

M22

Sizing Water Service Lines and Meters

Fourth Edition



American Water Works
Association

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American Water Works
Association

Manual of Water Supply Practices—M22, Fourth Edition

Sizing Water Service Lines and Meters

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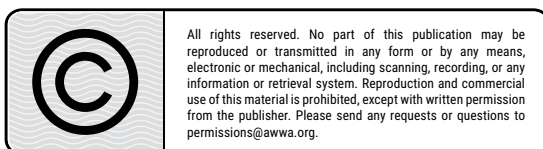
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Contents

List of Figures, v

List of Tables, vii

Preface, ix

Acknowledgments, xi

Chapter 1	Introduction	1
	Overview, 1	
	M22 Target Audience, 1	
	Updates, 2	
	Considerations When Sizing Water Meters and Service Lines, 3	
	References, 5	
Chapter 2	Consumer Water Demands, Trends, and Considerations	7
	Introduction, 7	
	Water-Use Trends, 8	
	Water Use Patterns, 11	
	References, 12	
Chapter 3	Demand Profiling for Optimal Meter Sizing	15
	Accurately Measuring Customer Usage, 15	
	Recorder Design, 18	
	Recording Data, 25	
	Using Customer Usage Data, 28	
	References, 29	
Chapter 4	Estimating Peak Water Demands for Service Lines and Meters	31
	Introduction, 31	
	Estimating Peak Demand for Nonresidential Buildings, 34	
	Estimating Peak Demand for Other Cases, 57	
	Landscape Irrigation Demand, 60	
	References and Websites, 63	
	Acronyms and Abbreviations, 65	
Chapter 5	Service-Line Sizing	67
	Introduction, 67	
	Data Required, 68	
	Head Loss, 70	
	Performing Sizing Calculations, 83	
	References, 90	
Chapter 6	Meter Sizing	91
	Introduction, 91	
	Revenue Implications, 91	
	System Components Policy Review, 92	
	Water Meter Selection, 93	
	Meter Arrangements for Fire Services, 98	

	Summary, 103	
	References, 103	
Appendix A	Software to Size a Meter	105
	Introduction, 105	
	Summary of Software Operation, 106	
	Setup, 106	
	Sizing a Meter, 107	
Appendix B	Flow Friction Loss Tables	111
	References, 136	
	Index, 137	
	List of AWWA Manuals, 141	

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Figures

- 3-1 Meter Master EL 100 flow recorder and water meter, 16
- 3-2 Flow recorder (right) collecting and storing a demand profile from a 3-in. water meter (left), 19
- 3-3 Depiction of 4-min and 1-min data storage intervals, 23
- 3-4 Compound adapter and sensor, 23
- 3-5 Recording demand profiles from large compound meters may require an adapter., 24
- 3-6 Verification of data accuracy, 26
- 3-7 Data presentation options, 27
- 3-8 Flow data from an apartment building served by oversized 8-in. turbo meter, 28
- 4-1 Design curves from third edition of M22 (2014) for valve-type and tank-type toilets plotted with top 1 percent of flows from 98 study sites in Denver, Scottsdale, and Westminster, 35
- 4-2 Peak water demand versus fixture values for nonresidential buildings. (Orange lines are for flush-valve systems, and blue lines are for flush-tank systems. Dashed lines are the old design curves from the third edition of M22. Solid lines are the new updated design curves for the fourth edition of M22.), 36
- 4-3 Peak water demand versus fixture values for nonresidential buildings (scale is enlarged from Figure 4-2), 37
- 4-4 Bath/shower trim kit fixture example, 39
- 4-5 Roman tub flow rate (American Standard T186900), 40
- 4-6 Steps to calculate peak water demand for nonresidential buildings via the fixture value approach, 40
- 4-7 Sample 157-room hotel peak water demand calculation using three-step process, 42
- 4-8 Hotel nonresidential example maximum flow during specific daily time intervals from Nov. 1, 2019 through Dec. 16, 2019, 43
- 4-9 Histograms Hotel high-resolution flow data (Nov. 1, 2019 through Dec. 16, 2019), 44
- 4-10 Water Demand Calculator uses three algorithms to estimate peak flow in residential buildings. ExEn is used in the green region, MWM in yellow, and WWM in red, corresponding to small, medium, and large buildings, respectively. Diagonal lines are constant values of the dimensionless Hunter Number, H, representing the average number of simultaneous busy fixtures during the period of peak demand., 48
- 4-11 Screenshot of the input/output template for the Water Demand Calculator v2.1, 49
- 4-12(a) WDC input and output for Denver site 114. Demand falls in the yellow region of Figure 4-10 and, hence, WDC uses the modified Wistort method to estimate peak demand. Results appear in Table 4-3., 53

