

Belt Drives and Chain Drives

Material comes from Mott, 2002 and Kurtz, 1999

Power Train

- ✦ A power train transmits power from an engine or motor to the load.
- ✦ Some of the most common power trains include:
 - ◆ Flexible members
 - V-belt
 - Synchronous belt
 - Roller-chain

Power Train

- ◆ Rigid members
 - Gearing
 - Drive shafts
- ✦ Other Components
 - ◆ Shafts
 - ◆ Bearings
 - ◆ Springs
 - ◆ Seals
 - ◆ Universal joints
 - ◆ Clutches
 - ◆ Brakes
 - ◆ Flywheels

Belt Drive

* Belts

- Flat: use pulley
- Grooved: use sheaves

* Idler

- Does not transmit power
- Used to take up slack or change direction of rotation

Key Belt Drive Design Characteristics

1. Environment
2. Load cycles
3. Service life
4. Belt characteristics
5. Sheave diameter and Center distance
6. Power requirements

Belt Drives

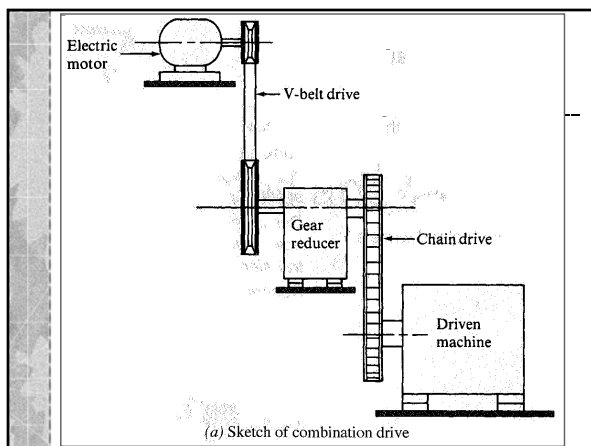
- * Rotary power is created by electric motor, combustion engines, wind mills, and etc.
- * Motors generally operate too fast and deliver too low a torque to be appropriate for the final drive application.
- * The torque is increased in proportion to the amount that rotational speed is reduced.
- * The high speed of the motor makes belt drives good for the first stage of reduction.

Belt Drives con't**

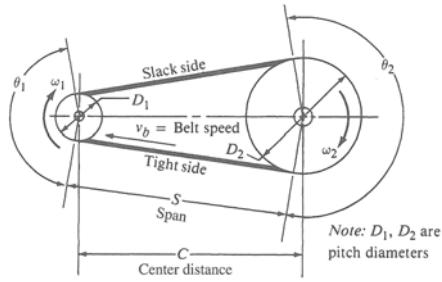
- ✧ A smaller drive pulley (sheave) is attached to the motor shaft, while a larger diameter pulley is attached to a parallel shaft that operates at a correspondingly lower speed.
- ✧ If very large ratios of speed reduction are required in the drive, gear reducers are desirable because they can typically accomplish large reductions in a rather small package.

Belt Drives con't

- ✧ Gear reducers are only available at discrete reduction ratios, so the output may be adjusted before meeting the requirements of the machine.
- ✧ At the low-speed, high-torque condition, chain drives are desirable. The high torque causes high tensile forces to be developed in the chain.
- ✧ The links of the chain are engaged in toothed wheels (sprockets) to provide positive mechanical drive, needed at the low-speed, high-torque conditions.



Basic Belt Drive Geometry



Mott, 2003, Machine Elements in Mechanical Design

Types of Belt Drives

- ✦ A belt is a flexible power transmission element that fits securely on a set of pulleys or sheaves.
- ✦ When the belt is used for speed reduction, the smaller sheave is mounted on the high-speed shaft, like the shaft of an electric motor. The larger sheave is then put on the driven machine.

