

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Types of Sand

In choosing a filter size it is important to know what type of sand is causing the problem.

There are two main types of sand:

Formation Sand: This sand is smaller than other sands and is usually irregular in size.

Frac Sand: This sand is larger than formation sand and is very uniform. Frac sand is usually the most abrasive.

What is a slot size ?

A slot size is the opening or gap between the Vee-wires, which determines the filtration size. (Example: an 18 slot screen has an opening of 18/1000ths) inch.

How do I determine slot size?

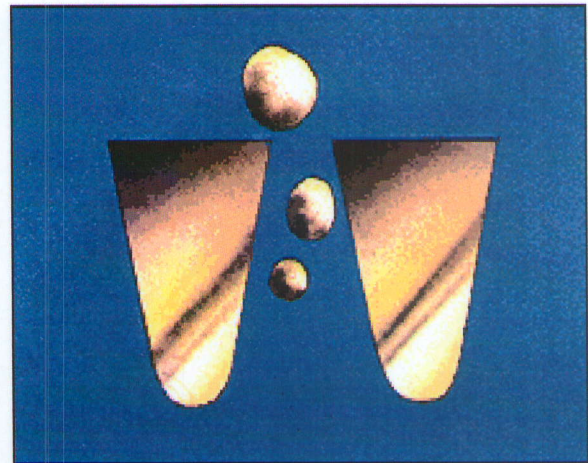
Larger slot openings will have less plugging. Ideally, you want to filter out 70% of the sand. Normal recommendations are 18 to 25 slot for fracture sand and 12 slot for formation sand.

How do I determine length?

Length is a critical factor in sand screen use. Most plugging occurs when the sand velocity is too fast, causing sand to become wedged in the opening. The longer the length, the slower the velocity. Six to eight foot lengths are recommended.

Can I reuse a sand screen ?

In most cases the re-use of a sand screen is not recommended. If you reuse a sand screen that is partially plugged it will have a shorter run life. The pulling cost incurred would greatly outweigh any savings that a used sand screen would provide.



US Mesh Size	Micron	Slot Size
40/60	450-250	8 to 12
20/40	841-400	12 to 15
16/30	1190-595	15 to 20
12/20	1680-841	20 to 25