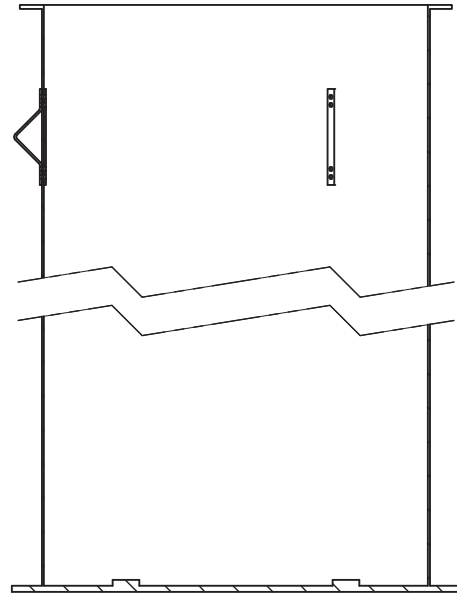


## Installation Reference Guide

1255000B

### Fiberglass Basin



#### *Purpose*

The purpose of this guide is to provide a brief reference to the recommended methods and procedures for installing Liberty Pumps underground sump and sewage basins to ensure that damage or premature failure of the basin does not occur.

Studies conducted by both environmental regulatory agencies and trade organizations demonstrate that the most significant source of leaks and failures in underground storage systems is improper handling and installation. Proper handling and installation requires practical experience combined with strict adherence to proven methods and procedures.

This guide is *not* intended to serve as a basic instructional manual. The installation of our sump and sewage basins is a specialized skill, and is assumed that the individuals who install our products and refer to this guide will have basic understanding of such procedures as excavating, backfilling, pipe-fitting, and electrical work. No amount of written instruction by a manufacturer or a regulatory agency will convert an inexperienced, under-supervised laborer into a skilled, experienced mechanic. The ability to recognize and correctly respond to abnormal conditions during a basin installation requires field experience as well as mechanical aptitude.

In addition to proper system engineering and competent manufacturing, the use of basin installers who have both practical experience and integrity to assist that the basin be installed properly, constitutes the greatest protection from catastrophic basin failure and liability exposure.

#### *Disclaimer*

Every reasonable effort has been put forth by Liberty Pumps and its agents to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information contained in this reference guide. However, neither Liberty Pumps, its agents, nor its consultants, make any representation, warranty, or guarantee in connection with the publication of these recommended methods and procedures. Liberty Pumps hereby disclaims any liability for loss or damage resulting from their use; for the violation of any federal, state, county, or municipal regulations with which these recommended methods and procedures may conflict; or for the infringement of any patent resulting from the use of recommended methods and procedures.

## Basin Handling

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### General Handling

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Although the exterior surfaces of the fiberglass reinforced plastic sump and sewage basins are designed to withstand normal handling, they can be damaged during transportation and installation. Basins must not be dropped, dragged, or handled with sharp objects, and with the exception of the minimal movement involved in a visual inspection, should not be rolled.

If the basin or its shell is damaged, installation should be suspended until Liberty Pumps or its agent can make a determination to the extent of damage. Any repairs must be first authorized in writing by Liberty Pumps and then be done in accordance with Liberty Pumps instructions.

### Unloading, Lifting, and Lowering

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#### **WARNING** **RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH**

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- Under no circumstances are the use of chains or cables around the basin shell permitted.

The proper way of moving a basin is by lifting it, using chains or cables with the optional lifting lugs (not more than a 30° angle), or by using a non-marring sling around the basin. Before any attempt is made to move a basin, it should be established that all of the equipment and accessories have sufficient capacity and reach to lift and lower the basins without dragging and/or dropping. Basins should be maneuvered with guide ropes attached to the sides.

### Storage

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Basins should be stored in a secure, controlled area where the potential for accidental damage or vandalism will be minimized. The storage area should be free from sharp objects, rocks, and any other foreign solutions or materials that could cause damage to the basins. Chock the basins until they are needed for installation and, if windy conditions are possible, secure the basins with non-marring restraints of a size and number adequate for securing the basin.