Types of Belt Drives con't

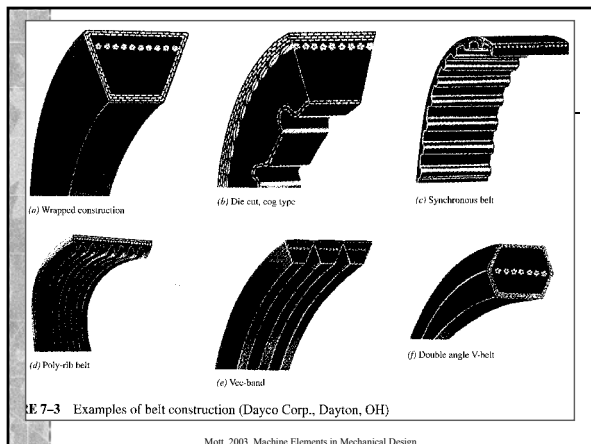
- ✦ Many types of belts are available:
 - ◆ The flat belt, the simplest type, is often made from leather or rubber-coated fabric.
 - ◆ The sheave surface is also flat and smooth, limiting the driving force by the pure friction between the belt and the sheave.
 - ◆ Some designers prefer flat belts for delicate machinery because the belt slips if the torque rises to a high enough level to damage the machine.

Types of Belt Drives con't

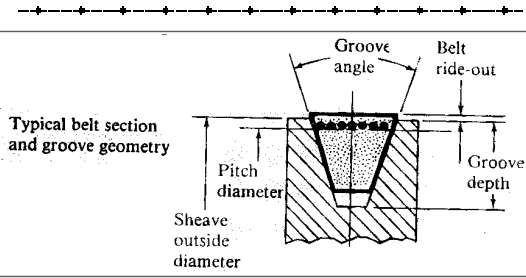
- Synchronous belts, or timing belts, ride on sprockets that have mating grooves that the teeth on the belt seat. This is a positive drive, limited only by the tensile strength of the belt and the shear strength of the teeth.
- Cog belts are applied to standard V-grooved sheaves. The cogs give the belt greater flexibility and higher efficiency compared with standard belts.

Types of Belt Drives con't

- A common type of belt is the V-belt drive.
- The V-shape causes the belt to wedge tightly into the groove, increasing friction and allowing high torques to be transmitted before slipping occurs.
- Most belts have high-strength cords positioned at the pitch diameter of the belt cross section to increase the tensile strength of the belt.



Cross Section of V-belt and Sheave Groove

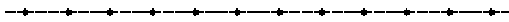


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V-belt Drives

1. The pulley, with a circumferential groove carrying the belt, is called a sheave.
2. The size of a sheave is indicated by its pitch diameter, slightly smaller than the outside diameter.
3. The speed ratio between the driving and the driven sheaves is inversely proportional to the ratio of the sheave pitch diameters.

Basic Belt Drive Geometry



Basic Belt Drive Geometry

Power

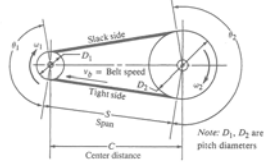
- $HP = TN/33000$
- $HP_1 = HP_2$

Torque

- $T_1/T_2 = D_1/D_2$

Speed

- $N_1/N_2 = D_2/D_1$



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V-belt Drives

There is no slipping under normal loads.

The linear speed of the pitch line of both sheaves is the same as and equal to the belt speed, v_b .

- $v_b = R_1\omega_1 = R_2\omega_2$
 - But $R_1 = D_1/2$ and $R_2 = D_2/2$
- $v_b = D_1\omega_1 / 2 = D_2\omega_2 / 2$

The angular velocity is: $\omega_1/\omega_2 = D_2/D_1$

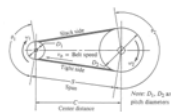
V-belt Drives con't

4. The relationships between pitch length, L , center distance, C , and the sheave diameters are:

$$L = 2C + 1.57(D_2 + D_1) + [(D_2 - D_1)^2 / 4C]$$

$$C = \frac{B + \sqrt{B^2 - 32(D_2 - D_1)^2}}{16}$$

Where $B = 4L - 6.28(D_2 + D_1)$



V-belt Drives con't

5. The angle of contact of the belt on each sheave is:

$$\theta_1 = 180^\circ - 2 \sin^{-1}[(D_2 - D_1) / 2C]$$

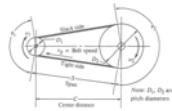
$$\theta_2 = 180^\circ + 2 \sin^{-1}[(D_2 - D_1) / 2C]$$

- ※ These angles are important because commercially available belts are rated with an assumed contact angle of 180° , requiring a lower power rating.

