceptable based on a single set of calculations.*

**7-4.3.1.2** System piping shall be hydraulically designed using design densities and areas of operation in accordance with Table 2-2.1 (B) as required for the occupancies involved.

(a) The density shall be calculated on the basis of floor area.

(b)\* When sprinklers are installed above and below a ceiling and such sprinklers are supplied from a common set of branch lines, the branch lines and supply shall be calculated to supply the largest area of operation either above or below.

**7-4.3.1.3\*** Each sprinkler in the design area and the remainder of the hydraulically designed system shall discharge at a flow rate at least equal to the stipulated minimum water application rate (density). Begin calculations at the hydraulically most remote sprinkler. Discharge at each sprinkler shall be based on the calculated pressure at that sprinkler.

**7-4.3.1.4** Calculate pipe friction loss in accordance with the Hazen and Williams formula with "C" values from Table 7-4.3.1.4.

(a) Include pipe, fittings, and devices such as valves, meters, and strainers and calculate elevation changes which affect the sprinkler discharge.

(b) Calculate the loss for a tee or a cross where flow direction change occurs based on the equivalent pipe length of the piping segment in which the fitting is included. The tee at the top of a riser nipple shall be included in the branch line; the tee at the base of a riser nipple shall be included in the riser nipple; and the tee or cross at a cross main-feed main junction shall be included in the cross main. Do not include fitting loss for straight thru flow in a tee or cross.

(c) Calculate the loss of reducing elbows based on the equivalent feet value of the smallest outlet. Use the equivalent feet value for the "standard elbow" on any abrupt ninety-degree turn, such as the screw-type pattern. Use the equivalent feet value for the "long turn elbow" on any sweeping ninety-degree turn, such as a flanged, welded or mechanical joint-elbow type (*see Table 7-4.2*).

(d) Friction loss shall be excluded for the fitting directly connected to a sprinkler.

**Table 7-4.3.1.4**

Pipe or Tube	Hazen-William's "C" Value*
Unlined Cast or Ductile Iron	100
Black Steel (Dry Systems including Pre-action)	100
Black Steel (Wet Systems including Deluge)	120
Galvanized (all)	120
Plastic (listed) — Underground	150
Cement Lined Cast or Ductile Iron	140
Copper Tube	150

\*The authority having jurisdiction may recommend other "C" values.

**7-4.3.1.5** Orifice plates or sprinklers of different orifice sizes shall not be used for balancing the system, except for special use such as exposure protection, small rooms or enclosures or directional discharge. (*See 4-4.20 for definition of small rooms.*)

**7-4.3.1.6** Water allowance for inside hose shall be added to the system requirements at the base of the riser.

**7-4.3.1.7** Water allowance for outside hose shall be added at the connection to the city water main or at the yard hydrant nearest the riser, whichever is closer.

**7-4.3.1.8** Sprinkler discharge in closets, washrooms, and similar small compartments requiring only one sprinkler may be omitted from hydraulic calculations within the area of application. [Sprinklers in these small compartments shall, however, be capable of discharging minimum densities in accordance with Table 2-2.1(B)\*.]

**7-4.3.1.9\*** Velocity pressure  $P_v$  may or may not be included in the calculations at the discretion of the designer. If velocity pressures are used, they shall be used on both branch lines and cross mains where applicable.

**7-4.3.2** Minimum operating pressure of any sprinkler shall be 7 psi (0.5 bars).

## Chapter 8 High-Rise Buildings

**8-1 Application and Scope.** This chapter deals with automatic sprinkler system design for life safety and fire protection in high-rise buildings of noncombustible, protected noncombustible or fire-resistive construction as defined in NFPA 220, *Standard Types of Building Construction* (see *Appendix E*), which are used predominantly for light hazard occupancies. It is intended to cover totally sprinklered buildings only, and shall not apply to partially sprinklered buildings.

### 8-2 Definition.

**High-Rise Building.** One in which fire must be fought internally because of height.

### 8-3 Design Criteria.

**8-3.1** The installation may be either a pipe schedule system or a hydraulically designed system. Pipe schedule systems shall comply with Chapters 1 through 6 of this standard. Hydraulically designed systems shall comply with Chapters 1 through 7 of this standard as modified by 8-3.2 through 8-3.4 and shall comply with Chapter 8.

**8-3.2** In light hazard occupancies, special sprinklers may be installed with larger protection areas than indicated in 4-2.2.1.1 or greater distances between sprinklers or branch lines than indicated in 4-2.1.1 when such installations are made in accordance with approvals or listings of a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

### 8-4 Water Supplies.

**8-4.1** Acceptable water supplies are as follows:

(a) Public water system where pressure and discharge capacity meet the design requirements of the system as calculated.

(b) Automatic fire pumps supplied under head from a water supply source adequate to meet hydraulically designed system requirements, including public mains, reservoirs, and wells.

(c) Pressure tanks.

(d) Gravity tanks.

**8-4.2** Each water supply source shall be automatic and of adequate capacity and pressure to supply the sprinkler system calculated demand for a period of not less than 30 minutes.

**8-4.3** Hose connections may be supplied from sprinkler risers. (See 3-8.6 and 3-8.7.)

**8-4.4** Where hose connections are supplied from sprinkler risers, total supply shall be a minimum of 500 gpm (1893 L/min) and in accordance with NFPA 14, *Standard for the Installation of Standpipes and Hose Systems* (see Appendix E). Calculated sprinkler system demand need not be added to this supply.

## **8-5 Alarms.**

**8-5.1** A separate and distinct supervisory signal shall be provided to indicate a condition that will impair the satisfactory operation of the sprinkler system. This shall include, but need not be limited to, monitoring of control valves, fire pump power supplies and running conditions, water tank levels, and temperatures. Pressure supervision shall also be provided on pressure tanks.

**8-5.2** When each sprinkler system on each floor is equipped with a separate waterflow device, it shall be connected to an alarm system in such a manner that operation of one sprinkler will actuate the alarm system, and the location of the operated flow device shall be indicated on an annunciator and/or register. Annunciator or register shall be located at grade level at the normal point of fire department access, at a constantly attended building security control center, or both locations.

**8-5.3** When the location within the protected buildings where supervisory or alarm signals are received is not under constant supervision by qualified personnel in the employ of the owner, a connection shall be provided to transmit a signal to a remote monitoring station.

**8-5.4** Alarm and supervisory systems in connection with the sprinkler system shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 71, *Standard for Central Station Signaling Systems*; NFPA 72C, *Standard for Remote Station Protective Signaling Systems*; or NFPA 72D, *Standard for Proprietary Protective Signaling Systems*. (See Appendix E.)



## Appendix A

The following notes bearing the same number as the text of the *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems* to which they apply contain useful explanatory material and references to standards.

*This Appendix is not a part of this NFPA Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems but is included for information purposes only.*

**A-1-5.1 Impairments.** Before shutting off a section of the fire service system to make sprinkler system connections, notify the authority having jurisdiction, plan the work carefully, and assemble all materials to enable completion in shortest possible time. Work started on connections should be rushed to completion without interruption, and protection restored as promptly as possible. During the impairment, provide emergency hose lines, additional fire pails and extinguishers, and maintain extra watch service in the areas affected.

When changes involve shutting off water from any considerable number of sprinklers for more than a few hours, temporary water supply connections should be made to sprinkler systems so that reasonable protection can be maintained. In adding to old systems or revamping them, protection should be restored each night so far as possible. The members of the private fire brigade as well as public fire department should be notified as to conditions.

**A-1-7.2.1** Light Hazard Occupancies include occupancies having conditions similar to:

Churches	Museums
Clubs	Nursing or Convalescent Homes
Eaves and overhangs, if combustible construction with no combustibles beneath	Office, including Data Processing
Educational	Residential
Hospitals	Restaurant seating areas
Institutional	Theaters and Auditoriums excluding stages and prosceniums
Libraries, except large stack rooms	Unused attics

**A-1-7.3.1** Ordinary Hazard Occupancies (Group 1) include occupancies having conditions similar to:

Automobile parking garages	Electronic plants
Bakeries	Glass and glass products manufacturing
Beverage manufacturing	Laundries
Canneries	Restaurant service areas
Dairy products manufacturing and processing	

**A-1-7.3.2** Ordinary Hazard Occupancies (Group 2) include occupancies having conditions similar to:

Cereal mills	Machine shops
Chemical plants — Ordinary	Metal working

(cont.)

*(A-1-7.3.2 cont.)*

Cold Storage warehouses  
 Confectionery products  
 Distilleries  
 Leather goods mfg.  
 Libraries-large stack room areas  
 Mercantiles

Printing and publishing  
 Textile mfg.  
 Tobacco Products mfg.  
 Wood product assembly  
*(See Appendix C.)*

**A-1-7.3.3 Ordinary Hazard Occupancies (Group 3) include occupancies having conditions similar to:**

Feed mills  
 Paper and pulp mills  
 Paper process plants  
 Piers and wharves  
 Repair garages  
 Tire manufacturing

Warehouses (having moderate to higher combustibility of content, such as paper, household furniture, paint, general storage, whiskey, etc.)<sup>1</sup>  
 Wood machining  
*(See Appendix C.)*

When hazards in those buildings or portions of buildings of this occupancy group are severe, the authority having jurisdiction should be consulted for special rulings regarding water supplies, types of equipment, pipe sizes, types of sprinklers and sprinkler spacing.

**A-1-7.4 New installations protecting extra hazard occupancies should be hydraulically designed where standards giving design criteria are available.**

**A-1-7.4.1 Extra hazard occupancies involve a wide range of variables which may produce severe fires. The following lists conditions which may be used to evaluate the severity of extra hazard occupancies.**

**Extra Hazard Occupancies (Group 1) include occupancies as described in 1-7.4.1 with little or no flammable or combustible liquids. These include occupancies having conditions similar to:**

Combustible Hydraulic Fluid use areas  
 Die Casting  
 Metal Extruding  
 Plywood and particle board manufacturing  
 Printing (using inks with below 100°F [37.8°C] flash points)

Rubber reclaiming, compounding, drying, milling, vulcanizing  
 Saw Mills  
 Textile picking, opening, blending, ginning, carding, combining of cotton, synthetics, wool shoddy or burlap  
 Upholstering with plastic foams

<sup>1</sup>For high-piled storage as defined in 4-1.3.8, see Appendix for separately published NFPA standards relating to water supply requirements, particularly NFPA 231, *Indoor General Storage*, and NFPA 231C, *Rack Storage of Materials*. (See Appendix E.)

