

**"K" FACTOR TABLE—SHEET 1 of 4**  
**Representative Resistance Coefficients (K) for Valves and Fittings**

("K" is based on use of schedule pipe as listed on page 2-10)

**PIPE FRICTION DATA FOR CLEAN COMMERCIAL STEEL PIPE  
WITH FLOW IN ZONE OF COMPLETE TURBULENCE**

Nominal Size	1/2"	3/4"	1"	1 1/4"	1 1/2"	2"	2 1/2, 3"	4"	5"	6"	8-10"	12-16"	18-24"
Friction Factor ( $f_T$ )	.027	.025	.023	.022	.021	.019	.018	.017	.016	.015	.014	.013	.012

**FORMULAS FOR CALCULATING "K" FACTORS\*  
FOR VALVES AND FITTINGS WITH REDUCED PORT**  
 (Ref: Pages 2-11 and 3-4)

• **Formula 1**

$$K_2 = \frac{0.8 \left( \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right) (1 - \beta^2)}{\beta^4} = \frac{K_1}{\beta^4}$$

• **Formula 2**

$$K_2 = \frac{0.5 (1 - \beta^2) \sqrt{\sin \frac{\theta}{2}}}{\beta^4} = \frac{K_1}{\beta^4}$$

• **Formula 3**

$$K_2 = \frac{2.6 \left( \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right) (1 - \beta^2)^2}{\beta^4} = \frac{K_1}{\beta^4}$$

• **Formula 4**

$$K_2 = \frac{(1 - \beta^2)^2}{\beta^4} = \frac{K_1}{\beta^4}$$

• **Formula 5**

$$K_2 = \frac{K_1}{\beta^4} + \text{Formula 1} + \text{Formula 3}$$

$$K_2 = \frac{K_1 + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} [0.8 (1 - \beta^2) + 2.6 (1 - \beta^2)^2]}{\beta^4}$$

\* Use "K" furnished by valve or fitting supplier when available.

• **Formula 6**

$$K_2 = \frac{K_1}{\beta^4} + \text{Formula 2} + \text{Formula 4}$$

$$K_2 = \frac{K_1 + 0.5 \sqrt{\sin \frac{\theta}{2}} (1 - \beta^2) + (1 - \beta^2)^2}{\beta^4}$$

• **Formula 7**

$$K_2 = \frac{K_1}{\beta^4} + \beta (\text{Formula 2} + \text{Formula 4}) \text{ when } \theta = 180^\circ$$

$$K_2 = \frac{K_1 + \beta [0.5 (1 - \beta^2) + (1 - \beta^2)^2]}{\beta^4}$$

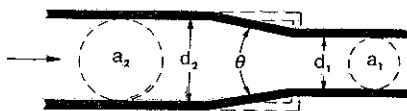
$$\beta = \frac{d_1}{d_2}$$

$$\beta^2 = \left( \frac{d_1}{d_2} \right)^2 = \frac{a_1}{a_2}$$

Subscript 1 defines dimensions and coefficients with reference to the smaller diameter.

Subscript 2 refers to the larger diameter.

**SUDDEN AND GRADUAL CONTRACTION**



If:  $\theta \approx 45^\circ$  .....  $K_2 = \text{Formula 1}$

$45^\circ < \theta \approx 180^\circ$  ...  $K_2 = \text{Formula 2}$

**SUDDEN AND GRADUAL ENLARGEMENT**



If:  $\theta \approx 45^\circ$  .....  $K_2 = \text{Formula 3}$

$45^\circ < \theta \approx 180^\circ$  ...  $K_2 = \text{Formula 4}$

## "K" FACTOR TABLE—SHEET 4 of 4

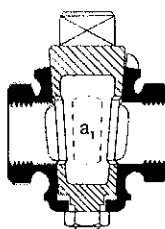
## Representative Resistance Coefficients (K) for Valves and Fittings

(for formulas and friction data, see page A-26)

("K" is based on use of schedule pipe as listed on page 2-10)

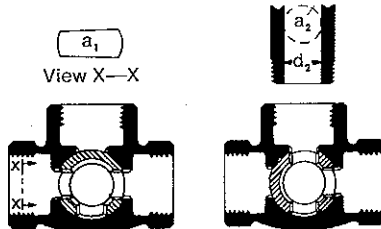
## PLUG VALVES AND COCKS

## Straight-Way



$$\text{If: } \beta = 1, \\ K_1 = 18 f_T$$

## 3-Way



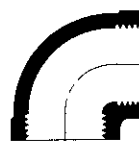
$$\text{If: } \beta = 1, \\ K_1 = 30 f_T$$

$$\text{If: } \beta = 1, \\ K_1 = 90 f_T$$

$$\text{If: } \beta < 1 \dots K_2 = \text{Formula 6}$$

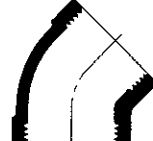
## STANDARD ELBOWS

90°



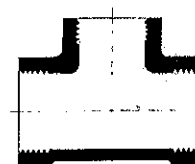
$$K = 30 f_T$$

45°



$$K = 16 f_T$$

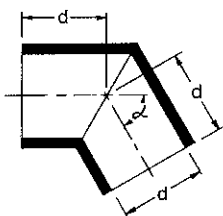
## STANDARD TEES



$$\text{Flow thru run} \dots K = 20 f_T$$

$$\text{Flow thru branch} \dots K = 60 f_T$$

## MITRE BENDS



$\alpha$	K
0°	2 $f_T$
15°	4 $f_T$
30°	8 $f_T$
45°	15 $f_T$
60°	25 $f_T$
75°	40 $f_T$
90°	60 $f_T$

90° PIPE BENDS AND  
FLANGED OR BUTT-WELDING 90° ELBOWS

r/d	K	r/d	K
1	20 $f_T$	8	24 $f_T$
1.5	14 $f_T$	10	30 $f_T$
2	12 $f_T$	12	34 $f_T$
3	12 $f_T$	14	38 $f_T$
4	14 $f_T$	16	42 $f_T$
6	17 $f_T$	20	50 $f_T$

The resistance coefficient,  $K_B$ , for pipe bends other than 90° may be determined as follows:

$$K_B = (n - 1) \left( 0.25 \pi f_T \frac{r}{d} + 0.5 K \right) + K$$

$n$  = number of 90° bends

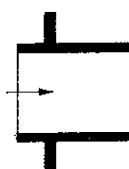
$K$  = resistance coefficient for one 90° bend (per table)

## CLOSE PATTERN RETURN BENDS



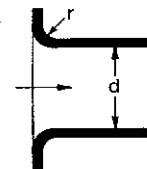
$$K = 50 f_T$$

## PIPE ENTRANCE

Inward  
Projecting

$$K = 0.78$$

## Flush



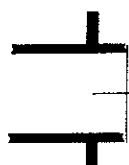
For  $K$ ,  
see table

r/d	K
0.00*	0.5
0.02	0.28
0.04	0.24
0.06	0.15
0.10	0.09
0.15 & up	0.04

\*Sharp-edged

## PIPE EXIT

## Projecting



$$K = 1.0$$

## Sharp-Edged



$$K = 1.0$$

## Rounded



$$K \approx 1.0$$