V-belt Drives con't

6. The length of the span between two sheaves, over which the belt is unsupported, is

$$S = \sqrt{C^2 - [(D_2 - D_1) / 2]^2}$$



V-belt Drives con't

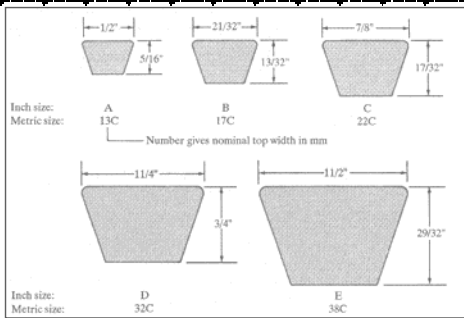
7. The contributors to the stress in the belt are: (a) the tensile force in the belt, maximum on the tight side of the belt; (b) the bending of the belt around the sheaves, maximum as the tight side of the belt bends around the smaller sheave; (c) centrifugal forces created as the belt moves around the sheaves.
- ◆ The maximum total stress occurs where the belt enters the smaller sheave, and the bending stress is a major part.
8. The design value of the ratio of the tight side tension to the slack side tension is 5.0 for V-belt drives.

Standard Belt Cross Sections

Commercially available belts are made to one of the standards shown on the next slide.

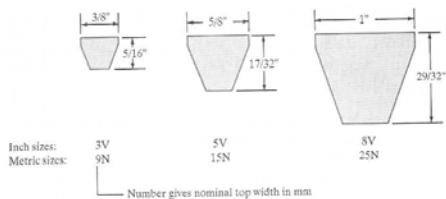
The nominal value of the included angle between the sides of the V-groove ranges from 30° to 42° . In order to achieve a tight fit in the groove, the angle on the belt may be slightly different. Some belts are designed to slip out of the groove somewhat.

Heavy-duty Industrial V-belts



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Industrial Narrow-section V-belts



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Power Transmitted

✳ Unique for belt design and construction

TABLE 8.1 COMMON V-BELT CROSS SECTIONS

Belt Type	SI Designation	US Designation
Classical V-Belts/Sheaves	13C,16C,22C,32C	A,B,C,D
Double-V (Hexagonal) Belts		AA,BB,CC,DD
Narrow Multiple V-Belts	9N,15N,25N	3V,5V,8V
Light-Duty Single V-Belts		2L,3L,4L,5L
V-Ribbed Belts		H,J,K,L,M

Kurtz, 2000, Machine Design for Mobile Applications

Power Transmitted con't

✳ An equation for a system with 180° with contact on the smallest sheave.

$$P = d * r [K_1 - \frac{K_2}{d} - K_3(d r)^2 - K_4 \log(d r)] + K_2 r$$

✳ P = power

✳ d = pitch diameter of small sheave

✳ r = RPM / 1000

✳ K₁, K₂, K₃, K₄ = coefficients

Power Transmitted con't

TABLE 8.2 CLASSICAL V-BELT POWER RATING COEFFICIENTS

Section SI (US)	k ₁	k ₂	k ₃	k ₄
13C(A)	0.0382(1.004)	1.232(1.652)	7.04E-09(1.55E-04)	6.244E-03(0.213)
13C(A)(X)	0.0582(1.462)	1.482(2.239)	1.00E-08(2.20E-04)	1.192E-02(0.424)
16C(B)	0.0678(1.769)	3.281(4.372)	1.40E-08(3.08E-04)	1.074E-02(0.366)
16C(B)(X)	0.0839(2.251)	2.835(3.532)	1.41E-08(3.10E-04)	1.864E-02(0.573)
22C(C)	0.216(3.325)	9.004(12.07)	2.65E-08(5.83E-04)	2.022E-02(0.689)
22C(C)(X)	0.1317(3.272)	4.965(6.655)	2.41E-08(5.30E-04)	2.537E-02(0.864)
32C(D)	0.2703(7.160)	32.23(43.21)	6.30E-08(1.38E-03)	4.270E-02(1.454)

Note: SI units are outside parentheses, traditional units are within parentheses.