**Extra Hazard Occupancies (Group 2)** include occupancies as described in 1-7.4.1 but with moderate to substantial amounts of flammable or combustible liquids or where shielding of combustibles is extensive. Extra Hazard Occupancies (Group 2) includes occupancies having conditions similar to:

Asphalt saturating	closure is present and has com-
Flammable liquids spraying	bustible interiors)
Flow coating	Open Oil quenching
Mobile Home or Modular Building	Solvent cleaning
assemblies (where finished en-	Varnish and paint dipping

**A-1-8.1 Sprinkler Systems in Buildings Subject to Flood.** When sprinkler systems are installed in buildings subject to recurring floods the location of control valves, alarm devices, dry-pipe valves, pumps, compressors, power and fuel supplies should be such that system operation will be uninterrupted by high water.

**A-1-8.1.2** Under special conditions used equipment may be reused by the original owner, subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction. Second hand alarm valves, retarding chambers, circuit closers, water motor alarms, dry-pipe valves, quick-opening devices and other devices may be used as replacement equipment in existing systems subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction.

**A-1-9** Preliminary layouts should be submitted for review to the authority having jurisdiction before any equipment is installed or remodeled in order to avoid error or subsequent misunderstanding. Any material deviation from approved plans will require permission of the authority having jurisdiction.

Preliminary layouts should show:

- (a) Name of owner and occupant
- (b) Location, including street address
- (c) Point of compass
- (d) Construction and occupancy of each building

NOTE: Data on special hazards should be submitted as they may require special rulings.

- (e) Building height in feet

(f) If it is proposed to use a city main as a supply, whether the main is dead-end or circulating, size of the main and pressure in psi; and if dead-end, direction and distance to nearest circulating main

(g) Distance from nearest pumping station or reservoir

(h) In cases where reliable up-to-date information is not available, a water-flow test of the city main should be conducted in accordance with Appendix B-2-1.1. (The preliminary plan should specify who conducted the test, date and time, the location of the hydrants where flow was taken and where static and residual pressure readings were recorded, the size of main supplying these hydrants, and the results of the test, giving size and number of open hydrant butts flowed; also data covering minimum pressure in connection with city main should be included.)

(i) Data covering waterworks systems in small towns in order to expedite the review of plans

(j) Fire walls, fire doors, unprotected window openings, large unprotected floor openings, and blind spaces

(k) Distance to and construction and occupancy of exposing buildings — e.g., lumber yards, brick mercantiles, fire-resistive office buildings, etc.

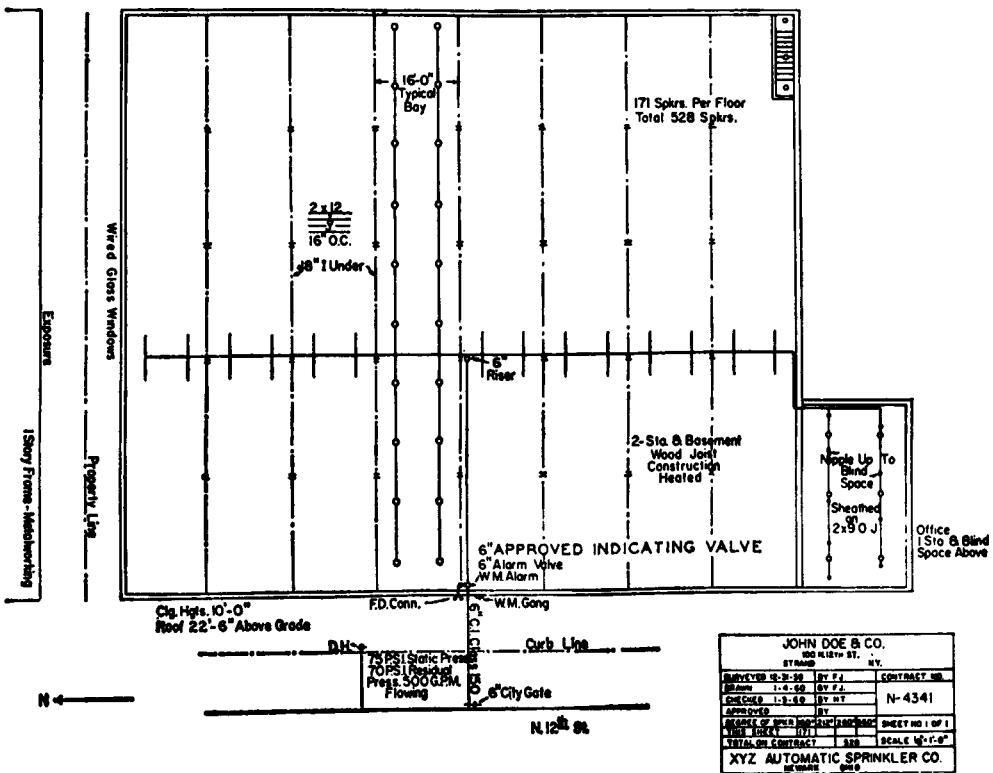
(l) Spacing of sprinklers, number of sprinklers in each story or fire area and total number of sprinklers, number of sprinklers on each riser and on each system by floors, total area protected by each system on each floor, total number of sprinklers on each dry-pipe system or pre-action or deluge system and if extension to present equipment, number of sprinklers on riser per floor, sprinklers already installed

(m) Capacities of dry-pipe systems with the bulk pipe included (see Table A-5-2.3), and if an extension is made to an existing dry-pipe system, the total capacity of the existing and also extended portion of the system

(n) Weight or class, and size and material of any proposed underground pipe

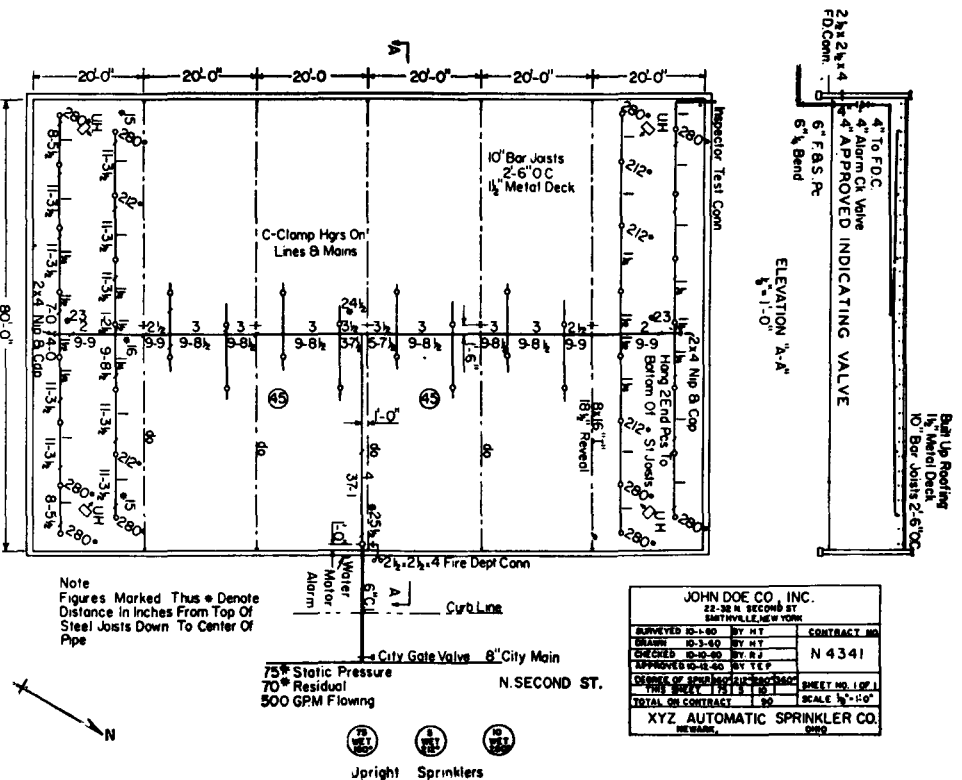
(o) Whether property is located in a flood area requiring consideration in the design of sprinkler system

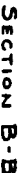
(p) Name and address of party submitting the layout.



For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 psi = 0.0689 bars.

**Figure A-1-9 Typical Preliminary Plan.**

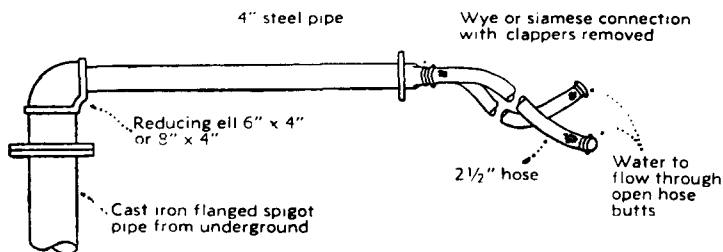




JOHN DOE CO.	
22-32 N. SECOND ST - SMITHVILLE, N.Y.	
REVIEWED 1-6-60 BY: R. J.	CONTRACT NO.
DRAWN 1-6-60 BY: R. J.	N-4341
CHECKED 1-6-60 BY: H. Y.	
APPROVED 1-8-60 BY: T. P.	
NAME OF PROJECT: SPRINKLER	SHEET NO. 1 OF 2
THIS SHIRT NO.	
TOTAL ON CONTRACT 180	SCALE 8"=1'-0"
X-Y-Z AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER CO.	
NEWARK	OHIO

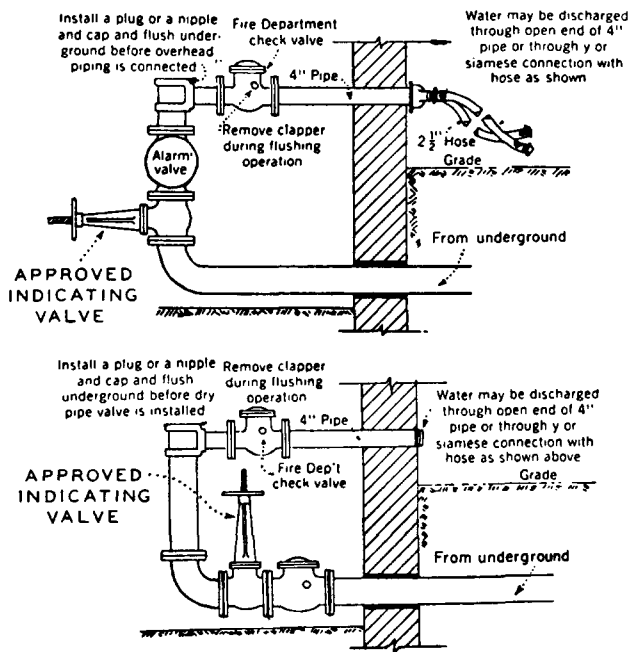
**Figure A-1-9.2(B) Typical Working Plans (cont.)**

## A-1-11.2



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Employing horizontal run of 4-inch pipe and reducing fitting near base of riser.**



**Employing fire department connections.**

**Figure A-1-11.2 Methods of Flushing Water Supply Connections.**



**A-1-11.3.1** Systems that have been modified or repaired to any appreciable extent should be hydrostatically tested at not less than 50 psi (3.4 bars) in excess of normal static pressure for 2 hours.

