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Pile Foundations Formulas

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List of 25 Pile Foundations Formulas

Pile Foundations

Allowable Load on Piles

1) Allowable Load for Drop Hammer Driven Piles

$$\text{fx } P_a = \frac{2 \cdot W_h \cdot H_d}{p + 1}$$

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

$$\text{ex } 12.08982\text{kg} = \frac{2 \cdot 20.19\text{kg} \cdot 0.3\text{m}}{2.00\text{mm} + 1}$$

2) Height of Drop given Allowable Load for Drop Hammer Driven Piles

$$\text{fx } H_d = \frac{P_a \cdot (p + 1)}{2 \cdot W_h}$$

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

$$\text{ex } 0.300004\text{m} = \frac{12.09\text{kg} \cdot (2.00\text{mm} + 1)}{2 \cdot 20.19\text{kg}}$$

3) Height of Drop given Allowable Load for Steam Hammer Driven Piles

$$\text{fx } H_{sd} = \frac{P_a \cdot (p + 0.1)}{2 \cdot W_h}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(f1c5da15572e3e09d343161be98f508d_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 0.030539\text{m} = \frac{12.09\text{kg} \cdot (2.00\text{mm} + 0.1)}{2 \cdot 20.19\text{kg}}$$



4) Weight of Hammer given Allowable Load for Drop Hammer Driven Piles

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(4729e517bc6a7cd81c8025b9646574fb_img.jpg\)](#)

$$fx \quad W_h = \frac{P_a \cdot (p + 1)}{2 \cdot H_d}$$

$$ex \quad 20.1903kg = \frac{12.09kg \cdot (2.00mm + 1)}{2 \cdot 0.3m}$$

5) Weight of Hammer given Allowable Load for Steam Hammer Driven Piles

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(e474458956c9a37fbf9586ddb60a7fa1_img.jpg\)](#)

$$fx \quad W_s = \frac{P_a \cdot (p + 0.1)}{2 \cdot H_d}$$

$$ex \quad 2.0553kg = \frac{12.09kg \cdot (2.00mm + 0.1)}{2 \cdot 0.3m}$$

Axial Load Capacity of Single Piles

6) Allowable Load for given Safety Factor

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

$$fx \quad P_{allow} = \frac{Q_{su} + Q_{bu}}{F_s}$$

$$ex \quad 10kN = \frac{17.77kN + 10.23kN}{2.8}$$

7) Allowable Load using Safety Factors

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

$$fx \quad P_{allow} = \left(\frac{Q_{su}}{F1} \right) + \left(\frac{Q_{bu}}{F2} \right)$$

$$ex \quad 12.5207kN = \left(\frac{17.77kN}{2.5} \right) + \left(\frac{10.23kN}{1.89} \right)$$



8) Pile Capacity

$$fx \quad Q_u = Q_{su} + Q_{bu}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 28kN = 17.77kN + 10.23kN$$

9) Shaft Resistance using Allowable Load and Safety Factor

$$fx \quad Q_{su} = (F_s \cdot P_{allow}) - Q_{bu}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 17.77kN = (2.8 \cdot 10kN) - 10.23kN$$

10) Toe Resistance using Allowable Load and Safety Factor

$$fx \quad Q_{bu} = (P_{allow} \cdot F_s) - Q_{su}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 10.23kN = (10kN \cdot 2.8) - 17.77kN$$

Group of Piles

11) Allowable Bearing Pressure on Rock given Allowable Design Load

$$fx \quad q_a = \frac{Q_d - (\pi \cdot d_s \cdot L_s \cdot f_g)}{\frac{\pi \cdot (d_s^2)}{4}}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 18.92958MPa = \frac{10.0MPa - (\pi \cdot 0.5m \cdot 2.0m \cdot 2MPa)}{\frac{\pi \cdot (0.5m^2)}{4}}$$



12) Allowable Concrete-Rock Bond Stress given Allowable Design Load

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(bd1a142de767a21e5362c595f844a4ff_img.jpg\)](#)

$$fx \quad f_g = \frac{Q_d - \left(\frac{\pi \cdot (d_s^2) \cdot q_a}{4} \right)}{\pi \cdot d_s \cdot L_s}$$

$$ex \quad 2.000599MPa = \frac{10.0MPa - \left(\frac{\pi \cdot ((0.5m)^2) \cdot 18.92MPa}{4} \right)}{\pi \cdot 0.5m \cdot 2.0m}$$

13) Allowable Design Load on Rock Socket

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(830769b31eeeaca920791081939ff8ba_img.jpg\)](#)

$$fx \quad Q_d = (\pi \cdot d_s \cdot L_s \cdot f_g) + \left(\frac{\pi \cdot (d_s^2) \cdot q_a}{4} \right)$$

$$ex \quad 9.998119MPa = (\pi \cdot 0.5m \cdot 2.0m \cdot 2MPa) + \left(\frac{\pi \cdot ((0.5m)^2) \cdot 18.92MPa}{4} \right)$$

