

Important Basics of Heat Transfer Formulas PDF



Formulas Examples with Units

List of 17 Important Basics of Heat Transfer Formulas

1) Colburn Factor using Chilton Colburn Analogy Formula ↻

Formula

$$j_H = \frac{Nu}{(Re) \cdot (Pr)^{\frac{1}{3}}}$$

Example

$$0.0045 = \frac{12.6}{(3125) \cdot (0.7)^{\frac{1}{3}}}$$

Evaluate Formula ↻

2) Colburn J-Factor given Fanning Friction Factor Formula ↻

Formula

$$j_H = \frac{f}{2}$$

Example

$$0.0045 = \frac{0.009}{2}$$

Evaluate Formula ↻

3) Equivalent Diameter of Non-Circular Duct Formula ↻

Formula

$$D_e = \frac{4 \cdot A_{cs}}{P}$$

Example with Units

$$1.25\text{m} = \frac{4 \cdot 25\text{m}^2}{80\text{m}}$$

Evaluate Formula ↻

4) Equivalent Diameter when Flow in Rectangular Duct Formula ↻

Formula

$$D_e = \frac{4 \cdot L \cdot B}{2 \cdot (L + B)}$$

Example with Units

$$1.2214\text{m} = \frac{4 \cdot 1.9\text{m} \cdot 0.9\text{m}}{2 \cdot (1.9\text{m} + 0.9\text{m})}$$

Evaluate Formula ↻

5) Fanning Friction Factor given Colburn J-Factor Formula ↻

Formula

$$f = 2 \cdot j_H$$

Example

$$0.0092 = 2 \cdot 0.0046$$

Evaluate Formula ↻

6) Heat Transfer Coefficient based on Temperature Difference Formula ↻

Formula

$$h_{ht} = \frac{q}{\Delta T_{Overall}}$$

Example with Units

$$0.3127\text{W/m}^2\cdot\text{K} = \frac{17.2\text{W/m}^2}{55\text{K}}$$

Evaluate Formula ↻



7) Heat Transfer Coefficient given Local Heat Transfer Resistance of Air Film Formula

Formula

$$h_{ht} = \frac{1}{(A) \cdot HT_{Resistance}}$$

Example with Units

$$1.5004 \text{ w/m}^2\text{K} = \frac{1}{(0.05 \text{ m}^2) \cdot 13.33 \text{ K/w}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

8) Heat Transfer from Stream of Gas flowing in Turbulent Motion Formula

Formula

$$h_{ht} = \frac{16.6 \cdot c_p \cdot (G)^{0.8}}{D^{0.2}}$$

Example with Units

$$2.9307 \text{ w/m}^2\text{K} = \frac{16.6 \cdot 0.0002 \text{ kcal(IT)/kg}^\circ\text{C} \cdot (0.1 \text{ kg/s/m}^2)^{0.8}}{0.24 \text{ m}^{0.2}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

9) Hydraulic Radius Formula

Formula

$$r_H = \frac{A_{cs}}{P}$$

Example with Units

$$0.3125 \text{ m} = \frac{25 \text{ m}^2}{80 \text{ m}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

10) Internal Diameter of Pipe given Heat Transfer Coefficient for Gas in Turbulent Motion Formula

Formula

$$D = \left(\frac{16.6 \cdot c_p \cdot (G)^{0.8}}{h} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.2}}$$

Example with Units

$$0.2497 \text{ m} = \left(\frac{16.6 \cdot 0.0002 \text{ kcal(IT)/kg}^\circ\text{C} \cdot (0.1 \text{ kg/s/m}^2)^{0.8}}{2.5 \text{ kcal(IT)/h}^\circ\text{m}^2\text{C}} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.2}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

11) J-Factor for Pipe Flow Formula

Formula

$$j_H = 0.023 \cdot (Re)^{-0.2}$$

Example

$$0.0046 = 0.023 \cdot (3125)^{-0.2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

12) Local Heat Transfer Resistance of Air-Film Formula

Formula

$$HT_{Resistance} = \frac{1}{h_{ht} \cdot A}$$

Example with Units

$$13.3333 \text{ K/w} = \frac{1}{1.5 \text{ w/m}^2\text{K} \cdot 0.05 \text{ m}^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 



13) Log Mean Temperature Difference for CoCurrent Flow Formula

Formula

$$LMTD = \frac{(T_{ho} - T_{co}) - (T_{hi} - T_{ci})}{\ln\left(\frac{T_{ho} - T_{co}}{T_{hi} - T_{ci}}\right)}$$