Kurtz, 2000, Machine Design for Mobile Applications

V-belt Forces

✦ Through mathematical development

✦ Torque acting on driver:

- $T_R = (T_1 - T_2) D_R / 2$ (N*mm)

- D_R = driver sheave diameter (mm)

✦ Driven sheave torque

- $T_N = (T_1 - T_2) D_N / 2$ (N*mm)

- D_N = driven sheave diameter (mm)

✦ T_1 = tight side (N)

✦ T_2 = slack side (N)

Effective Pull

✦ Pull: $(T_1 - T_2) = 1000P / V$

- P = transmitted power; kW

- V = belt velocity; m/s

✦ Power: $P = (T_1 - T_2) V / 1000$

Effective Pull

Allowable Tension Ratio

- For 180 degree contact $R_A = T_1 / T_2$

- Allowable Tension Ratio

- 5 to 1 at 180 degree arc of contact for v-belt on sheave
- 2.5 to 1 for 180 degree arc of contact for v-belt on flat pulley

- At other angles $R_A = \exp[(0.5123) \theta (\pi/180)]$

- θ = arc of contact on sheave or pulley

V-belt Drive Design

- ✦ The basic data required for drive selection are:
 - ◆ The rated power of the driving motor or other prime motor
 - ◆ The service factor based on the type of driver and driven load
 - ◆ The center distance
 - ◆ The power rating for one belt as a function of the size and speed of the smaller sheave
 - ◆ The belt length
 - ◆ The size of the driving and driven sheaves
 - ◆ The correction factor for belt length
 - ◆ The correction factor for the angle of wrap on the smaller sheave
 - ◆ The number of belts
 - ◆ The initial tension on the belt

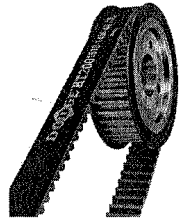
Belt Tension

- ✦ The initial tension given to a belt ensures that the belt will not slip under the design load.
- ✦ At rest, the two sides of the belt have the same tension. As power is being transmitted, the tension in the tight side increases while the tension in the slack side decreases. Without the initial tension, the slack side would go totally loose.

Synchronous Belt Drives

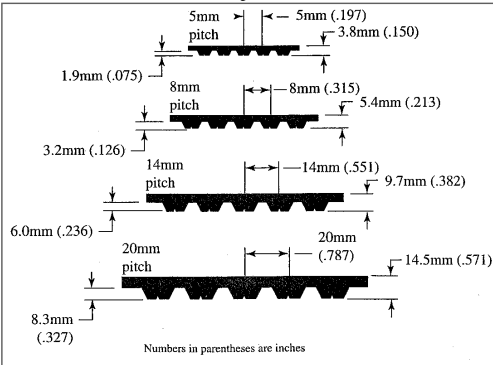
- ✦ Synchronous belts are made with ribs or teeth across the bottom of the belt. The teeth mate with corresponding grooves in the driving and driven pulleys (sprockets), providing a positive drive without slippage.
- ✦ There is a fixed relationship between the speed of the driver and the speed of the driven sprocket. For this reason, synchronous belts are also known as timing belts.

FIGURE 7-16
Synchronous belt on driving sprocket
(Copyright Rockwell Automation, used by permission)



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Dimensions of Synchronous Belt

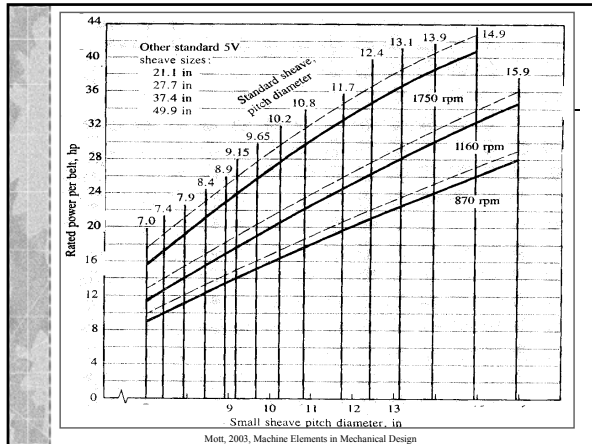


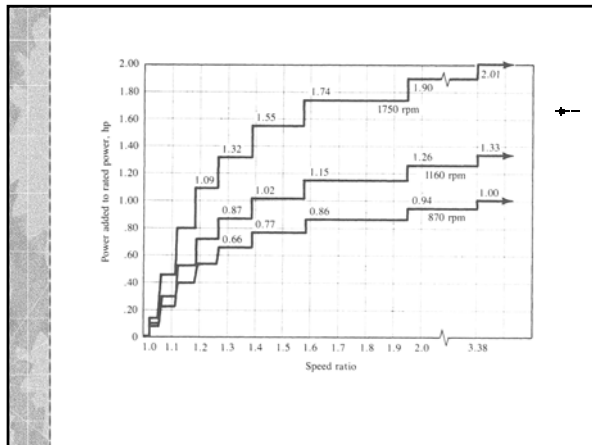
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Example Problem 7-1 Design a V-belt drive that has the input sheave on the shaft of an electric motor (normal torque) rated at 50.0 hp at 1160 rpm, full-load speed. The drive is to a bucket elevator in a potash plant that is to be used 12 hours (h) daily at approximately 675 rpm.

