

FILTER SELECTION GUIDE



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Standard 52.2	Approx Std 52.1 Results		Application	n Guidelines	
Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)	Dust Spot Efficiency	Arrestance	Typical Controlled Containment	Typical Applications and Limitations	Tri-Dim Filter Corporation Product Selection
	n/a	n/a	≤0.30 µm Particle Size Virus (unattached) Carbon Dust Sea salt All Combustion Smoke Radon progeny	Cleanrooms Radioactive Materials Pharmaceutical manufacturing Carcinogenic materials Orthopedic surgery	Α
16	n/a	n/a	0.30-1.0 µm Particle Size All bacteria	Hospital inpatient care General surgery	
15	>95%	n/a	Most tobacco smoke Droplet nuclei (sneeze)	Smoking lounges Superior commercial	
14	90-95%	>98%	Cooking Oil Most Smoke	buildings	
13	80-90%	>98%	Insecticide Dust Copier Toner Most face powder		
			Most paint pigments		
12	70-75%	>95%	1.0-3.0 μm Particle Size Legionella	Superior residential Better commercial	
11	60-65%	>95%	Humidifier dust Lead dust	buildings Hospital laboratories	
10	50-55%	>95%	Milled flour Coal dust		
9	40-45%	>90%	Auto emissions Nebulizer drops		
			Welding fumes		
8	30-35%	>90%	3.0-10.0 µm Particle Size Mold	Better residential	
7	25-30%	>90%	Spores Hair spray	Industrial workplaces Paint booth inlet air	
6	<20%	85-90%	Fabric protector Dusting aids		
5	<20%	80-85%	Cement dust Pudding mix		
			Powdered milk		

Modified Table E-1 from ASHRAE 52.2-2007 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Note: The above table, columns 1 through 5, are taken from ASHRAE Standard 52.2-2007

How to use this guide - identify which filter category (A, B, C or D) fills the needs for your application - then look on page 3 for the corresponding letter that will show the options within that category. Please consult with your sales representative for specific performance details of selected filter(s).



TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERIES

The first step in filter selection is to determine what the objective is for the filtration system. What is the 'target' particle size for the application? As an example the 'target' particle size in most health care facilities is one micron because 99% of all known bacteria are one micron and larger. The figure below might offer some assistance as it shows the typical distribution of particles in ambient air.

Once the objective has been determined Table 12-1 (right) will be useful in determining which MERV efficiency will remove the target size particles. More detailed efficiency numbers can be found in the ASHRAE 52.2 Test Report.

Once the target MERV rating has been established Table E-1 on the first page converts the MERV ratings into the various filter options offered by Tri-Dim.



Modified TABLE 12-1 from ASHRAE 52.2-2007 Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) Parameters

Standard 52.2 Minimum	Composite Average Particle Size Efficiency, % in Size Range, μm				
Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)	E₁ Range 1 0.30 - 1.0	E2 Range 2 1.0 - 3.0	E₃ Range 3 3.0 - 10.0		
16	95% ≤ E₁	95% ≤ E₂	95% ≤ E₃		
15	85% ≤ E ₁ < 95%	90% ≤ E₂	90% ≤ E ₃		
14	75% ≤ E₁ < 85%	90% ≤ E₂	90% ≤ E ₃		
13	E ₁ < 75%	90% ≤ E₂	90% ≤ E ₃		
12	n/a	80% ≤ E ₂	90% ≤ E ₃		
11	n/a	$65\% \le E_2 < 80\%$	85% ≤ E₃		
10	n/a	$50\% \le E_2 < 65\%$	85% ≤ E ₃		
9	n/a	E ₂ < 50%	85% ≤ E ₃		
8	n/a	n/a	70% ≤ E ₃		
7	n/a	n/a	50% ≤ E ₃ < 70%		
6	n/a	n/a	35% ≤ E ₃ < 50%		
5	n/a	n/a	20% ≤ E ₃ < 35%		

Filters with a MERV 13 and higher typically utilize a prefilter to maximize their service life and minimize their life cycle cost.

Tri-Dim can help in the process of filter selection by having one of our factory-trained sales representatives assist in the process of identifying the 'target' particle size and then develop those identified objectives into a filtration protocol. Tri-Dim offers this service free of charge.

Call 1-800-458-9835 to get the name of the nearest Tri-Dim representative.

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