Example with Units

$$18.2048K = \frac{(20K - 10K) - (35K - 5K)}{\ln\left(\frac{20K - 10K}{35K - 5K}\right)}$$

Evaluate Formula 

14) Log Mean Temperature Difference for Counter Current Flow Formula

Formula

$$LMTD = \frac{(T_{ho} - T_{ci}) - (T_{hi} - T_{co})}{\ln\left(\frac{T_{ho} - T_{ci}}{T_{hi} - T_{co}}\right)}$$

Example with Units

$$19.5762K = \frac{(20K - 5K) - (35K - 10K)}{\ln\left(\frac{20K - 5K}{35K - 10K}\right)}$$

Evaluate Formula 

15) Logarithmic Mean Area of Cylinder Formula

Formula

$$A_{\text{mean}} = \frac{A_o - A_i}{\ln\left(\frac{A_o}{A_i}\right)}$$

Example with Units

$$9.8652m^2 = \frac{12m^2 - 8m^2}{\ln\left(\frac{12m^2}{8m^2}\right)}$$

Evaluate Formula 

16) Reynolds Number given Colburn Factor Formula

Formula

$$Re = \left(\frac{j_H}{0.023}\right)^{-1/2}$$

Example

$$3125 = \left(\frac{0.0046}{0.023}\right)^{-1/2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

17) Wetted Perimeter given Hydraulic Radius Formula

Formula

$$P = \frac{A_{cs}}{r_H}$$

Example with Units

$$80.6452m = \frac{25m^2}{0.31m}$$









Evaluate Formula 



Variables used in list of Basics of Heat Transfer Formulas above

- **A** Area (Square Meter)
- **A_{CS}** Cross Sectional Area of Flow (Square Meter)
- **A_i** Inner Area of Cylinder (Square Meter)
- **A_{mean}** Logarithmic Mean Area (Square Meter)
- **A_O** Outer Area of Cylinder (Square Meter)
- **B** Breadth of Rectangle (Meter)
- **c_p** Specific Heat Capacity (Kilocalorie (IT) per Kilogram per Celcius)
- **D** Internal Diameter of Pipe (Meter)
- **D_e** Equivalent Diameter (Meter)
- **f** Fanning Friction Factor
- **G** Mass Velocity (Kilogram per Second per Square Meter)
- **h** Heat Transfer Coefficient for Gas (Kilocalorie (IT) per Hour per Square Meter per Celcius)
- **h_{ht}** Heat Transfer Coefficient (Watt per Square Meter per Kelvin)
- **HT_{Resistance}** Local Heat Transfer Resistance (Kelvin per Watt)
- **j_H** Colburn's j-factor
- **L** Length of Rectangular Section (Meter)
- **LMTD** Log Mean Temperature Difference (Kelvin)
- **Nu** Nusselt Number
- **P** Wetted Perimeter (Meter)
- **Pr** Prandtl Number
- **q** Heat Transfer (Watt per Square Meter)
- **r_H** Hydraulic Radius (Meter)
- **Re** Reynolds Number
- **T_{ci}** Inlet Temperature of Cold Fluid (Kelvin)
- **T_{co}** Outlet Temperature of Cold Fluid (Kelvin)
- **T_{hi}** Inlet Temperature of Hot Fluid (Kelvin)
- **T_{ho}** Outlet Temperature of Hot Fluid (Kelvin)
- **ΔT_{Overall}** Overall Temperature Difference (Kelvin)







Constants, Functions, Measurements used in list of Basics of Heat Transfer Formulas above

- **Functions: In, ln(Number)**
The natural logarithm, also known as the logarithm to the base e, is the inverse function of the natural exponential function.
- **Measurement: Length** in Meter (m)
Length Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Temperature** in Kelvin (K)
Temperature Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Area** in Square Meter (m²)
Area Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Thermal Resistance** in Kelvin per Watt (K/W)
Thermal Resistance Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Specific Heat Capacity** in Kilocalorie (IT) per Kilogram per Celcius (kcal(IT)/kg*°C)
Specific Heat Capacity Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Heat Flux Density** in Watt per Square Meter (W/m²)
Heat Flux Density Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Heat Transfer Coefficient** in Watt per Square Meter per Kelvin (W/m²*K), Kilocalorie (IT) per Hour per Square Meter per Celcius (kcal(IT)/h*m²*°C)
Heat Transfer Coefficient Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Mass Velocity** in Kilogram per Second per Square Meter (kg/s/m²)
Mass Velocity Unit Conversion 





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