Solution	Objective	Design the V-belt drive.				
	Given	Power transmitted = 50 hp to bucket elevator Speed of motor = 1160 rpm; output speed = 675 rpm				
	Analysis	Use the design data presented in this section. The solution procedure is developed within the Results section of the problem solution.				
	Results	Step 1. Compute the design power. From Table 7-1, for a normal torque electric motor running 12 h daily driving a bucket elevator, the service factor is 1.40. Then the design power is $1.40(50.0 \text{ hp}) = 70.0 \text{ hp}$.				
Driven machine type	<6 h per day	6-15 h per day	>15 h per day	<6 h per day	6-15 h per day	>15 h per day
Agitators, blowers, fans, centrifugal pumps, light conveyors	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3
Generators, machine tools, mixers, gravel conveyors	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4
Bucket elevators, textile machines, hammer mills, heavy conveyors	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6
Crushers, ball mills, hammers, rubber extruders	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.8
Any machine that can choke	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

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Step 8. Compute the required belt length from Equation (7-3):

$$L = 2C + 1.57(D_2 + D_1) + \frac{(D_2 - D_1)^2}{4C}$$

$$L = 2(24.0) + 1.57(21.1 + 12.4) + \frac{(21.1 - 12.4)^2}{4(24.0)} = 101.4 \text{ in}$$

Step 9. Select a standard belt length from Table 7-2, and compute the resulting actual center distance from Equation (7-4).
In this problem, the nearest standard length is 100.0 in. Then, from Equation (7-4),

$$B = 4L - 6.28(D_2 + D_1) = 4(100) - 6.28(21.1 + 12.4) = 189.6$$

$$C = \frac{189.6 + \sqrt{(189.6)^2 - 32(21.1 - 12.4)^2}}{16} = 23.30 \text{ in}$$

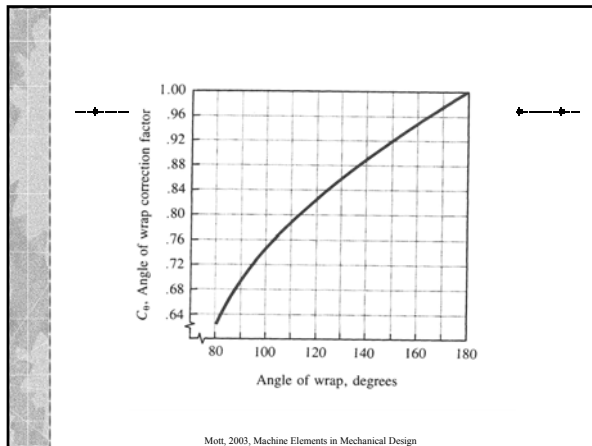
Step 10. Compute the angle of wrap of the belt on the small sheave from Equation (7-5):

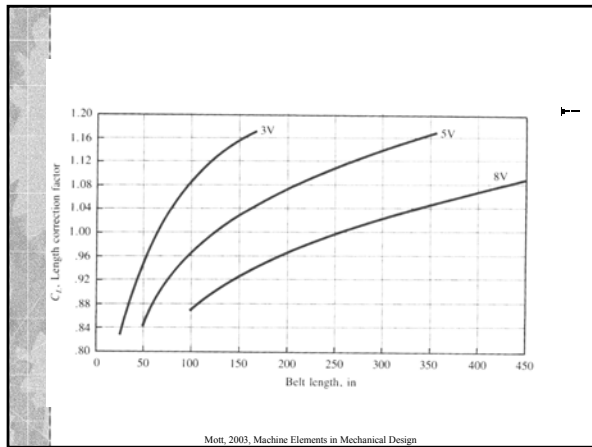
$$\theta_1 = 180^\circ - 2 \sin^{-1} \left[\frac{D_2 - D_1}{2C} \right] = 180^\circ - 2 \sin^{-1} \left[\frac{21.1 - 12.4}{2(23.30)} \right] = 158^\circ$$

Step 11. Determine the correction factors from Figures 7-14 and 7-15. For $\theta = 158^\circ$, $C_0 = 0.94$. For $L = 100$ in, $C_L = 0.96$

Step 12. Compute the corrected rated power per belt and the number of belts required to carry the design power:

Corrected power = $C_0 C_L P = (0.94)(0.96)(27.55 \text{ hp}) = 24.86 \text{ hp}$
 Number of belts = $70.0/24.86 = 2.82$ belts (Use 3 belts.)