To reduce the possibility of serious water damage in case of a break, pressure may be maintained by a small pump, the main controlling gate meanwhile being kept shut during test.

**A-1-11.3.3** Valves isolating the section to be tested may not be "drop tight." When such leakage is suspected, test blanks of the type recommended in 1-11.3.6 should be used in a manner that includes the valve in the section being tested.

**A-2-1** Water supplies should have adequate pressure, capacity and reliability.

The water supply needed for various occupancies, including extra hazard occupancies, is determined by evaluating the number of sprinklers which may be expected to operate from any one fire plus quantities needed simultaneously for hose streams.

Determination of the water supply needed for extra hazard occupancies will require special consideration of the four factors: (1) area of sprinkler operation, (2) density of discharge, (3) required time of discharge, and (4) amount of water needed simultaneously for hose streams.

When the occupancy presents a possibility of intense fires requiring extra heavy discharge, this may be obtained by an increase in the pressure and volume of the water supply, by a closer spacing of sprinklers, by the use of larger pipe sizing, or by a combination of these methods. In such cases, consideration should be given to hydraulically designed systems. (*See Chapter 7.*)

When separately published standards on various subjects contain specific provisions for water supplies, these should be consulted. (*See Appendix E for availability of standards.*)

**A-2-2** The water supply requirement for sprinkler protection is determined by the number of sprinklers expected to operate in event of fire. The primary factors affecting the number of sprinklers which might open are:

- (1) Occupancy
- (2) Combustibility of contents
- (3) Area shielded from proper distribution of water
- (4) Height of stock piles
- (5) Combustibility of construction (ceilings and blind spaces)
- (6) Ceiling heights and draft conditions
- (7) Horizontal and vertical cutoffs

- (8) Wet or dry sprinkler system
- (9) High water pressure
- (10) Housekeeping
- (11) Temperature rating of sprinklers
- (12) Water flow alarm and response thereto.

**A-2-2.1.1** For occupancies which have the potential for fast-spreading fire due to the presence of lint, combustible residue, combustible hydraulic fluids under high pressure with ignition sources nearby, etc., the minimum area of operation should encompass the entire area likely to be involved in such a fire.

**A-2-2.1.2.6** This section is included to compensate for possible delay in operation of sprinklers from fires in concealed spaces found in wood frame, brick veneer, and ordinary construction.

**Table A-2-2.1.3 Minimum Water Supply Requirements for Hydraulically Designed Extra Hazard Sprinkler Systems**

Hazard Classification	Sprinkler Water Supply		Combined Inside & Outside Hose		Duration in Minutes
	GPM	L/min	GPM	L/min	
Ex. Haz.-Gp. 1	1,100	4164	500	1893	90-120
Ex. Haz.-Gp. 2	1,500	5678	1,000	3785	120

NOTE 1: The lower duration figure is ordinarily acceptable where remote station water flow alarm service or equivalent is provided.

NOTE 2: When pumps, gravity tanks or pressure tanks supply sprinklers only, requirements for inside and outside hose need not be considered in determining the size of such pumps or tanks.

NOTE 3: Calculations should be based upon the area of sprinkler operation selected from Figure A-2-2.1.3 or upon the area of the largest room. Such a room should be enclosed with construction having a fire resistance rating equal to the water supply duration indicated in Table A-2-2.1.3 with minimum protection of openings by automatic or self-closing doors with appropriate fire resistance ratings for the enclosure.

NOTE 4: For areas of sprinkler operation less than 2,500 sq ft (232 m<sup>2</sup>), the density for 2,500 sq ft (232 m<sup>2</sup>) should be used.

NOTE 5: For dry systems, increase area of sprinkler operation by 30 percent without revising density.

NOTE 6: For construction having unsprinklered combustible concealed spaces, as described in 4-4.4, the minimum area of sprinkler operation should be 3,000 sq ft (278 m<sup>2</sup>).

NOTE 7: When high temperature sprinklers are used for extra hazard occupancies (Groups 1 and 2), the area of sprinkler operation may be reduced by 25 percent without revising the density but not less than 2,000 sq ft (185.8 m<sup>2</sup>).

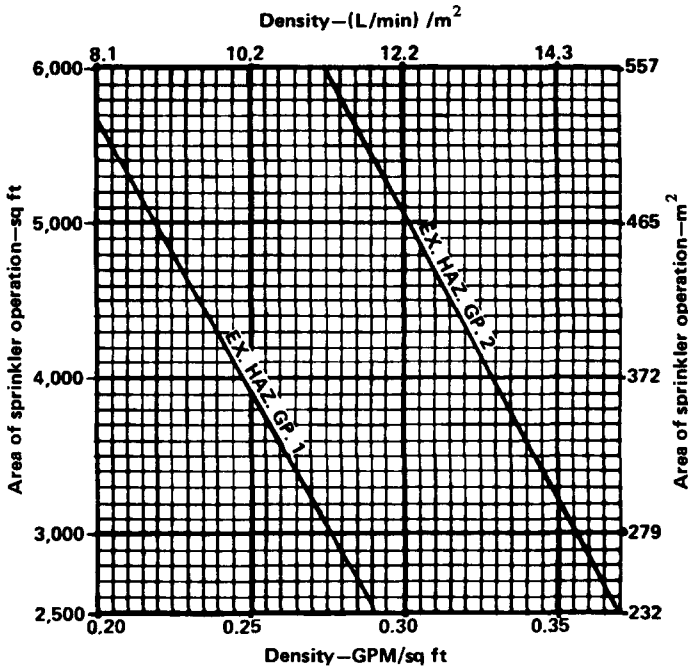


Figure A-2-2.1.3

**A-2-2.1.3** Table A-2-2.1.3 and Figure A-2-2.1.3 are guides to determine density, area of sprinkler operation and water supply requirements for hydraulically designed sprinkler systems for extra hazard occupancies. Systems should be calculated to satisfy a single point on the appropriate design curve and interior piping should be sized for this design point. It is not necessary to meet all points on the selected curve. Total water supply available to the sprinkler system at the riser design reference point should be the sum of the sprinkler and interior hose stream demand shown in Table A-2-2.1.3.

**A-2-3.1.1** Reliability of public water supply should take into account probable minimum pressure condition prevailing during such periods as at night, or during summer months when heavy usage may occur, also possibility of interruption by floods, or ice conditions in winter.

**Pressure Regulating Valves.** Pressure regulating valves should not be used except with permission of the authority having jurisdiction.

**A-2-3.2** In private underground piping systems for buildings of other than light hazard occupancy, any dead-end pipe which supplies both sprinklers and hydrants should be not less than 8 inches in size.

**A-2-5** See sections dealing with sprinkler equipment supervisory and water flow alarm services in NFPA 71, *Standard for Central Station Signaling Systems*, NFPA 72A, *Standard for Local Protective Signaling Systems*, NFPA 72B, *Standard for Auxiliary Protective Signaling Systems*, NFPA 72C, *Remote Station Protective Signaling Systems for Fire Alarm and Supervisory Service*, or NFPA 72D, *Standard for Proprietary Protective Signaling Systems*. See also NFPA 20, *Standard for the Installation of Centrifugal Fire Pumps* and NFPA 24, *Standard for Outside Protection*. (See Appendix E.)

**A-2-5.1** An automatically controlled vertical turbine pump taking suction from a reservoir, pond, lake, river or well complies with 2-5.1.

**A-2-6.3** The air pressure to be carried and the proper proportion of air in the tank may be determined from the following formulas, in which,

P = Air pressure carried in pressure tank.

A = Proportion of air in tank.

H = Height of highest sprinkler above tank bottom.

When tank is placed above the highest sprinkler  $P = \frac{30}{A} - 15$ .

A =  $\frac{1}{8}$  then  $P = 90 - 15 = 75$  lbs per sq in.

A =  $\frac{1}{2}$  then  $P = 60 - 15 = 45$  lbs per sq in.

A =  $\frac{3}{8}$  then  $P = 45 - 15 = 30$  lbs per sq in.

When tank is below level of the highest sprinkler

$$P = \frac{30}{A} - 15 + \frac{0.434H}{A}$$

A =  $\frac{1}{8}$  then  $P = 75 + 1.30H$ .

A =  $\frac{1}{2}$  then  $P = 45 + 0.87H$ .

A =  $\frac{3}{8}$  then  $P = 30 + 0.65H$ .

The respective air pressures above are calculated to ensure that the last water will leave the tank at a pressure of 15 lbs per sq in. when the base of the tank is on a level with the highest sprinkler, or at such additional pressure as is equivalent to a head corresponding to the distance between the base of the tank and the highest sprinkler when the latter is above the tank.

The final pressure required at the pressure tank for systems designed from Table 2-2.1(B) will normally be higher than the 15 psi anticipated in the previous paragraph. The following formula should be used to determine the tank pressure and ratio of air to water in hydraulically designed systems.

$$P_i = \frac{P_f + 15}{A} - 15$$

where

$P_i$  = Tank pressure

$P_f$  = Pressure required from  
hydraulic calculations

$A$  = Proportion of air

**Example:** Hydraulic calculations indicate 75 psi is required to supply the system. What tank pressure will be required?

$$P_i = \frac{75 + 15}{.5} - 15$$

$$P_i = 180 - 15 = 165 \text{ psi}$$

For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 psi = 0.0689 bars.

In this case, the tank would be filled with 50 percent air and 50 percent water and the tank pressure would be 165 psi. If the pressure is too high the amount of air carried in the tank will have to be increased.

