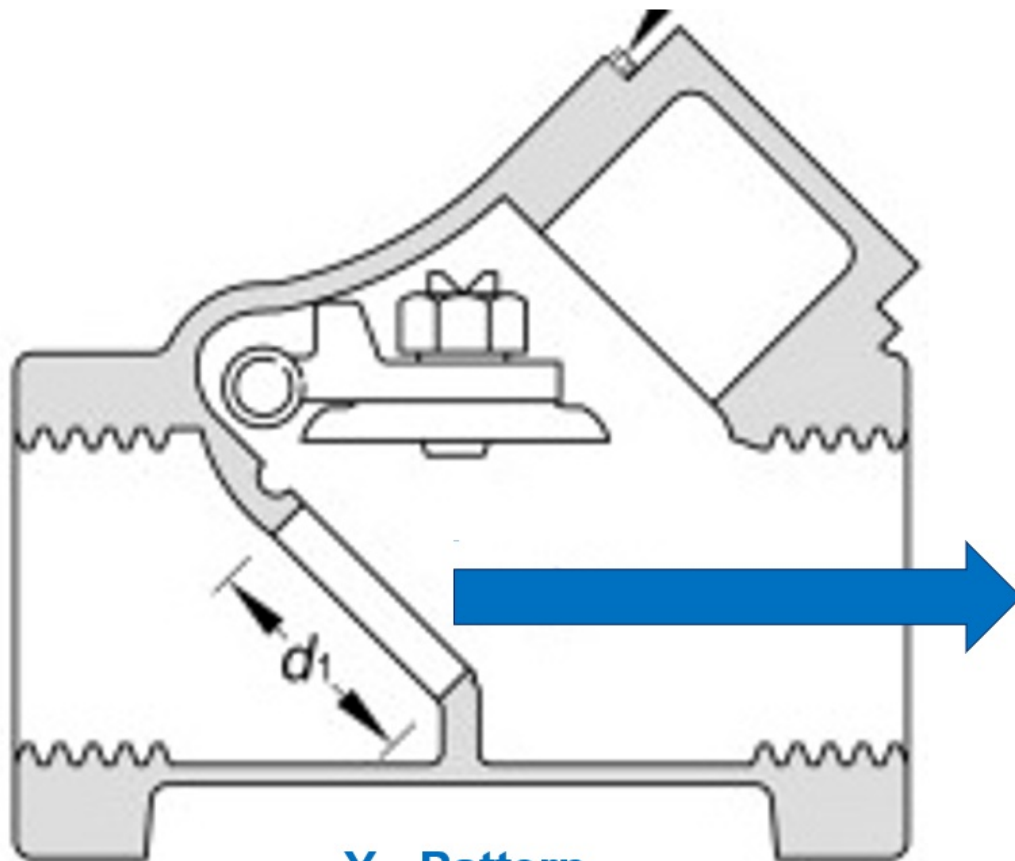


## Check The Flow!!

Unlike a gate valve, check valves need to be sized for the application and flow, not just based on the line size of the pipe. Choosing an appropriately sized check valve means it will function at its highest level, providing efficient service with maximum protection.

Flow is more important than line size! When the flow keeps the disc fully open against the internal stop, or fully closed, the valve is sized properly.



**Y - Pattern**

When sizing a check valve for the flow rate of the application, you may actually end up with a size smaller than line size. And this is OK, because that will make sure that disc is fully open during operation. Don't select check valves simply to match the line size and class of the pipe. Just because you have an 8" line doesn't mean an 8" check valve is the appropriate size. Check valves require sufficient flow rate to operate.

An oversized check valve results in a low flow that won't keep the disc consistently open. Picture the disc of a swing check constantly in motion... this is going to be noisy and create a lot of wear - Ultimately shortening the life of the valve. When the valve's disc is stable and in the fully open position against the internal stop or fully closed position against the seat, no disc fluttering occurs. And an undersized valve will cause higher pressure losses and create excessive noise and vibration.

To calculate the minimum amount of flow required for the check valve, Milwaukee Valve has added a [Check Valve Flow Calculator](#) to the website. Simply select the type of check valve desired and enter the normal flowrate and nominal pipe size to find the velocity. Any velocity less than recommended will appear in **red**, requiring further investigation to adjust the size of the valve and piping appropriately, such as reducing the size of the check valve and adjacent piping.

For more information on Check Valves, visit the [Milwaukee Valve](#) website or watch our 50-minute [WEBINAR](#) covering the importance of the check valve in commercial plumbing installations. Registration is required attendance. This webinar qualifies for CEU credits from ASPE, even if viewed on-demand.



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