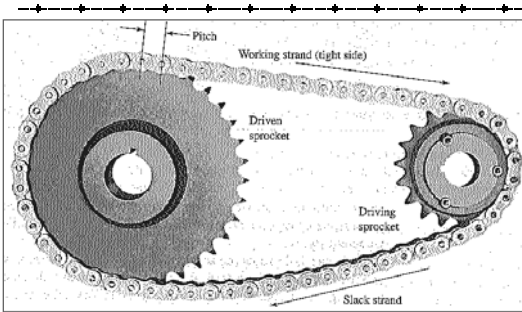




Chain Drives

- ✦ A chain is a power transmission element made as a series of pin-connected links. The design provides for flexibility while enabling the chain to transmit large tensile forces.
- ✦ When transmitting power between rotating shafts, the chain engages mating toothed wheels, called sprockets.

Roller Chain Drive



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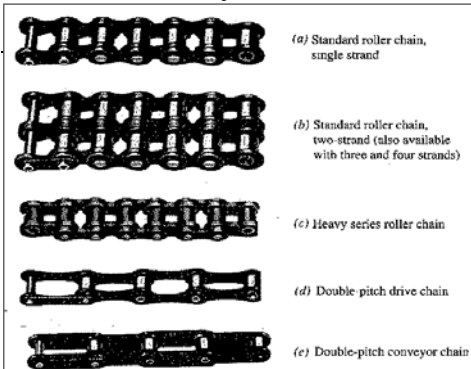
Chain Drives con't

✦ The most common type of chain is the roller chain, in which the roller on each pin provides exceptionally low friction between the chain and the sprockets.

✦ Roller chain is classified by its pitch, the distance between corresponding parts of adjacent links. The pitch is usually illustrated as the distance between the centers of adjacent pins.

✦ Standard roller chain carries a size designation from 40 to 240.

Roller Chain Styles



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Chain Drives con't

- * The digits (other than the final 0) indicate the pitch of the chain in eighths of an inch.
- * For example, the no. 100 chain has a pitch of 10/8 or 1 1/4 in. A series of heavy-duty sizes, with the suffix H on the designation (60 H - 240 H), has the same basic dimension as the standard chain of the same number except for thicker side plates. In addition, there are smaller and lighter sizes: 25, 35, and 41.

Chain Drives con't

- * The average tensile strengths of the various chain sizes are listed in the next table. These data can be used for very low speed drives or for applications in which the function of the chain is to apply a tensile force or to support a load.
- * It is recommended that only 10% of the average tensile strength be used in such applications.

TABLE 7-4 Roller chain sizes

Chain number	Pitch (in)	Roller diameter	Roller width	Link plate thickness	Average tensile strength (lb)
25	1/4	None	-	0.030	925
35	3/8	None	-	0.050	2100
41	1/2	0.306	0.250	0.050	2000
40	1/2	0.312	0.312	0.060	3700
50	5/8	0.400	0.375	0.080	6100
60	3/4	0.469	0.500	0.094	8500
80	1	0.626	0.625	0.125	14 500
100	1 1/4	0.750	0.750	0.156	24 000
120	1 1/2	0.875	1.000	0.187	34 000
140	1 3/4	1.000	1.000	0.219	46 000
160	2	1.125	1.250	0.250	58 000
180	2 1/4	1.406	1.406	0.281	80 000
200	2 1/2	1.562	1.500	0.312	95 000
240	3	1.875	1.875	0.375	130 000

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Design of Chain Drives con't

※ Notice these features of the data:

- ◆ The ratings are based on the speed of the smaller sprocket and an expected life of approximately 15,000 hours.
- ◆ For a given speed, the power capacity increases with the number of teeth on the sprocket.
- ◆ For a given sprocket size (given # of teeth), the power capacity increases with increasing speed up to a point; then it decreases. Fatigue due to the tension in the chain governs at the low to moderate speeds; impact on the sprockets governs at the higher speeds.

con't...

