

How to Measure for Insul-Vest Blankets - Overview

Accurate measurement of the barrel is necessary to assure proper fit of the Insul-Vest blankets to be supplied. It is recommended that you enter the measurements on the Insul-Vest “Measurements Sheet for Blankets”, which is available for download from our website, www.insul-vest.com, or from your local distributor. Near the bottom of the form you can select whether you want Modulares or custom blankets, or if you wish us to make a recommendation. Each line on the form is intended to capture the needed dimensions for one machine barrel. In the first column, please put the machine name or number you use to identify it, as well as the machine manufacturer and tonnage, if possible.

To properly size your Insul-Vest Blankets, we only need two basic pieces of information, the barrel circumference and the width of each section. Please note that, as explained below, a barrel ‘section’ will not normally correspond to a zone.

1. **MEASURE BARREL SECTION WIDTHS** – A barrel section is defined as the distance along the barrel between any two obstructions on its surface. The most common obstructions are thermocouples. However, other sensors, bolts and support brackets must also be considered. We need the inside distance between obstructions to size the blankets.

For measurement purposes, the section closest to the feed end of the barrel is considered Section 1. The width of Section 1 is normally measured from the end of the barrel to the first thermocouple (or obstruction). Section 2 is between the first T/C and the second one, etc. Measure each section to the nearest 1/8th “ and enter on the Measurements Sheet. The width of Section 1 is entered in the column under W1, the width of Section 2 under W2, etc.

2. **MEASURE BARREL CIRCUMFERENCE** – Although the blankets are nominally sized by diameter, it is normally easier to measure the circumference. If the barrel diameter is the same across its full length, the circumference can be entered in column C1 on the Insul-Vest Measurement Sheet and C2, C3, etc., can be left blank. If the circumference varies, enter the dimension for each section on the sheet. If the barrel diameter changes within a section, each area with a different circumference should be treated as a separate section on the sheet.

Notes on Barrel Measurements for Modulares™

Modulares™ are available in six diameters (6”, 8”, 10”, 12”, 14” and 16”) based on the barrel diameter. Each size covers a 2” range. For example, 6” blankets will fit barrel diameters from 4-6”, 8” blankets from 6-8”, etc. They come in three widths, 2.25”, 4” and 6”. However, it is not necessary for you to specify the widths. We will do that after receiving your measurements prior to giving you our proposal.

Circumference measurements should be taken around the heater band AND over the terminals or junction box to get the maximum diameter the blankets must fit around. Modulares are designed to fit snugly around the barrel but also ‘flex’ to cover the J-box. In some cases, we may need to come back and have you measure the barrel over the heater bands but NOT over the J-box to verify proper fit.

Notes on Barrel Measurement for Custom Blankets

Custom blankets are normally made such that one blanket will cover the full width of each barrel section. The section width is measured exactly the same as for Modulares. The circumference can be measured over the terminals. With Custom blankets, it is possible to provide cutouts around the terminal boxes or other obstructions. If cutouts are desired, it is recommended that a sketch of the layout of each blanket be provided. The sketch should show the length of the blanket equal to the circumference, the width based on the section width, and the location and dimensions of the cutout desired. Cutouts are normally placed adjacent to the blanket joint or edge, but can be placed anywhere necessary.