### Pre-Installation Inspection

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Basins, valves, equipment, and piping materials should be physically and visually inspected before installation. Adherence to the project's specifications should also be confirmed before installation. If the basin or any of its internal components are damaged, installation should be suspended until a determination of the extent of damage can be made by Liberty Pumps or its agent. Any repairs must be first authorized in writing by Liberty Pumps and then be done in accordance with Liberty Pumps instructions.

## Excavation

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### Excavation Considerations

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#### **WARNING** **RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH**

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- Locate all overhead and underground utilities before excavating.

The excavation should provide adequate space for the basin, piping, and other buried equipment and for the replacement and compaction of backfill materials particularly around the basin walls. The size, shape, and wall slope of the excavation should be determined by soil conditions, depth of excavation, shoring requirements, and if workers are required to enter the excavation, safety considerations and federal, state, county, and municipal regulations.

### Excavation Location

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Excavation for an underground basin should be made with due care to avoid undermining foundations of existing structures and contact with underground utilities. In the absence of building codes or regulations, maintain a minimum distance of 5 feet plus a slope of 45° from the bottom of the compacted sub-base to the bottom of the adjacent structures, foundations, footings, and property lines (*reference figure on page 4*). Additional distances may be required to ensure that any loading carried or created by the foundations and supports cannot be transferred to the basins.

### Maximum Burial Depth

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If burial depth is greater than the basin height, contact Liberty Pumps to determine if additional wall reinforcement is required and secure written authorization.

### Excavated Materials Handling

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Excavated materials, which cannot be removed from the job site, should be carefully stored as far from the edge of the basin excavation as possible. Unless approved for use as backfill, excavation materials should be securely stored separate from the approved backfill materials.

### Work Area Safety

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Safe installation procedures shall be the sole responsibility of the basin installer. Work safety requirements are defined in U.S. Department of Labor 29 CFR 1926, Subpart P: Excavations.

## Backfill

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### General

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Careful selection, placement, and compaction of approved backfill material is critical to a successful basin installation. Among the common problems associated with basin leaks and premature failures are:

- Use of incorrect backfill material
- Inadequate or improper placement or compaction
- Rocks, clods, or debris left in the excavation or basin
- Voids under or around the perimeter of the basin
- Failure to prevent the migration of backfill materials

### Basin Placement

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#### **⚠️ WARNING** RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH

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- Placement of a basin on a concrete pad or compacted sub-base smaller than the total basin bottom area or on intermediate supports (saddles) will cause uneven distribution of loads. This may contribute to structural failure, and is never permitted.

The bottom of the basin excavation shall be covered with suitably graded, leveled, and compacted backfill material to a depth of at least 12 inches (compacted sub-base). If a concrete hold-down/anti-flotation pad is required, this bedding can be reduced to a depth of at least 6 inches. Carefully lower the basin into the excavated area and centered on the compacted backfill or concrete pad (*reference figure on page 4*).

### Backfill Material

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Backfill material should be clean, well granulated, free-flowing, non-corrosive, and inert. It should be free of ice, snow, debris, rock, or organic material, all of which could damage the tank and interfere with the compaction of the backfill material. The largest particles should not be larger than 3/4". Not more than 3% (by weight) should pass through a #8 sieve, and the backfill material should conform to ASTM C-33, Paragraph 9.1 requirements. Approved backfill materials include:

- Pea gravel, naturally rounded particles, with a minimum diameter of 1/8" and a maximum diameter of 3/4".
- Crushed rock, washed and free-flowing angular particles between 1/8" and 1/2" in size.

### Backfill Placement and Compaction

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#### **NOTICE**

- ◆ Do not exert heavy pressure or run heavy equipment on the backfill material as this could cause the tank to collapse.

Compaction of backfill materials should be adequate to ensure the support of the tank, and to prevent movement or settlement. Backfill materials should be placed in 12" lifts and compacted to a minimum soil modulus of 700 pounds per square foot.