14) Efficiency Factor for Group of Piles

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(47734e4656765d20df4fdbd5b7aff048_img.jpg\)](#)

$$fx \quad E_g = \frac{(2 \cdot f_s \cdot (b \cdot L + w \cdot L)) + (b \cdot W_g)}{n \cdot Q_u}$$

$$ex \quad 1.719358 = \frac{(2 \cdot 15N/m^2 \cdot (2.2m \cdot 0.52m + 2.921m \cdot 0.52m)) + (2.2m \cdot 8m)}{6.0 \cdot 9.45}$$

15) Group Drag Load in Pile Group Analysis

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(41aea2746216b27a6939d696d8e035da_img.jpg\)](#)

$$fx \quad Q_{gd} = A_F \cdot Y_F \cdot H_F + C_g \cdot H \cdot c_u$$

$$ex \quad 17.192MPa = 1024m^2 \cdot 2000kg/m^3 \cdot 4m + 80m \cdot 1.5m \cdot 0.075MPa$$



16) Socket Length given Allowable Design Load on Rock Socket

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(eafc244b53721dd1ec133f0772f70fc7_img.jpg\)](#)

$$fx \quad L_s = \frac{Q_d - \left(\frac{\pi \cdot (d_s^2) \cdot q_a}{4} \right)}{\pi \cdot d_s \cdot f_g}$$

$$ex \quad 2.000599m = \frac{10.0MPa - \left(\frac{\pi \cdot ((0.5m)^2) \cdot 18.92MPa}{4} \right)}{\pi \cdot 0.5m \cdot 2MPa}$$

Laterally Loaded Vertical Piles

17) Characteristic Pile Length for Laterally Loaded Vertical Piles

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

$$fx \quad T = \left(\frac{EI}{n_h} \right)^{0.5}$$

$$ex \quad 1.749636m = \left(\frac{12.0N/m}{3.92} \right)^{0.5}$$

18) Horizontal Subgrade Reaction Coefficient given Characteristic Pile Length

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

$$fx \quad n_h = \frac{EI}{(T)^2}$$

$$ex \quad 3.936341 = \frac{12.0N/m}{(1.746m)^2}$$



19) Lateral Deflection for Fixed Head Pile Case

Open Calculator 

$$fx \quad \delta = \left(\frac{P_h \cdot (T)^3}{EI} \right) \cdot \left(A_y - \left(\frac{A_g \cdot B_y}{B_g} \right) \right)$$

$$ex \quad 5.830551m = \left(\frac{9.32N \cdot (1.746m)^3}{12.0N/m} \right) \cdot \left(2.01 - \left(\frac{0.60 \cdot 1.50}{1.501} \right) \right)$$

20) Lateral Deflection of Pile with Head Free to Move

Open Calculator 

$$fx \quad y = \left(\frac{A_y \cdot P_h \cdot (T^3)}{EI} \right) + \left(\frac{B_y \cdot M_t \cdot (T^2)}{EI} \right)$$

$$ex \quad 30.79209 = \left(\frac{2.01 \cdot 9.32N \cdot ((1.746m)^3)}{12.0N/m} \right) + \left(\frac{1.50 \cdot 59N \cdot m \cdot ((1.746m)^2)}{12.0N/m} \right)$$

21) Negative Moment Imposed on Pile

Open Calculator 

$$fx \quad M_n = \left(\frac{A_g \cdot P_t \cdot T}{B_g} \right) - \left(\frac{q_s \cdot EI}{B_g \cdot T} \right)$$

$$ex \quad 690.7459N \cdot m = \left(\frac{0.60 \cdot 1000N \cdot 1.746m}{1.501} \right) - \left(\frac{1.57rad \cdot 12.0N/m}{1.501 \cdot 1.746m} \right)$$

22) Pile Stiffness given Characteristic Pile Length for Laterally Loaded Piles

Open Calculator 

$$fx \quad EI = ((T)^2) \cdot n_h$$

$$ex \quad 11.95018N/m = ((1.746m)^2) \cdot 3.92$$



23) Positive Moment Imposed on Pile

$$fx \quad M_p = (A_m \cdot P_h \cdot T) + (B_m \cdot M_t)$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 293.0563N \cdot m = (3.47 \cdot 9.32N \cdot 1.746m) + (4.01 \cdot 59N \cdot m)$$

Toe Capacity Load

24) Quasi Constant Value for Piles in Sands

$$fx \quad q_l = 0.5 \cdot N_q \cdot \tan(\Phi_i)$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 12.0315 = 0.5 \cdot 3.01 \cdot \tan(82.87^\circ)$$