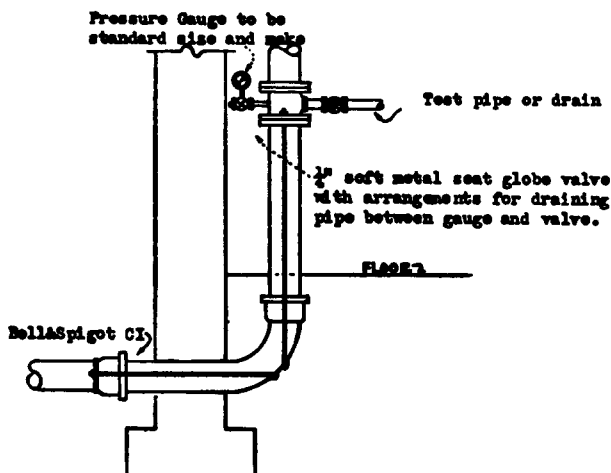
**Location of Pressure Tanks.** Pressure tanks should be located above the top level of sprinklers but may be located in the basement or elsewhere.

**A-2-7.2** For hydraulically designed sprinkler systems, the size of the fire department connection should be sufficient to supply the sprinkler water demand developed from Table 2-2.1(B).

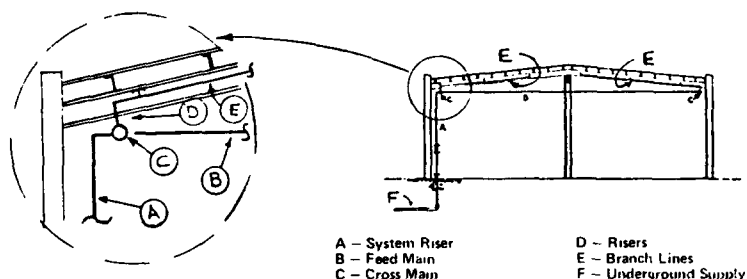
**A-2-7.3** Fire department hose connections should be located on the street side of the building and arranged so that hose lines can be readily and conveniently attached to the inlet without interference from any nearby objects including buildings, fences, posts, or other fire department connections.

**A-2-8.2** When the system riser is close to an outside wall, underground fittings of proper length should be used in order to avoid pipe joints located in or under the wall. When the connection passes through the foundation wall below grade, a 1- to 3-in. (25- to 76-mm) clearance should be provided around the pipe and the clear space filled with asphalt mastic or similar flexible waterproofing material. (*Also see Appendix B-3-2.*)

**A-2-9.1**



**Figure A-2-9.1** Test Pipe on Water Supply with Outside Control.  
Also applicable to an interior riser.



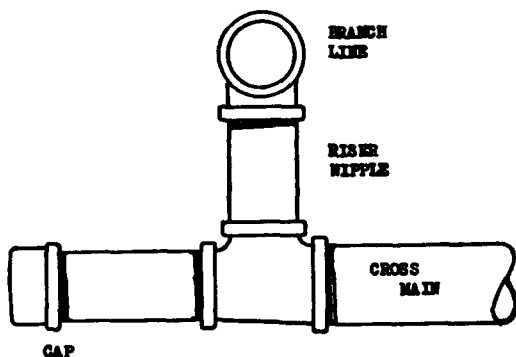
**Figure A-3-2 Building Elevation Showing Parts of Sprinkler Piping System.**

**A-3-4 Long Runs of Pipe.** When the construction or conditions introduce unusually long runs of pipe or many angles, in risers or feed mains, an increase in pipe size over that called for in the schedules may be required to compensate for increased friction losses.

**A-3-5.3.1** For example, a 2½-inch steel pipe, which is permitted to supply 30 sprinklers, may supply a total of 50 sprinklers where not more than 30 sprinklers are above or below the ceiling.

**A-3-6.3.1** For example, a 3-inch steel pipe, which is permitted to supply 40 sprinklers, may supply a total of 60 sprinklers where not more than 40 sprinklers are above or below the ceiling.

**A-3-8.2(a)**



**Figure A-3-8.2(a) Screw Type Cap.**

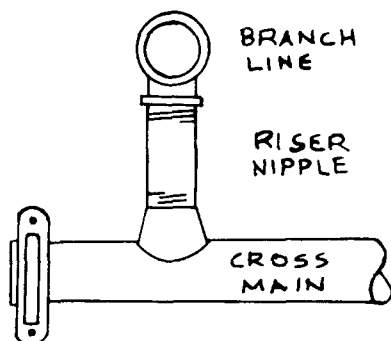
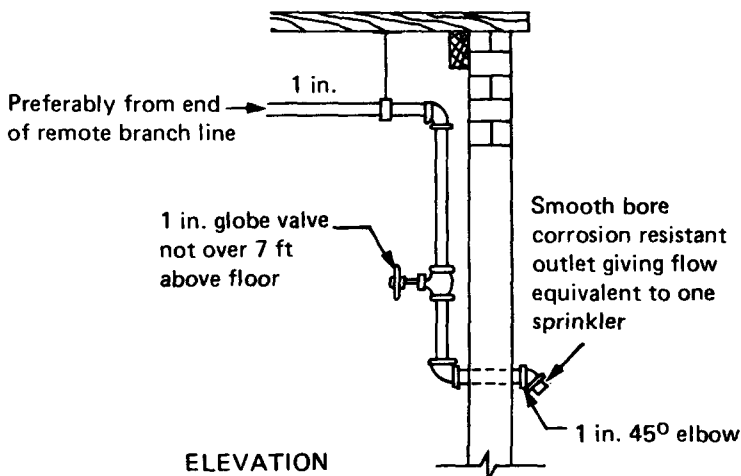


Figure A-3-8.2(b) Groove Type Cap.

**A-3-9.1.1** This test pipe should be in the upper story, and the connection should preferably be piped from the end of the most remote branch line. The discharge should be at a point where it can be readily observed. In locations where it is not practical to terminate the test pipe outside the building, the test pipe may terminate into a drain capable of accepting full flow under system pressure. (See A-3-11.4.1.) In this event, the test connection should be made using an approved sight test connection containing a smooth bore corrosion resistant orifice giving a flow equivalent to one sprinkler. [See Figures A-3-9.1.1(a) and A-3-9.1.1(b).] The test valve should be located at an accessible point, and preferably not over 7 ft (2.1 m) above the floor. The control valve on the test connection should be located at a point not exposed to freezing.





For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

NOTE: Not less than 4 ft (1.2 m) of exposed test pipe in warm room beyond valve when pipe extends through wall to outside.

Figure A-3-9.1.1(a)

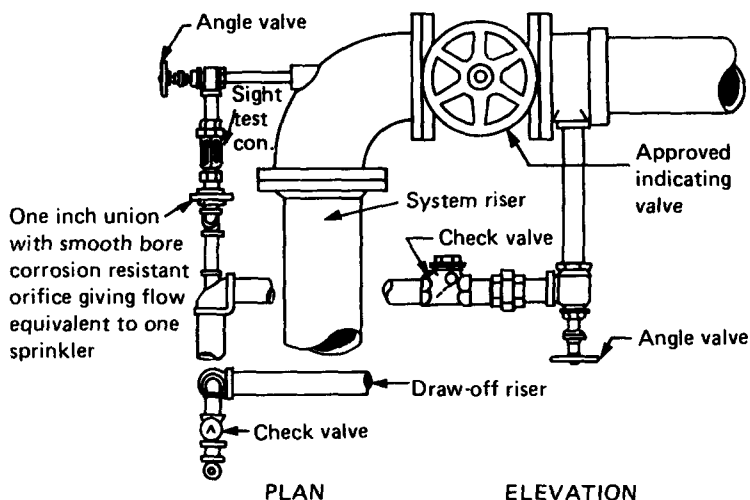


Figure A-3-9.1.1(b) One-Inch System Test Pipes on Wet-Pipe Systems.

Connect to top of main riser or to sprinkler pipe in the highest part of the system. The drawing on the upper portion of the page shows the preferred arrangement. In special cases, the connection may be made in the manner shown in the lower drawing.

## A-3-9.1.2

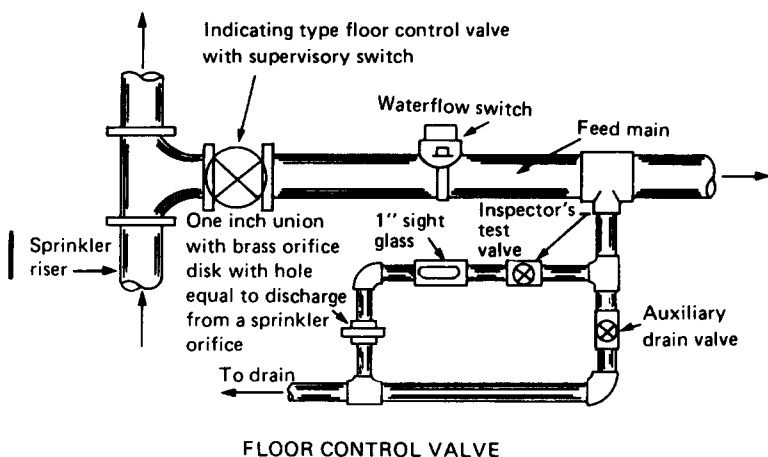


Figure A-3-9.1.2 Floor Control Valve

## A-3-9.2

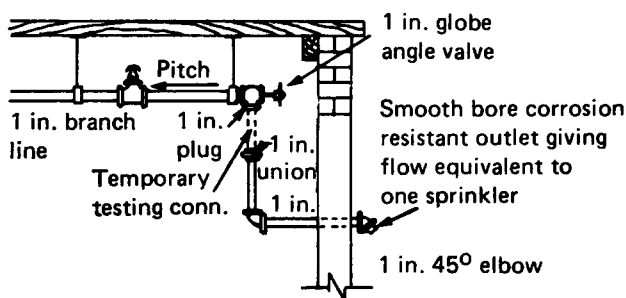


Figure A-3-9.2 One-Inch System Test Pipes on Dry-Pipe Systems.

**A-3-10 Protection of Piping Against Damage Due to Impact.** Sprinkler piping should be located so as to minimize the possibility of damage due to impact by mobile material handling equipment and other vehicles. For example, risers adjacent to structural columns and out of vehicle travel routes are generally safe, as are feed mains and cross mains shielded by heavy structural members such as girders.

**A-3-10.2** If corrosive conditions are not of great intensity and humidity is not abnormally high, good results can be obtained by a protective coating of red lead and varnish or by a good grade of commercial acid-resisting paint. The paint manufacturer's instructions should be followed in the preparation of the surface and in the method of application.

Where moisture conditions are severe but corrosive conditions are not of great intensity, copper tube or galvanized steel pipe, fittings and hangers may be suitable. The threaded ends of steel pipe should be painted.

