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# Timber Beams and Columns Formulas

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# List of 19 Timber Beams and Columns Formulas

## Timber Beams and Columns

### Beams

#### 1) Beam Depth for Extreme Fiber Stress in Rectangular Timber Beam

$$\text{fx } h = \sqrt{\frac{6 \cdot M}{f_s \cdot b}}$$

Open Calculator 

$$\text{ex } 199.92\text{mm} = \sqrt{\frac{6 \cdot 2500\text{N}\cdot\text{m}}{2.78\text{MPa} \cdot 135\text{mm}}}$$

#### 2) Beam Depth given Horizontal Shearing Stress

$$\text{fx } h = \frac{3 \cdot V}{2 \cdot b \cdot H}$$

Open Calculator 

$$\text{ex } 199.9818\text{mm} = \frac{3 \cdot 660000\text{N}}{2 \cdot 135\text{mm} \cdot 36.67\text{MPa}}$$



### 3) Beam Width given Extreme Fiber Stress for Rectangular Timber Beam



$$fx \quad b = \frac{6 \cdot M}{f_s \cdot (h)^2}$$

[Open Calculator](#)

$$ex \quad 134.8921\text{mm} = \frac{6 \cdot 2500\text{N} \cdot \text{m}}{2.78\text{MPa} \cdot (200.0\text{mm})^2}$$

### 4) Beam Width given Horizontal Shearing Stress



$$fx \quad b = \frac{3 \cdot V}{2 \cdot h \cdot H}$$

[Open Calculator](#)

$$ex \quad 134.9877\text{mm} = \frac{3 \cdot 660000\text{N}}{2 \cdot 200.0\text{mm} \cdot 36.67\text{MPa}}$$

### 5) Bending Moment using Extreme Fiber Stress for Rectangular Timber Beam



$$fx \quad M = \frac{f_s \cdot b \cdot (h)^2}{6}$$

[Open Calculator](#)

$$ex \quad 2502\text{N} \cdot \text{m} = \frac{2.78\text{MPa} \cdot 135\text{mm} \cdot (200.0\text{mm})^2}{6}$$



## 6) Extreme Fiber Stress for Rectangular Timber Beam given Section Modulus

$$fx \quad f_s = \frac{M}{S}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(e78f798d4ea5c530c9db49e7d26e6b95\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 2.777778MPa = \frac{2500N \cdot m}{900000mm^3}$$

## 7) Extreme Fiber Stress in Bending for Rectangular Timber Beam

$$fx \quad f_s = \frac{6 \cdot M}{b \cdot h^2}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(05be7c7a8995decd503647c99211f7c2\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 2.777778MPa = \frac{6 \cdot 2500N \cdot m}{135mm \cdot (200.0mm)^2}$$

## 8) Horizontal Shearing Stress in Rectangular Timber Beam

$$fx \quad H = \frac{3 \cdot V}{2 \cdot b \cdot h}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(fe3aebe81acea8d45108cd2768939da7\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 36.66667MPa = \frac{3 \cdot 660000N}{2 \cdot 135mm \cdot 200.0mm}$$



## 9) Horizontal Shearing Stress in Rectangular Timber Beam given Notch in Lower Face

$$f_x H = \left( \frac{3 \cdot V}{2 \cdot b \cdot d_{\text{notch}}} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{h}{d_{\text{notch}}} \right)$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(e2376d476d06eb31946dc01a69a4403a\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 38.57112\text{MPa} = \left( \frac{3 \cdot 660000\text{N}}{2 \cdot 135\text{mm} \cdot 195\text{mm}} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{200.0\text{mm}}{195\text{mm}} \right)$$

## 10) Modified Total End Shear for Concentrated Loads

$$f_x V_1 = \frac{10 \cdot P \cdot (l_{\text{beam}} - x) \cdot \left( \left( \frac{x}{h} \right)^2 \right)}{9 \cdot l_{\text{beam}} \cdot \left( 2 + \left( \frac{x}{h} \right)^2 \right)}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(0b5e7e25e8775f7e7e80906ada4f0021\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 46.50982\text{N} = \frac{10 \cdot 15000\text{N} \cdot (3000\text{mm} - 15\text{mm}) \cdot \left( \left( \frac{15\text{mm}}{200.0\text{mm}} \right)^2 \right)}{9 \cdot 3000\text{mm} \cdot \left( 2 + \left( \frac{15\text{mm}}{200.0\text{mm}} \right)^2 \right)}$$

## 11) Modified Total End Shear for Uniform Loading

$$f_x V_1 = \left( \frac{W}{2} \right) \cdot \left( 1 - \left( \frac{2 \cdot h}{l_{\text{beam}}} \right) \right)$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(bd3b31712ad9bab5a241210fa6925cdd\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 43.33333\text{N} = \left( \frac{100\text{N}}{2} \right) \cdot \left( 1 - \left( \frac{2 \cdot 200.0\text{mm}}{3000\text{mm}} \right) \right)$$



## 12) Section Modulus given Height and Breadth of Section

$$fx \quad S = \frac{b \cdot h^2}{6}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(d3fb9f94af8b26d1c844efa9a98805b0\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 900000\text{mm}^3 = \frac{135\text{mm} \cdot (200.0\text{mm})^2}{6}$$

## 13) Total Shear given Horizontal Shearing Stress

$$fx \quad V = \frac{2 \cdot H \cdot h \cdot b}{3}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(e1d6102fe77919492c04879c8450f1f5\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 660060\text{N} = \frac{2 \cdot 36.67\text{MPa} \cdot 200.0\text{mm} \cdot 135\text{mm}}{3}$$