25) Ultimate Tip Load for Piles Installed in Cohesive Soils

$$fx \quad Q_b = A_b \cdot N_c \cdot C_u$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 798.12N = 7.39m^2 \cdot 9 \cdot 12.00Pa$$



Variables Used

- A_b Base Area of Pile (Square Meter)
- A_F Area of Fill (Square Meter)
- A_m Coefficient of Lateral Load in Positive Moment
- A_y Coefficient A_y
- A_g Coefficient A_g
- b Thickness of Dam (Meter)
- B_m Coefficient of Moment Term in Positive Moment
- B_y Coefficient B_y
- B_g Coefficient B_g
- C_g Circumference of Group in Foundation (Meter)
- c_u Undrained Shear Strength of Soil (Megapascal)
- C_u Undrained Strength in Shear (Pascal)
- d_s Socket Diameter (Meter)
- E_g Efficiency Factor
- EI Stiffness of Pile (Newton per Meter)
- f_g Allowable Concrete-Rock Bond Stress (Megapascal)
- f_s Average Peripheral Friction Stress of Block (Newton per Square Meter)
- F_s Factor of Safety in Pile Foundation
- $F1$ Factor of Safety $F1$
- $F2$ Factor of Safety $F2$
- H Thickness of Consolidating Soil Layers (Meter)
- H_d Height of Drop (Meter)
- H_F Thickness of Fill (Meter)
- H_{sd} Height of Drop for Steam Hammer (Meter)












- **L** Length of Soil Section (Meter)
- **L_s** Socket Length (Meter)
- **M_n** Moment Negative (Newton Meter)
- **M_p** Moment Positive (Newton Meter)
- **M_t** Moment in Soil (Newton Meter)
- **n** Number of Piles
- **N_c** Bearing Capacity Factor dependent on Cohesion
- **n_h** Coefficient of Horizontal Subgrade
- **N_q** Bearing Capacity Factor
- **p** Penetration per Blow (Millimeter)
- **P_a** Allowable Pile Load (Kilogram)
- **P_{allow}** Allowable Load (Kilonewton)
- **P_h** Laterally Applied Load (Newton)
- **P_t** Lateral Load (Newton)
- **Q_{bu}** Toe Resistance (Kilonewton)
- **Q_{su}** Shaft Resistance (Kilonewton)
- **Q_u** Pile Capacity (Kilonewton)
- **q_a** Allowable Bearing Pressure on Rock (Megapascal)
- **Q_b** Ultimate Point Load (Newton)
- **Q_d** Allowable Design Load on Rock Socket (Megapascal)
- **Q_{gd}** Group Drag Load (Megapascal)
- **q_l** Quasi Constant Value
- **Q_u** Single Pile Capacity
- **T** Characteristic Pile Length (Meter)
- **w** Width of Soil Section (Meter)
- **W_g** Width of Group (Meter)



- W_h Hammer Weight (Kilogram)
- W_s Steam Hammer Weight (Kilogram)
- y Lateral Deflection
- Y_F Unit Weight of Fill (Kilogram per Cubic Meter)
- δ Lateral Deflection Fixed Head (Meter)
- ϑ_s Angle of Rotation (Radian)
- Φ_i Angle of Internal Friction of Soil (Degree)







Constants, Functions, Measurements used

- **Constant:** **pi**, 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288
Archimedes' constant
- **Function:** **tan**, $\tan(\text{Angle})$
The tangent of an angle is a trigonometric ratio of the length of the side opposite an angle to the length of the side adjacent to an angle in a right triangle.
- **Measurement:** **Length** in Meter (m), Millimeter (mm)
Length Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Weight** in Kilogram (kg)
Weight Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Area** in Square Meter (m^2)
Area Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Pressure** in Megapascal (MPa), Newton per Square Meter (N/m^2), Pascal (Pa)
Pressure Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Energy** in Newton Meter ($\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$)
Energy Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Force** in Kilonewton (kN), Newton (N)
Force Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Angle** in Radian (rad), Degree ($^\circ$)
Angle Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Surface Tension** in Newton per Meter (N/m)
Surface Tension Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Density** in Kilogram per Cubic Meter (kg/m^3)
Density Unit Conversion 



Check other formula lists

- [Bearing Capacity for Strip Footing for C- \$\Phi\$ Soils Formulas](#) 
- [Bearing Capacity of Cohesive Soil Formulas](#) 
- [Bearing Capacity of Non-cohesive Soil Formulas](#) 
- [Bearing Capacity of Soils Formulas](#) 
- [Bearing Capacity of Soils: Meyerhof's Analysis Formulas](#) 
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