In instances where the piping is not readily accessible and where the exposure to corrosive fumes is severe, either a protective coating of high quality may be employed or resort may be made to the use of some form of corrosion resisting material.

**A-3-10.2.3** It is important when protected steel pipe (galvanized, dipped and wrapped, coated, etc.) is used that particular care is taken to see that all exposed threads, wrench marks, or abrasions which have penetrated through the protection be repaired, sealed and/or properly coated.

### **A-3-10.3 Protection of Piping Against Damage Where Subject to Earthquakes.**

**A-3-10.3.1** Protection against damage where subject to earthquakes should be provided in some areas. The history, intensity, and the frequency of earthquakes should be considered in determining the need for protection of piping against earthquake damage. The authority having jurisdiction should be consulted relative to definite areas requiring protection.

**A-3-10.3.2** Breakage of sprinkler piping caused by building movement can be greatly lessened and may be prevented by increasing the flexibility between major parts of the sprinkler system. One part of the piping should never be held rigidly and another be free to move without provisions for relieving the strain.

Flexibility can be provided by the use of mechanical groove couplings at critical points and allowing clearances at walls and floors. Mechanical groove couplings are generally unnecessary in risers which are under 3 ft (0.9 m) in length.

A pair of mechanical groove couplings with a length of pipe between readily permits a considerable offset in any direction.

Tank or pump risers should be treated the same as sprinkler risers for their portion within a building. The discharge pipe of tanks on buildings should have a control valve above the roof line so any pipe break within the building can be controlled.

**A-3-10.3.3** While clearances are necessary around the sprinkler piping to prevent breakage due to building movement, suitable provision should also be made to prevent passage of water, smoke or fire.

Drains, fire department connections, and other auxiliary piping connected to risers should not be cemented into walls or floors; similarly, pipes which pass horizontally through walls or foundations should not be cemented solidly or strains will accumulate at such point.

Where supplies or short lengths of pipe extend through suspended ceilings, they should not be fastened to the ceiling framing members.

Mineral wool or other suitable material used to pack clearances between pipe and sleeves and walls should be held in place with pipe collars on each side.

**A-3-10.3.4** All piping outside of buildings which is not buried should be securely anchored to prevent swaying.

In most cases, specially placed U-type hangers, or pipe clamps with rods or angle braces, will satisfy bracing requirements. Any properly detailed design will be acceptable. Figure A-3-10.3.4(a) illustrates some acceptable arrangements of sway bracing.

In design of sway braces, the slenderness ratio  $l/r$  should not exceed 200 where "l" is the distance between the center lines of support and "r" is the least radius of gyration, both in inches. For example, a flat bar 2 in. by  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. should not be over 1 ft, 9 in. between fastenings. The maximum length of shapes used for sway bracing is shown in Table A-3-10.3.4.

**Table A-3-10.3.4**

Item	Max. Length $l/r = 200$	Item	Max. Length $l/r = 200$
<b>Angles</b>		<b>Flats</b>	
$1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	4 ft 10 in.	$1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	1 ft 2 in.
2 x 2 x $\frac{1}{4}$ in.	6 ft 6 in.	2 x $\frac{1}{4}$ in.	1 ft 2 in.
$2\frac{1}{2} \times 2 \times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	7 ft 0 in.	2 x $\frac{3}{8}$ in.	1 ft 9 in.
$2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	8 ft 2 in.	<b>Pipe</b>	
3 x $2\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	8 ft 10 in.	1 in.	7 ft 0 in.
3 x 3 x $\frac{1}{4}$ in.	9 ft 10 in.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ in.	9 ft 0 in.
<b>Rods</b>		$1\frac{1}{2}$ in.	10 ft 4 in.
$\frac{3}{4}$ in.	3 ft 1 in.	2 in.	13 ft 1 in.
$\frac{1}{2}$ in.	3 ft 7 in.		

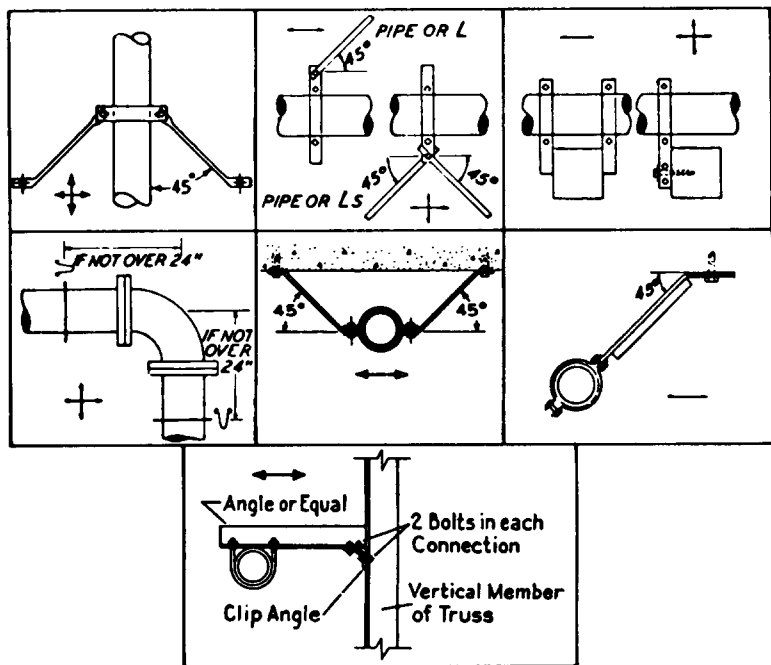
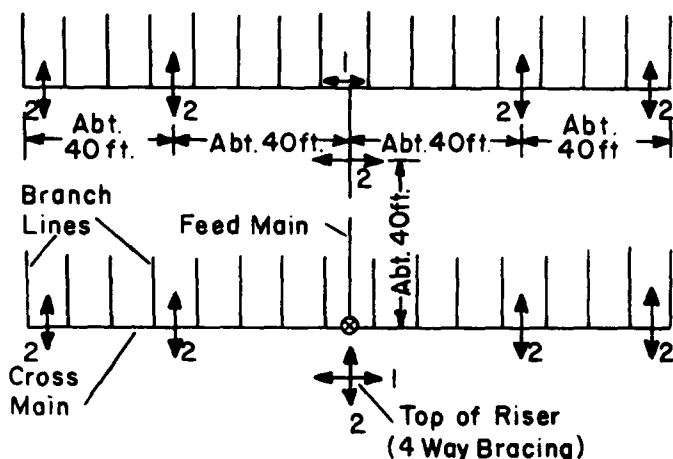


Figure A-3-10.3.4(a) Acceptable Types of Sway Bracing.

**A-3-11.1.1** All piping should be arranged where practicable to drain to the main drain valve.

**A-3-11.4.1** When possible, the main sprinkler riser drain should discharge outside the building at a point free from the possibility of causing water damage. When not possible to discharge outside the building wall, the drain should be piped to a sump which in turn should discharge by gravity or be pumped to a waste water drain or sewer. The main sprinkler riser drain connection should be of a size to carry off water from the fully open drain valve while it is discharging under normal water system pressures. When this is not possible, a supplementary drain of equal size should be provided for test purposes with free discharge, located at or above grade.

**A-3-11.4.5** When exterior ambient temperatures are subject to freezing, 32°F (0°C) or less, at least 4 ft (1.2 m) of pipe should be installed beyond the valve, in a warm room.

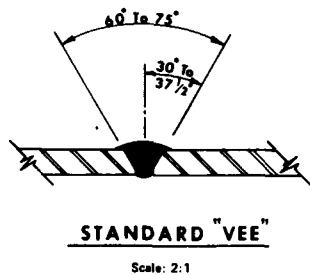


Indicates suitable location of hangers to oppose the movement of feed and cross mains in the direction along the main. One hanger will be sufficient for each main unless it is of exceptional length or contains offsets or changes in direction. Two-inch and smaller pipes do not require this type of bracing.

Indicates suitable location of hangers to oppose transverse (perpendicular to pipe) movement of feed and cross mains. They should be located at intervals of 30 to 40 feet. The end hanger of this type should be on the last piece of cross or feed main.

For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure A-3-10.3.4(b) Typical Locations of Sway Bracing Hangers.



Examples Ref.:  
.120 Wall Pipe

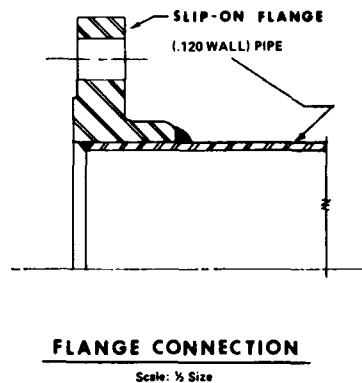
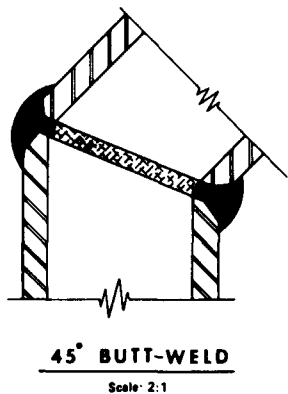


Figure A-3-12.2(a) Butt-Weld Joints and Flange Connection.

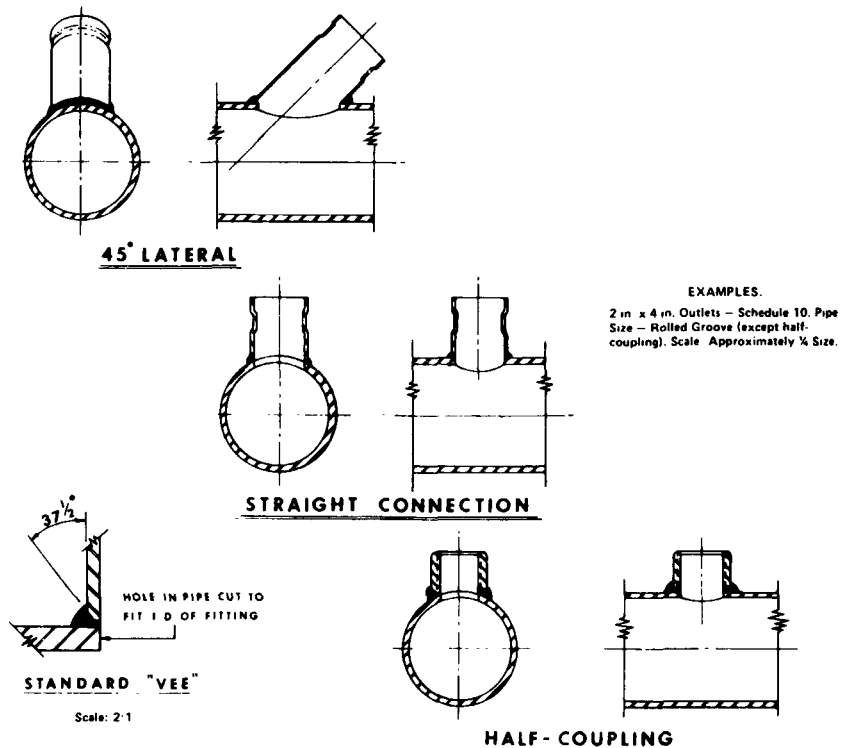


Figure A-3-12.2(b) Welded Branch Connections.



