



Safety of machinery

Safety distances

against reaching with upper and lower limbs

For danger points which cannot be prevented by design measures and are safeguarded by safety devices, safety distances must be observed

Your statutory accident insurance

for reaching through

Part of the body	Illustration	Opening e	Safety distance	Safety distance s		
			slot	square / circle		
Tip of the toe / toe		e ≤ 5	s = 0	s = 0		
	←s→ e	5 < e ≤ 15	s ≥ 10	s = 0		
		15 < e ≤ 35	s ≥ 80 ¹⁾	s ≥ 25		
Foot	s e	35 < e ≤ 60	s ≥ 180	s ≥ 80		
		60 < e ≤ 80	s ≥ 650 ²⁾	s ≥ 180		
Leg up to knee		80 < e ≤ 95	s ≥ 1100 ³⁾	s ≥ 650²)		
Leg up to crotch		95 < e ≤ 180	s ≥ 1100 ³⁾	s ≥ 1100 ³⁾		
		180 < e ≤ 240	not admissible	s ≥ 1100 ³⁾		

- For slots with a length of ≤ 75 mm, the safety distance can be reduced to ≥ 50 mm.
- 2) This value relates to the leg (tip of the toe up to knee).
- 3) This value relates to the leg (tip of the toe up to crotch).

Measurements in mm

Annex B, informative

Distances preventing free access by the lower limbs

This table stipulates distances for special cases where access by the lower limbs of a person standing upright is prevented without additional measures. Where there is a risk of slipping or misuse, the values given in the table may be inadequate. Where the value h is between two values of the table, the distance for the higher value of h should be selected.

l blocking distance	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3		
a protective structure h gap up to protective structure					
h ≤ 200	l≥ 340	l≥665	l ≥ 290		
200 < h ≤ 400	l≥ 550	l≥765	l ≥ 615		
400 < h ≤ 600	l≥ 850	l≥950	l≥800		
600 < h ≤ 800	l≥950	l≥950	l≥900		
800 < h ≤ 1000	l≥ 1125	l ≥ 1195	l ≥ 1015		

Measurements in mm

Picture credits:

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Minimum gaps (EN ISO 13854)





Fist / hand / wrist



Toes







Foot

Finger

Arm

Head





Leg

Body

Crushing is not considered dangerous for the parts of the body mentioned unless the distances are smaller than those specified.

Upper limbs – Safety distances

(EN ISO 13857)

for reaching over

Haight of



- a height of the danger zone
- b height of the protective structure
- c horizontal distance to
- danger zone
- d protective structure

For determining the relevant safety distances, risk assessment must be carried out in accordance with EN ISO 12100. If the values determined for a, b or c are between two of the values given in the table, those values must be applied which ensure a higher level of integrity.

Height of the danger	Height of the protective structure b ¹³								
zone a ²	1000	1200	1400 ³	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2500
2600									
	900	800	700	600	600	500	400	300	100
2400	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
	1100	1000	900	800	700	600	400	300	100
2200	600	600	500	500	400	350	250		
	1300	1200	1000	900	800	600	400	300	
2000	1100	900	700	600	500	350			
	1400	1300	1100	900	800	600	400		
1800	1100	1000	900	900	600				
	1500	1400	1100	900	800	600		-	-
1600	1300	1000	900	900	500	-	-	-	-
	1500	1400	1100	900	800	500	_	-	-
1400	1300	1000	900	800	100	-	-	-	-
1400	1500	1400	1100	900	800	_			
1200	1400	1000	900	500	-	-	-	-	-
1200	1500	1400	1100	900	700	_		-	-
1000	1400	1000	900	300	-	-	-	-	-
1000	1500	1400	1000	800	-	-	-	-	-
800	1300	900	600	-	-	-	-	-	-
000	1500	1300	900	600	-	-	-	-	-
600	1200	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1400	1300	800	-	-	-	-	-	-
400	1200	300		_				_	-
	1400	1200	400	-		_	-	-	-
200	1100	200		_				-	-
	1200	900				_			
0	1100	200	-	-	-	_	-	-	-
0	1100	500	-	_	-	-	-	-	-

- Protective structures with a height of less than 1000 mm are not mentioned as they do not ensure adequate restriction of movements.
- 2) For danger zones above 2500 or 2700 mm see safety distances for reaching up.
- 3) For high-risk danger points, protective structures lower than 1400 mm should not be used without additional technical safety measures.
- 4) The upper values apply to low risk. The lower values apply to high risk or other technical safety measures are applied.

Horizontal distance to danger zone c⁴

Measurements in mm

for reaching up



for reaching around



Arm and hand supported up to the knuckle joint



Arm supported up to the wrist



Arm supported up to the elbow



Limitation of movement only at shoulder and armpit

for reaching through

Part of body	Illustration	Opening ² e	Safety distance s			
			slot	square	circle	
Finger tip		e ≤ 4	5≥2	s≥2	s≥2	
		4 < e ≤ 6	s ≥ 10	s≥5	s ≥ 5	
Finger up to knuckle joint		6 < e ≤ 8	s ≥ 20	s≥15	s≥5	
		8∢e≤10	s ≥ 80	s≥25	s≥20	
		10 < e ≤ 12	s ≥ 100	s ≥ 80	s≥80	
		12 < e ≤ 20	s≥120	s≥120	s≥120	
	/// =	20 < e ≤ 30	s ≥ 850 ¹⁾	s≥120	s≥120	
Arm up to shoulder joint		30∢e≤40	s≥850	s ≥ 200	s≥120	
		40 < e ≤ 120	s≥850	s≥850	s ≥ 850	

- Where the length of a slot opening is ≤ 65 mm, access is limited by the thumb and the safety distance can be reduced to 200 mm.
- 2) The opening width e corresponds to one side in case of square openings, to the diameter in case of circular openings and the smallest dimension in case of slot openings. For openings > 120 mm, the safety distances for reaching over protective structures must be applied.

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