- 4-12(b) WDC input and output for Denver site 119. Demand falls in the yellow region of Figure 4-10 and, hence, WDC uses the modified Wistort method to estimate peak demand. Results appear in Table 4-3., 53
- 4-13(a) WDC output for a multifamily building in Sydney, Australia. This building falls in the red region of Figure 4-10 and, hence, WDC uses the Wistort method to estimate peak demand. Results appear in Table 4-4., 54
- 4-13(b) WDC output for a multifamily building in Canberra, Australia. This building falls in the red region of Figure 4-10 and, hence, WDC uses the Wistort method to estimate peak demand. Results appear in Table 4-4., 54
- 4-14(a) Water demands measured during the peak hour at Denver Building 119 collected every 10 seconds over a 21-day period, 55
- 4-14(b) Normal probability plots of two data sets from Denver Building 119. The blue data set (7,560 points) is from Figure 4-14(a). The red data set (21 points) is the maximum values measured during each of the 21 peak hourly periods. The triangle is the 99th percentile demand predicted by the WDC., 55
- 4-15(a) Normal probability plots of daily peak demands at two multifamily buildings in Sydney, Australia. The two triangles represent the 99th percentile demand and predicted by the WDC (see values in Table 4-4 and Figure 4-13[a])., 56
- 4-15(b) Normal probability plots of daily peak demands at two multifamily buildings in Canberra, Australia. The two triangles represent the 99th percentile demand predicted by the WDC (see values in Table 4-4 and Figure 4-13[b])., 56
- 4-16 Common supply fire demand calculation per NFPA 13D, with more than one dwelling, 58
- 4-17 Domestic-fed multipurpose sizing example, 59
- 4-18 Variations in flow from garden hoses due to pressure changes, 61
- 5-1 Head loss versus flow rate curves, 80
- 5-2 Head loss from water main to customer, 84
- 5-3 Steps for determining pipe, meter, and other fitting sizes, 85
- 5-4 Compound-meter pressure drop versus flow curves, 87
- 5-5 RPBP assembly pressure drop versus flow curves, 88
- 5-6 Hydraulic model used to determine head loss: 75 gpm, 2.5-in. meter scenario, 89
- 6-1 Building served by domestic water supply only; no fire connection exists, 99
- 6-2 Building supplied by domestic water supply and a separate fire connection; typically commercial, industrial, or larger multifamily housing designed under the NFPA 13 or 13R standards, 100
- 6-3 One- or two-story residential building outfitted with a Residential Fire Sprinkler System (RFSS) typically designed under the NFPA 13D Standard—Stand-alone configurations with a single line tapped into the water main, 101
- 6-4 One- or two-story residential building outfitted with a Residential Fire Sprinkler System (RFSS) typically designed under the NFPA 13D Standard—Multipurpose piping configuration. In this configuration, a single line is tapped into the water main, and this line enters the building and extends to provide water to both domestic water fixtures and fire sprinkler heads through common plumbing piping., 102
- A-1 Meter specifications screen (sample from MeterSizer®), 107
- A-2 Customer information screen (sample from MeterSizer®), 108
- A-3 Initial results screen (sample from MeterSizer®), 109
- A-4 Graphical analysis screen (sample from MeterSizer®), 109

Tables

- 2-1 National fixture standards and specifications, 9
- 2-2 Per-capita residential indoor use, 11
- 2-3 Average per-account consumption and monthly peaking factors for selected customer types in Oakland, Calif., area and Westminster, Colo., 12
- 3-1 Meter maximum flowrate range example, 21
- 4-1 Manufacturer suggested peak flow rates, 38
- 4-2 Methods to estimate peak demands in residential buildings with efficient fixtures, 47
- 4-3 Peak indoor demands and other features of three residential buildings fitted with water-conserving fixtures at two cities in the United States, 51
- 4-4 Peak indoor demands and other features of four residential buildings fitted with water-conserving fixtures at two cities in Australia, 52
- 4-5 Service line size and maximum irrigated turf area for watering window of $W = 840$ min (14 h) and irrigation interval of $I_N = 2$ days, 62
- 5-1 Actual internal diameter versus nominal diameter, 72
- 5-2 Minor loss k-values, 74
- 5-3 Minor loss through meters, 76
- 5-4 Minor loss through backflow prevention assemblies, 82
- 5-5 Service-line sizing calculation spreadsheet ($L = 200$ ft, $Q = 75$ gpm), 89
- 6-1 Minor loss through meters, 94
- 6-2 Typical uses for each type of meter classification, 97
- B-1 Copper water tube properties—C=130— $\frac{3}{4}$ in. nominal diameter, 112
- B-2 Copper water tube properties—C=130—1 in. nominal diameter, 112
- B-3 Copper water tube properties—C=130— $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. nominal diameter, 113
- B-4 Copper water tube properties—C=130— $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. nominal diameter, 113
- B-5 Copper water tube properties—C=130—2 in. nominal diameter, 114
- B-6 Copper water tube properties—C=130— $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. nominal diameter, 114
- B-7 Copper water tube properties—C=130—3 in. nominal diameter, 115
- B-8 Copper water tube properties—C=130— $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. nominal diameter, 115
- B-9 Copper water tube properties—C=130—4 in. nominal diameter, 116
- B-10 Copper water tube properties—C=130—5 in. nominal diameter, 117
- B-11 Copper water tube properties—C=130—6 in. nominal diameter, 117
- B-12 Copper water tube properties—C=130—8 in. nominal diameter, 118
- B-13 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130— $\frac{3}{4}$ in. nominal diameter, 118
- B-14 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—1 in. nominal diameter, 119
- B-15 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130— $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. nominal diameter, 120
- B-16 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130— $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. nominal diameter, 120