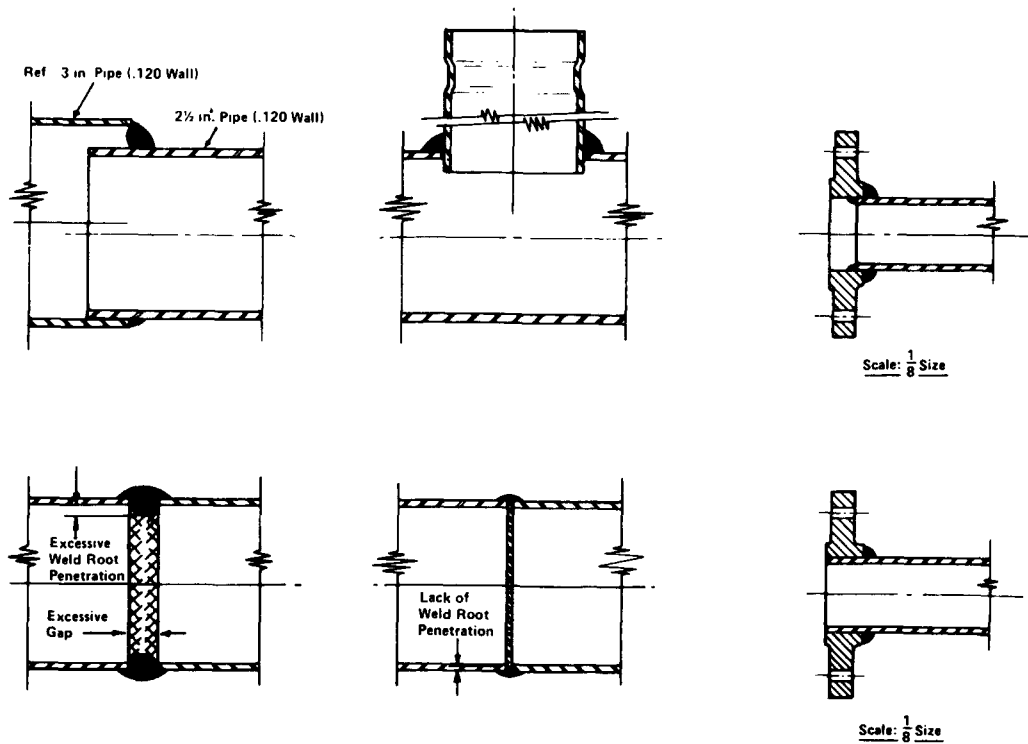


Figure A-3-12.2(c). Unacceptable Weld Joints.

A-3-12.4 The fire hazard of the brazing process should be suitably safeguarded.

## A-3-13.1.5

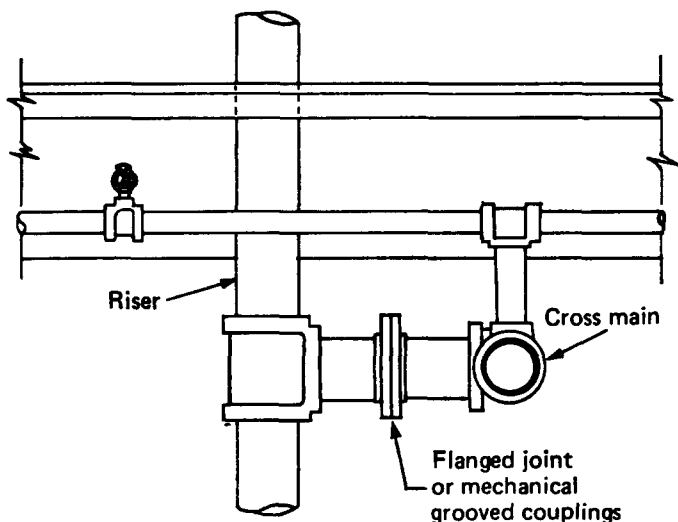


Figure A-3-13.1.5 One Arrangement of Flanged Joint at Sprinkler Riser.

**A-3-13.2** Approved flexible connections are permissible and encouraged for sprinkler installations in racks to reduce possibility of physical damage. When flexible tubing is used it should be located so that it will be protected against mechanical injury.

### A-3-14.2 Valves Controlling Water Supplies.

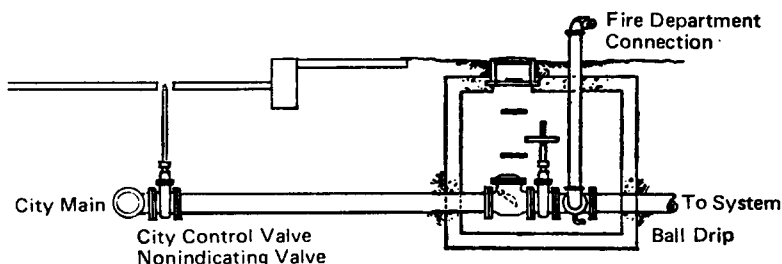
**A-3-14.2.1** A water supply connection should not extend into or through a building unless such connection is under the control of an outside listed indicating valve or an inside listed indicating valve located near outside wall of the building.

All valves controlling water supplies for sprinkler system or portions thereof including floor control valves should be accessible to authorized persons during emergencies. Permanent ladders, clamped treads on risers, chain-operated hand wheels, or other accepted means should be provided when necessary.

Outside control valves are suggested in the following order of preference:

- (a) Listed indicating valves at each connection into the building at least 40 ft (12.2 m) from buildings if space permits.
- (b) Control valves installed in a cut-off stair tower or valve room accessible from outside.
- (c) Valves located in risers with indicating posts arranged for outside operation.
- (d) Key operated valves in each connection into the building.

**A-3-14.2.5** Pits for underground valves, except those located at the base of a tank riser, are described in NFPA 24, *Standard for Outside Protection*. For pits protecting valves located at the base of a tank riser, refer to NFPA 22, *Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection*. (See Appendix E.)



**Figure A-3-14.2.5** Pit for Gate Valve, Check Valve and Fire Department Connection.

**A-3-14.2.6** When a system having only one dry-pipe valve is supplied with city water and fire department connection it will be satisfactory to install the main check valve in water supply connection immediately inside of the building; in case there is no outside control the system indicating valve should be placed at the wall flange ahead of all fittings.

**A-3-14.3** All control, drain, and test valves should be provided with identification signs.

**A-3-15.1** Branch line hangers under metal decking may be attached by drilling or punching vertical members and using through bolts. The distance from the bottom of the bolt hole to the bottom of the vertical member should be not less than  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. (9.5 mm).

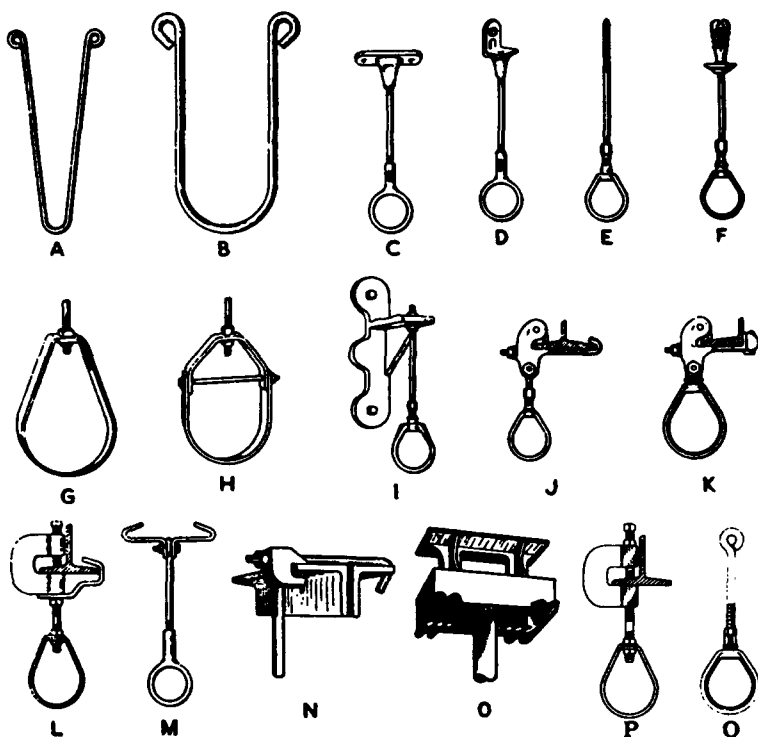
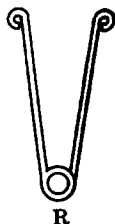
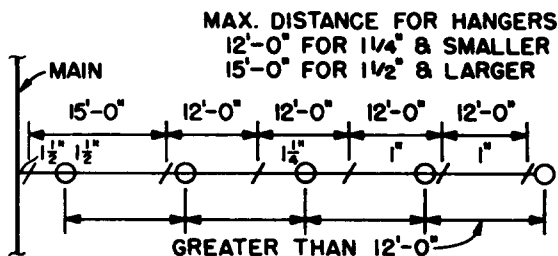


Figure A-3-15.1 Common Types of Acceptable Hangers.

- A — U-type Hanger for Branch Lines.
- B — U-type Hanger for Cross Mains and Feed Mains.
- C — Adjustable Clip for Branch Lines.
- D — Side Beam Adjustable Hanger.
- E — Adjustable Coach Screw Clip for Branch Lines.
- F — Adjustable Swivel Ring Hanger with Expansion Shield.
- G — Adjustable Flat Iron Hanger.
- H — Adjustable Clevis Hanger.
- I — Cantilever Bracket.
- J — "Universal" I-beam Clamp.
- K — "Universal" Channel Clamp.
- L — C-type Clamp with Retaining Strap.
- M — Center I-beam Clamp for Branch Lines.
- N — Top Beam Clamp.
- O — "CL-Universal" Concrete Insert.
- P — C-type Clamp without Retaining Strap.
- Q — Eye Rod and Ring Hanger.
- R — Wrap-around U Hook.