## Columns

## 14) Allowable Unit Stress at Angle to Grain

$$fx \quad c' = \frac{c \cdot c_{\perp}}{c \cdot (\sin(\theta)^2) + c_{\perp} \cdot (\cos(\theta)^2)}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(104fbf564e2e5a8fbd84f31656d114c7\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 1.806513\text{MPa} = \frac{2.0001\text{MPa} \cdot 1.4\text{MPa}}{2.0001\text{MPa} \cdot (\sin(30^\circ)^2) + 1.4\text{MPa} \cdot (\cos(30^\circ)^2)}$$



## 15) Allowable Unit Stress on Timber Columns for Single Member

$$fx \quad P|A = \frac{3.619 \cdot E}{\left(\frac{L}{k_G}\right)^2}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(9dfdaff1d86ba3c1f8353b4d1b61b8c5\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 0.000724MPa = \frac{3.619 \cdot 50MPa}{\left(\frac{1500mm}{3mm}\right)^2}$$

## 16) Allowable Unit Stress on Timber Columns of Circular Cross Section

$$fx \quad P|A = \frac{0.22 \cdot E}{\left(\frac{L}{d}\right)^2}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(2b376d1a92330ab09dad2665d2f89bf5\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 0.195556MPa = \frac{0.22 \cdot 50MPa}{\left(\frac{1500mm}{200mm}\right)^2}$$

## 17) Allowable Unit Stress on Timber Columns of Square or Rectangular Cross Section

$$fx \quad P|A = \frac{0.3 \cdot E}{\left(\frac{L}{d}\right)^2}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(c444627dab9fee9a1550c053ffaaaae2\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 0.266667MPa = \frac{0.3 \cdot 50MPa}{\left(\frac{1500mm}{200mm}\right)^2}$$



## 18) Elasticity Modulus given Allowable Unit Stress of Square or Rectangular Timber Columns

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(3d8c13c92b853674f749aac6fa869926\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{fx } E = \frac{P|A \cdot \left(\left(\frac{L}{d}\right)^2\right)}{0.3}$$

$$\text{ex } 333.75\text{MPa} = \frac{1.78\text{MPa} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1500\text{mm}}{200\text{mm}}\right)^2\right)}{0.3}$$

## 19) Elasticity Modulus using Allowable Unit Stress of Circular Timber Columns

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(17acf1afa8cdf0b67c53d4865a5ed469\_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{fx } E = \frac{P|A \cdot \left(\left(\frac{L}{d}\right)^2\right)}{0.22}$$

$$\text{ex } 455.1136\text{MPa} = \frac{1.78\text{MPa} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1500\text{mm}}{200\text{mm}}\right)^2\right)}{0.22}$$












## Variables Used

- **b** Width of Beam (*Millimeter*)
- **c** Allowable Unit Stress Parallel to Grain (*Megapascal*)
- **c'** Allowable Unit Stress at Angle to Grain (*Megapascal*)
- **c<sub>⊥</sub>** Allowable Unit Stress Perpendicular to Grain (*Megapascal*)
- **d** Least Dimension (*Millimeter*)
- **d<sub>notch</sub>** Depth of Beam above Notch (*Millimeter*)
- **E** Modulus of Elasticity (*Megapascal*)
- **f<sub>s</sub>** Maximum Fiber Stress (*Megapascal*)
- **h** Depth of Beam (*Millimeter*)
- **H** Horizontal Shearing Stress (*Megapascal*)
- **k<sub>G</sub>** Radius of Gyration (*Millimeter*)
- **L** Unsupported Length of Column (*Millimeter*)
- **l<sub>beam</sub>** Span of Beam (*Millimeter*)
- **M** Bending Moment (*Newton Meter*)
- **P** Concentrated Load (*Newton*)
- **P|A** Allowable Unit Stress (*Megapascal*)
- **S** Section Modulus (*Cubic Millimeter*)
- **V** Total Shear (*Newton*)
- **V<sub>1</sub>** Modified Total End Shear (*Newton*)
- **W** Total Uniformly Distributed Load (*Newton*)
- **x** Distance from Reaction to Concentrated Load (*Millimeter*)
- **θ** Angle between Load and Grain (*Degree*)






## Constants, Functions, Measurements used

- **Function:** **cos**,  $\cos(\text{Angle})$   
*Trigonometric cosine function*
- **Function:** **sin**,  $\sin(\text{Angle})$   
*Trigonometric sine function*
- **Function:** **sqrt**,  $\text{sqrt}(\text{Number})$   
*Square root function*
- **Measurement:** **Length** in Millimeter (mm)  
*Length Unit Conversion* 
- **Measurement:** **Volume** in Cubic Millimeter ( $\text{mm}^3$ )  
*Volume Unit Conversion* 
- **Measurement:** **Pressure** in Megapascal (MPa)  
*Pressure Unit Conversion* 
- **Measurement:** **Force** in Newton (N)  
*Force Unit Conversion* 
- **Measurement:** **Angle** in Degree ( $^\circ$ )  
*Angle Unit Conversion* 
- **Measurement:** **Moment of Force** in Newton Meter ( $\text{N}\cdot\text{m}$ )  
*Moment of Force Unit Conversion* 
- **Measurement:** **Stress** in Megapascal (MPa)  
*Stress Unit Conversion* 



## Check other formula lists

- [Adjustment Factors for Design Values Formulas](#) 
- [Adjustment of Design Values for Connections with Fasteners Formulas](#) 
- [Laboratory Recommendations, Roof Slope and Oblique Plane Formulas](#) 
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