- B-17 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—2 in. nominal diameter, 121
- B-18 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—2½ in. nominal diameter, 121
- B-19 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—3 in. nominal diameter, 122
- B-20 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—3½ in. nominal diameter, 123
- B-21 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—4 in. nominal diameter, 123
- B-22 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—5 in. nominal diameter, 124
- B-23 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—6 in. nominal diameter, 125
- B-24 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe—C=130—8 in. nominal diameter, 126
- B-25 Polyethylene pipe—C=130—¾ in. nominal diameter, 127
- B-26 Polyethylene pipe—C=130—1 in. nominal diameter, 127
- B-27 Polyethylene pipe—C=130—1¼ in. nominal diameter, 128
- B-28 Polyethylene pipe—C=130—1½ in. nominal diameter, 129
- B-29 Polyethylene pipe—C=130—2 in. nominal diameter, 129
- B-30 Polyethylene pipe—C=130—3 in. nominal diameter, 130
- B-31 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—½ in. nominal diameter, 0.625, 131
- B-32 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—5/8 in. nominal diameter, 0.75, 131
- B-33 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—¾ in. nominal diameter, 0.875, 131
- B-34 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—1 in. nominal diameter, 1.125, 132
- B-35 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—1¼ in. nominal diameter, 1.375, 133
- B-36 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—1½ in. nominal diameter, 1.625, 133
- B-37 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—2 in. nominal diameter, 2.125, 134
- B-38 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—2½ in. nominal diameter, 2.625, 135
- B-39 Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe—C=130—3 in. nominal diameter, 3.125, 135

Preface

The American Water Works Association published the first edition of M22, *Sizing Water Service Lines and Meters*, in 1975. The manual was the first effort to provide guidance to the water industry on sizing water meters and service lines to meet the objectives of water utilities and their customers. The AWWA Distribution and Plant Operations Division recognized that the manual needed an update to incorporate changes in water demands that had occurred over the past 10 years and to offer a method for sizing dedicated irrigation meters that aligns with practices used by the Irrigation Association. In 1995, a manual revision subcommittee was established to review the existing manual and begin the process of developing an updated version and incorporating the impacts of existing technology into this sizing process. The efforts of that subcommittee resulted in the second edition (2004) of the meter and service-line sizing manual. In 2010, the Customer Metering Practices Committee formed a subcommittee to begin work on the third edition (2014) of M22. The subcommittee regrouped in 2020 to begin work on the fourth edition and met regularly over a three-year period to complete this most recent update.

This manual provides guidance on sizing water meters and service lines to meet the objectives of water utilities and their customers. The information in this manual can be used to estimate customer demand and maximum expected flow at a site, and this can be used to appropriately size a new service line and meter. This manual includes a useful field method called *demand profiling* that can be used to evaluate actual customer use patterns and help optimize meter size selection.

The data presented in the manual were obtained using a variety of methods including field measurements, utility surveys, technical publications, and hydraulic design calculations. This information has been condensed into a simplified format to assist readers in addressing most common service conditions. However, water and building systems are unique, and there may be complex meter and service line sizing situations that are beyond the scope of this manual.

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Chapter **1**

Introduction

OVERVIEW

The physical interface between water providers and their individual customers begins and ends at the water meter, service connection, and service line. Ownership and responsibility for the meter and service line vary by utility and jurisdiction, but this connection is often understood as the place where utility-maintained infrastructure ends and customer-maintained infrastructure begins. This is where customer usage is measured and where utility revenue is determined.

Service connections and water meters are sized first and foremost to provide peak water demand at adequate pressure under all anticipated customer demand requirements, which may include fire protection. The size of the service connection and meter is important for other reasons as well. Connection fees are paid whenever a new service is established or when a customer requires additional capacity at an existing service. Volume-based utility revenue is determined from metered consumption, and meter accuracy is affected by flow rates and usage. Properly sizing water meters ensures revenue can be collected for all water that is delivered to end users.

This is the fourth edition of AWWA Manual M22, *Sizing Water Service Lines and Meters*. AWWA aims to produce manual updates every 10 years to keep current with industry changes. The first edition was printed in 1975, the second edition in 2004, and the third edition in 2014. This fourth edition includes a new approach for sizing meters for single-family and many multifamily residential buildings and includes results from recent research on measured peak demands. This fourth edition includes improved guidance on the sizing of water service lines and new approaches and data for the sizing of water meters.

M22 TARGET AUDIENCE

This manual is intended for use by:

- water utility managers,