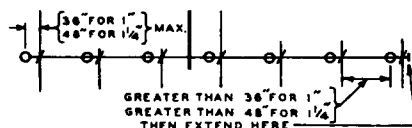




For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

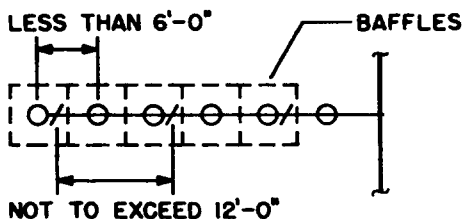
**Figure A-3-15.1.10 Distance Between Hangers.**

**A-3-15.3.1** Powder-driven studs should not be used in steel less than  $\frac{3}{16}$ -in. total thickness.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure A-3-15.5.3 Distance Sprinkler to Hanger.**



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure A-3-15.5.4 Distance Between Hangers. (See 3-15.5.4.)**

**A-3-15.5.6** To take care of the thrust in a steeply pitched roof branch line, a clamp should be installed on the pipe just above the lowest hanger.

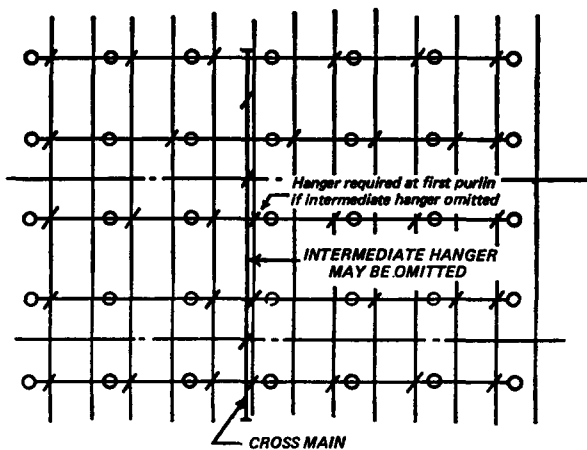


Figure A-3-15.6.1(A) Hangers on Cross Main.

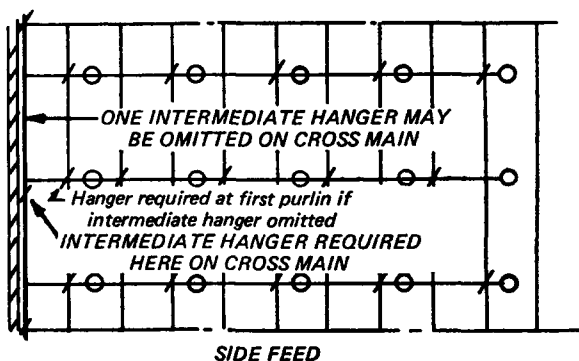


Figure A-3-15.6.1(B) Hanger Omission on Side Feed System.

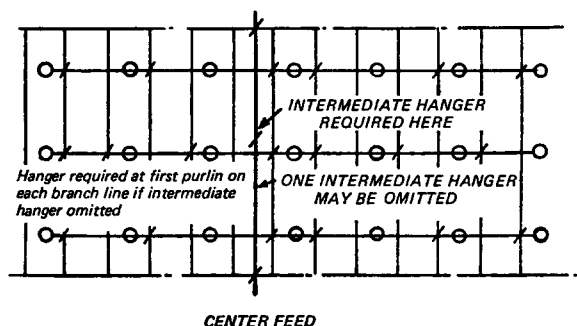


Figure A-3-15.6.1(C) Hangers on Cross Main — Center Feed System.

**A-3-16.2.2** Upright sprinklers should be installed with the frame parallel to the branch line pipe to reduce to minimum the obstruction of the discharge pattern.

**A-3-16.2.6** Large orifice sprinklers should not be used with pipe schedule systems unless their use is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and supported by hydraulic calculations.

**A-3-16.2.8** The standard sprinkler is the type commonly manufactured since 1953, incorporating a uniform, hemispherical discharge pattern. Water is discharged in all directions below the plane of the deflector. Little or no water is discharged upward to wet the ceiling. Sprinkler deflectors are stamped as follows:

Upright Sprinkler Marked SSU

Pendent Sprinkler Marked SSP

The old style sprinkler is the type commonly manufactured before 1953. It discharged approximately 50 percent of the water upward to the ceiling.

**A-3-16.5** The following Table A-3-16.5 shows the nominal discharge capacities of approved sprinklers having a nominal  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. (12.7-mm) orifice at various pressures up to 100 psi (6.9 bars).

Table A-3-16.5

Pressure at Sprinkler lb per sq in.	Discharge gal per min	Pressure at Sprinkler lb per sq in.	Discharge gal per min
10	18	35	34
15	22	50	41
20	25	75	50
25	28	100	58

For SI Units: 1 gpm = 3.785 L/min; 1 psi = 0.0689 bar.

**A-3-16.6** Information regarding the highest temperature that may be encountered in any location in a particular installation may be obtained by use of a thermometer that will register the highest temperature encountered, which should be hung for several days in the questionable location with the plant in operation.

When an occupancy hazard normally may be expected to produce a fast-developing fire or a rapid rate of heat release, the use of sprinklers of high temperature classification, as a means of limiting the total number of sprinklers which might open in a fire, is recommended. Since the number of sprinklers which might be expected to open will be reduced where the water pressure effective in first operating sprinklers is at least 75 psi (5.2 bars) without the disadvantage of a potential increase in fire damage, this alternative should be given first consideration.

NOTE: Fire tests have shown that the number of sprinklers which might be expected to open, particularly under conditions where fast-developing fires may be expected can be limited by the use of sprinklers of High Temperature Classification. This may be of advantage in reducing the number of sprinklers which would otherwise open outside the area directly involved in a fire and decrease the overall water demand. However, some increase in fire damage and fire temperatures may be expected when sprinklers of Intermediate or High Temperature Classification are used.

Some occupancies employ high temperature fumigation processes requiring consideration in the selection of sprinkler temperature ratings.

**A-3-16.7** For equipment aboard vessels or in isolated locations, a greater number of sprinklers should be provided to permit equipment to be put back into service promptly after a fire. When a great number of sprinklers are likely to be opened by a flash fire, a greater number of sprinklers should be provided.

**A-3-16.8** Sprinklers under open gratings should be provided with shields. Shields over automatic sprinklers should not be less, in least dimension, than four times the distance between the shield and fusible



element, except special sprinklers incorporating a built-in shield need not comply with this requirement if approved for the particular application.

**A-3-16.9.1** When painting sprinkler piping or painting in areas near sprinklers, the sprinklers may be protected by covering with a bag which should be removed immediately after the painting has been finished.

**A-3-16.9.2** Painting of sprinklers may retard the thermal response of the fusible element, may interfere with the free movement of parts, and may render the sprinkler inoperative. Moreover, painting may invite the application of subsequent coatings, thus increasing the possibility of a malfunction of the sprinkler.

**A-3-17.2** Central station, auxiliary, remote station, or proprietary protective signaling systems are a highly desirable supplement to local alarms, especially from a safety to life standpoint. (*See Section 8-5.*)

**Identification Signs.** Approved identification signs should be provided for outside alarm devices. The sign should be located near the device in a conspicuous position and should be worded as follows: **SPRINKLER FIRE ALARM — WHEN BELL RINGS CALL FIRE DEPARTMENT OR POLICE.** (*See Figure A-3-17.2.*)



**Figure A-3-17.2** Identification Sign.

**A-3-17.3.3** A mechanical alarm (water motor gong) may also be required.

**A-3-17.4.1** Audible alarms are normally located on the outside of the building. Listed electric gong, bells, horns, or sirens inside the building or a combination inside and outside are sometimes advisable.

**A-3-17.4.2** All alarm apparatus should be so located and installed that all parts are accessible for inspection, removal, and repair, and should be substantially supported.

**A-3-17.5** Water-motor-operated devices should be located as near as practicable to the alarm valve, dry-pipe valve, or other waterflow detecting device. The total length of the pipe to these devices should not exceed 75 ft (22.9 m) nor should the water-motor-operated device be located over 20 ft (6.1 m) above the alarm device or dry-pipe valve. If absolutely necessary to exceed 75 ft (22.9 m), the pipe line to the water-motor-operated device should be increased one or more sizes to compensate for loss of pressure due to hydraulic friction.

**A-3-17.6.2** Switches which will silence electric alarm sounding devices by interruption of electrical current are not desirable; however, if such means are provided, then the electrical alarm sounding device circuit should be arranged so that when the sounding device is electrically silenced, that fact shall be indicated by means of a conspicuous light located in the vicinity of the riser or alarm control panel. This light shall remain in operation during the entire period of the electrical circuit interruption.

**A-4-1.1** All needless ceiling sheathing, hollow siding, tops of high shelving, partitions, or decks should be removed. Sheathing of paper and similar light flammable materials is particularly objectionable.

**A-4-1.1.4** New partitions, closets, decks, etc., should be put in place, or provided for, so that the sprinkler equipment may conform to same.

**A-4-1.2** Installation of sprinklers throughout the premises is necessary for protection of life and property. In some cases partial sprinkler installations covering hazardous sections and other areas are specified in codes or standards or are required by authorities having jurisdiction, for minimum protection to property or to provide opportunity for safe exit from the building.

When buildings or portions of buildings are of combustible construction or contain combustible material, standard fire barriers should be provided to separate the areas which are sprinkler protected from adjoining unsprinklered areas. All openings should be

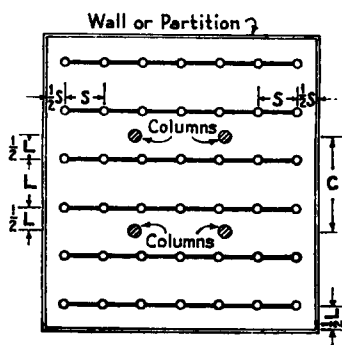
protected in accordance with applicable standards and no sprinkler piping should be placed in an unsprinklered area unless the area is permitted to be unsprinklered by this standard.

Water supplies for partial systems should be adequate and designed with due consideration to the fact that in a partial system more sprinklers may be opened in a fire which originates in an unprotected area and spreads to the sprinklered area than would be the case in a completely protected building. Fire originating in nonsprinklered area may overpower the partial sprinkler system.

**A-4-2.1.2** For examples of sprinkler layouts under smooth ceiling construction, refer to Figures A-4-2.1.2(A) and A-4-2.1.2(B).