Design of Chain Drives con't

※ The ratings are for a single strand of chain. Although multiple strands do increase the power capacity, they do not provide a direct multiple of the single-strand capacity. Multiply the capacity in the tables by the following factors:

- ◆ Two stands: Factor = 1.7
- ◆ Three strands: Factor = 2.5
- ◆ Four strands: Factor = 3.3

※ The ratings are for a service factor of 1.0. Specify a service factor for a given application according to the next table.

TABLE 7-8 Service factors for chain drives

Load type	Type of driver		
	Hydraulic drive	Electric motor or turbine	Internal combustion engine with mechanical drive
Smooth (agitators; fans; light, uniformly loaded conveyors)	1.0	1.0	1.2
Moderate shock (machine tools, cranes, heavy conveyors, food mixers and grinders)	1.2	1.3	1.4
Heavy shock (punch presses, hammer mills, reciprocating conveyors, rolling mill drive)	1.4	1.5	1.7

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Design Guidelines

1. The minimum number of teeth in a sprocket should be 17 unless the drive is operating at a very low speed, under 100 rpm.
2. The maximum speed ratio should be 7.0, although higher ratios are feasible. Two or more stages of reduction can be used to achieve higher ratios.
3. The center distance between the sprocket axes should be approximately 30 to 50 pitches (30 to 50 times the pitch of the chain).

Design Guidelines con't

4. The larger sprocket should normally have no more than 120 teeth.
5. The preferred arrangement for a chain drive is with the centerline of the sprockets horizontal and with the tight side on top.
6. The chain length must be an integral multiple of the pitch, and an even number of pitches is recommended. The center distance should be made adjustable to accommodate the chain length and to take up for tolerances and wear. Excessive sag on the slack side should be avoided, especially on drives that are not horizontal.

Design Guidelines con't

6. Con't... A convenient relation between center distance (C), chain length (L), number of teeth in the small sprocket (N_1), and the number of teeth in the large sprocket (N_2), expressed in pitches, is:

$$L = 2C + \frac{N_2 + N_1}{2} + \frac{(N_2 - N_1)^2}{4\pi^2 C}$$

Design Guidelines con't

6. The center distance for a given chain length, again in pitches, is:

$$C = \frac{1}{4} \left[L - \frac{N_2 + N_1}{2} + \sqrt{\left[L - \frac{N_2 + N_1}{2} \right]^2 - \frac{8(N_2 - N_1)^2}{4\pi^2}} \right]$$

- * The computed center distance assumes no sag in either the tight or the slack side of the chain, and thus it is a maximum. Negative tolerances or adjustments must be provided. Adjustment for wear must also be provided.

Design Guidelines con't

7. The pitch diameter of a sprocket with N teeth for a chain with a pitch of p is:

$$D = \frac{p}{\sin(180^\circ / N)}$$

8. The minimum sprocket diameter and therefore the minimum number of teeth in a sprocket are often limited by the size of the shaft on which it is mounted. Check the sprocket catalog.

Design Guidelines con't

9. The arc of contact, θ_1 , of the chain on the smaller sprocket should be greater than 120° .

$$\theta_1 = 180^\circ - 2 \sin^{-1}[(D_2 - D_1) / 2C]$$

10. For reference, the arc of contact, θ_2 , on the larger sprocket is:

$$\theta_2 = 180^\circ + 2 \sin^{-1}[(D_2 - D_1) / 2C]$$

Lubrication

✳ It is essential that adequate lubrication be provided for chain drives. There are numerous moving parts within the chain, along with the interaction between the chain and the sprocket teeth. The designer must define the lubricant properties and the method of lubrication.

Example Problem 7-2 Design a chain drive for a heavily loaded coal conveyor to be driven by a gasoline engine through a mechanical drive. The input speed will be 900 rpm, and the desired output speed is 230 to 240 rpm. The conveyor requires 15.0 hp.

Solution Objective Design the chain drive.

Given Power transmitted = 15 hp to a coal conveyor
Speed of motor = 900 rpm; output speed range = 230 to 240 rpm

Analysis Use the design data presented in this section. The solution procedure is developed within the Results section of the problem solution.

Results *Step 1.* Specify a service factor and compute the design power. From Table 7-8, for moderate shock and a gasoline engine drive through a mechanical drive, $SF = 1.4$.

$$\text{Design power} = 1.4(15.0) = 21.0 \text{ hp}$$

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Load type	Type of driver		
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