### Flat Slab or Pan Type Reinforced Concrete

Maximum Spacing: 130 Sq Ft per Sprinkler  
LXS = 130 or less



#### KEY

C = Column spacing.

L = Distance between branch lines, limit 15 ft.

S = Distance between sprinklers on branch lines, limit 15 ft.

#### Examples

C	L	S (Max)	C	L	S (Max)
21 ft 8 in.	10 ft 10 in.	12 ft 0 in.	21 ft 9 in.	10 ft 0 in.	12 ft 1 in.
24 ft 2 in.	12 ft 1 in.	10 ft 9 in.			

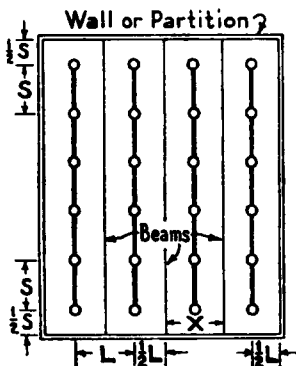
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 ft<sup>2</sup> = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.

**Figure A-4-2.1.2(A)** Layout of Sprinklers Under Smooth Ceiling Construction  
— Ordinary Hazard Occupancy.

## Continuous Smooth Bays with Beams Supported on Columns

Maximum Spacing: 130 Sq Ft per Sprinkler

$$L \times S = 130 \text{ or less}$$



### KEY

L = Distance between branch lines, limit 15 ft.

S = Distance between sprinklers on branch lines, limit 15 ft.

X = Width of bay.

### Examples

X	L	S (Max)	X	L	S (Max)
10 ft 10 in.	10 ft 10 in.	12 ft 0 in.	10 ft 9 in.	10 ft 0 in.	12 ft 1 in.
12 ft 1 in.	12 ft 1 in.	10 ft 0 in.			

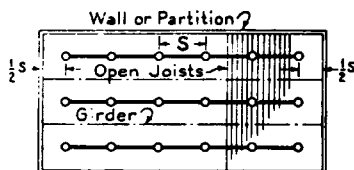
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 ft<sup>2</sup> = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.

**Figure A-4-2.1.2(B)** Layout of Sprinklers Under Smooth Ceiling Construction  
— Ordinary Hazard Occupancy.

## A-4-2.2.1.2

### Joists Above Girders or Framed into Girders; Branch Lines Uniformly Spaced Between Girders

Maximum Spacing: 130 Sq Ft per Sprinkler  
 $L \times S = 130$  or less



#### KEY

**L** = Distance between branch lines, limit 15 ft.

**S** = Distance between sprinklers on branch lines, limit 15 ft.

**Y** = Maximum distance between girders.

#### Examples

Y	L	S (Max)	Y	L	S (Max)
10 ft 9 in.	10 ft 9 in.	12 ft 1 in.	10 ft 10 in.	10 ft 10 in.	12 ft 0 in.
			12 ft 1 in.	12 ft 1 in.	10 ft 9 in.

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 ft<sup>2</sup> = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.

**Figure A-4-2.2.1.2** Layout of Sprinklers Under Open Wood Joist Construction  
 — Light and Ordinary Hazard Occupancies.

**A-4-2.3** The arrangement of branch lines depends upon such construction features as the distance between girders or trusses, columns of mushroom type reinforced concrete, and beams of standard mill construction. Each space or bay should usually be treated as a unit, installing the same number of branch lines uniformly in each space. When single branch lines will suffice, they should be placed midway in each bay or space. The arrangement of branch lines also depends upon the structural members available and suitable for the attachment of hangers and upon the need for properly locating sprinkler deflectors in accordance with 4-2.4 and Section 4-3.

The direction in which branch lines are usually run in the common types of ceiling construction and framing is shown in Table A-4-2.3.

Table A-4-2.3

Type of Ceiling	Location of Branch Lines
<b>Smooth Continuous:</b>	
Concrete mushroom .....	Either direction
Concrete pan-type or flat .....	Either direction
Sheathed (ceiling attached to bottom of beams, wood joists, or bar joists):	
Girders beneath sheathing .....	Across the beams or joists
No girders beneath sheathing .....	Whichever direction facilitates easy and proper hanging
<b>Bays more than 7½ ft (2.3 m) wide:</b>	
Formed by beams supported on columns	Parallel to beams
Formed by beams supported on girders or trusses .....	Either across beams or parallel to beams in the bays above girders or trusses
Supported directly on girders .....	Parallel to girders
Supported directly on trusses .....	Either direction, parallel to or through trusses
<b>Beam and Girder:</b>	
Wood or steel beams spaced 3 to 7½ ft (0.9 to 2.3 m) apart .....	Across beams
Open Bar Joist .....	Across the joists or trusses (either through or under them)
Open Joist (wood, steel, or concrete) .....	Across joists

**A-4-4 Special Occupancy Considerations.** (a) Subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction, sprinklers may be omitted in rooms or areas where sprinklers are considered undesirable because of the nature of the contents, or in rooms or areas of non-combustible construction with wholly noncombustible contents and which are not exposed by other areas. Sprinklers should not be omitted from any room merely because it is damp or of fire-resistive construction.

(b) It is not advisable to install sprinklers when the application of water, or of flame and water, to the contents may constitute a serious life or fire hazard, as in the manufacture or storage of quantities of aluminum powder, calcium carbide, calcium phosphide, metallic sodium and potassium, quicklime, magnesium powder, and sodium peroxide. The manufacture and storage of such materials should be confined to specially cut-off, unsprinklered rooms or buildings of fire-resistive construction.

**A-4-4.8.2** Floor or wall openings tending to create vertical or horizontal drafts, or other structural conditions that would delay the prompt operation of automatic sprinklers by preventing the banking up of the heated air from the fire, should be properly stopped in order to permit control of fire at any point by local sprinklers.

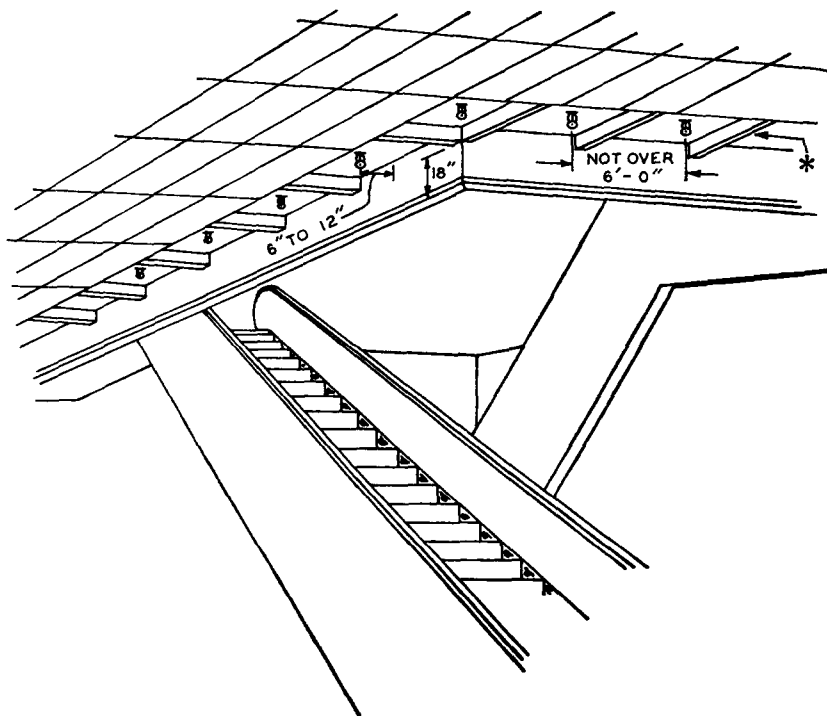
**A-4-4.8.2.3** The draft stops should be located immediately adjacent to the opening, should be 18 in. (457 mm) deep and should be of substantially noncombustible material. Sprinklers, spaced not more than 6 ft (1.8 m) apart, should be placed 6 in. to 12 in. (152 mm to 305 mm) from the draft stop on the side away from the opening to form a water curtain. Sprinklers in this water curtain should be hydraulically designed to provide a discharge of 3 gal per min per lineal ft [(37 L/min)/m] of water curtain, measured horizontally around the opening, with no sprinkler discharging less than 15 gpm (56.8 L/min). Nominal ½-in. (12.7-mm) orifice closed head systems using sprinklers of Ordinary Temperature Classification are adequate for this purpose. When sprinklers are closer than 6 ft (1.8 m), cross baffles should be provided in accordance with 4-4.19. When sprinklers in the normal ceiling pattern are closer than 6 ft (1.8 m) from the water curtain, it may be preferable to locate the water curtain sprinklers in recessed baffle pockets. (*See Figure A-4-4.8.2.3.*)

**A-4-4.9** The installation of sprinklers at floor levels should be so arranged as to protect the sprinklers from mechanical injury, from falling materials, and not cause obstruction within the chute. This can usually be accomplished by recessing the sprinkler in the wall of the chute or by providing a protective deflector canopy over the sprinkler. Sprinklers should be placed so that there will be minimum interference of the discharge therefrom. (*See also 4-1.2.*) Sprinklers with special directional discharge characteristics may be advantageous.

**A-4-4.11** Frequently, additional sprinkler equipment can be avoided by reducing the width of decks or galleries and providing proper clearances. Slatting of decks or walkways or the use of open grating as a substitute for automatic sprinklers thereunder is not acceptable. The use of cloth or paper dust tops for rooms forms obstruction to water distribution. If employed, the area below should be sprinklered.

**A-4-4.13** For ducts less than 4 ft (1.2 m) wide which obstruct distribution from ceiling sprinklers, see Appendix B-4.2.3.

**A-4-4.15** The installation of open grid egg crate, louver, or honeycomb ceilings beneath sprinklers restricts the sidewise travel of the sprinkler discharge and may change the character of discharge.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure A-4-4.8.2.3 Sprinklers Around Escalators**

\*See 4-4.19

**A-4-4.18** Sprinklers over each single or pair of fryers should be arranged to operate at not less than 30 psi (2.1 bars).

Automatic sprinklers protecting commercial-type cooking equipment and ventilation systems should be controlled by separate, readily accessible indicating-type control valves that are properly identified. (See A-3-14.3.)

**A-4-4.20.1** Example of sprinklers in small rooms for hydraulically designed and pipe schedule systems is shown in Figure A-4-4.20.1(a), and examples for hydraulically designed systems only are shown in Figures A-4-4.20.1(b), (c), and (d).