## Support Piping, Equipment and Accessories

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#### **⚠️ WARNING** RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH

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- Using the basin to support any loading carried or created by piping, equipment, cribbing, bracing, or blocking is never permitted.

Support for piping, equipment, and other accessories must be provided during backfilling. Using the basin to support piping, equipment, cribbing, bracing, or blocking is never permitted. During backfilling, temporary supporting materials must be carefully installed and removed to prevent damage to the basin, piping, or equipment.

### Anchorage

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When basin installations are located in areas subject to high water tables or flooding, provisions should be made to prevent the basins, either empty or filled, from floating. The buoyancy force to be offset is determined primarily by the volume of the basin. The principle offsetting factors include:

- Backfill materials
- Concrete hold-down pad
- Friction between the tank, backfill materials, and the surrounding soil

### Anchorage Methods

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All methods of anchoring basins use the weight of the backfill materials to offset the buoyancy forces. The use of supplemental mechanical anchoring methods (a concrete hold-down pad) increases the amount of backfill ballast, which is mechanically attached to the basin. The recommended method of attachment is to pour concrete grout over the basin's anti-flotation flange and concrete hold-down pad (*reference figure on page 4*).

### Anchorage Requirements

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#### **⚠️ WARNING** RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH

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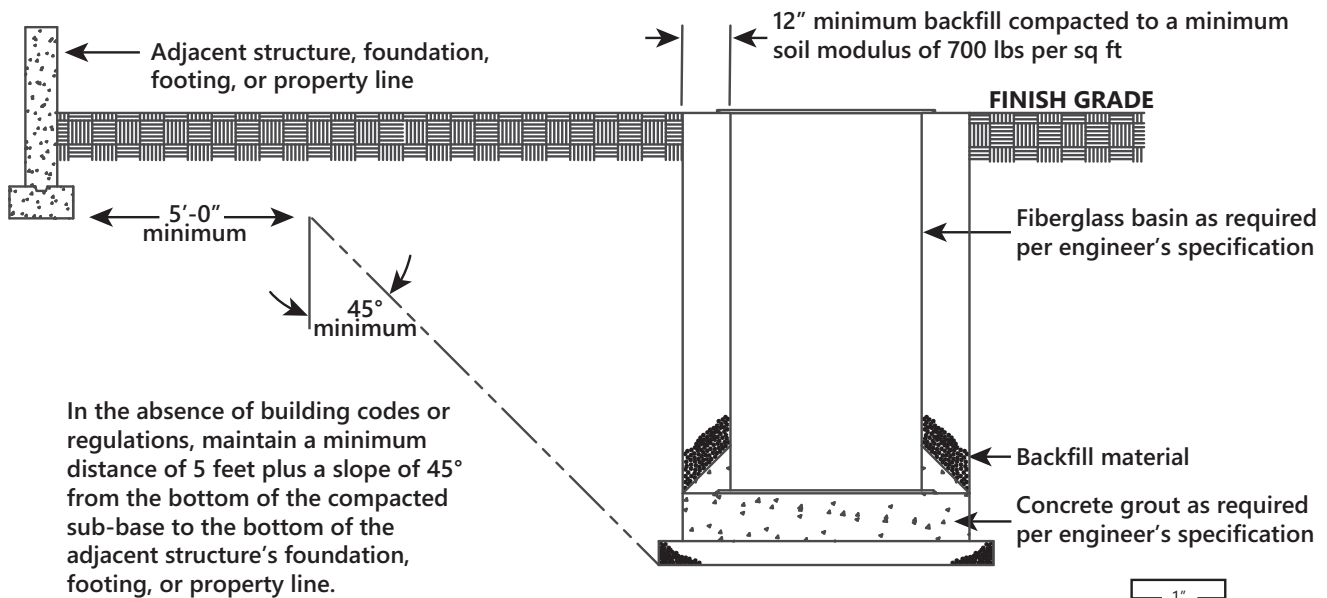
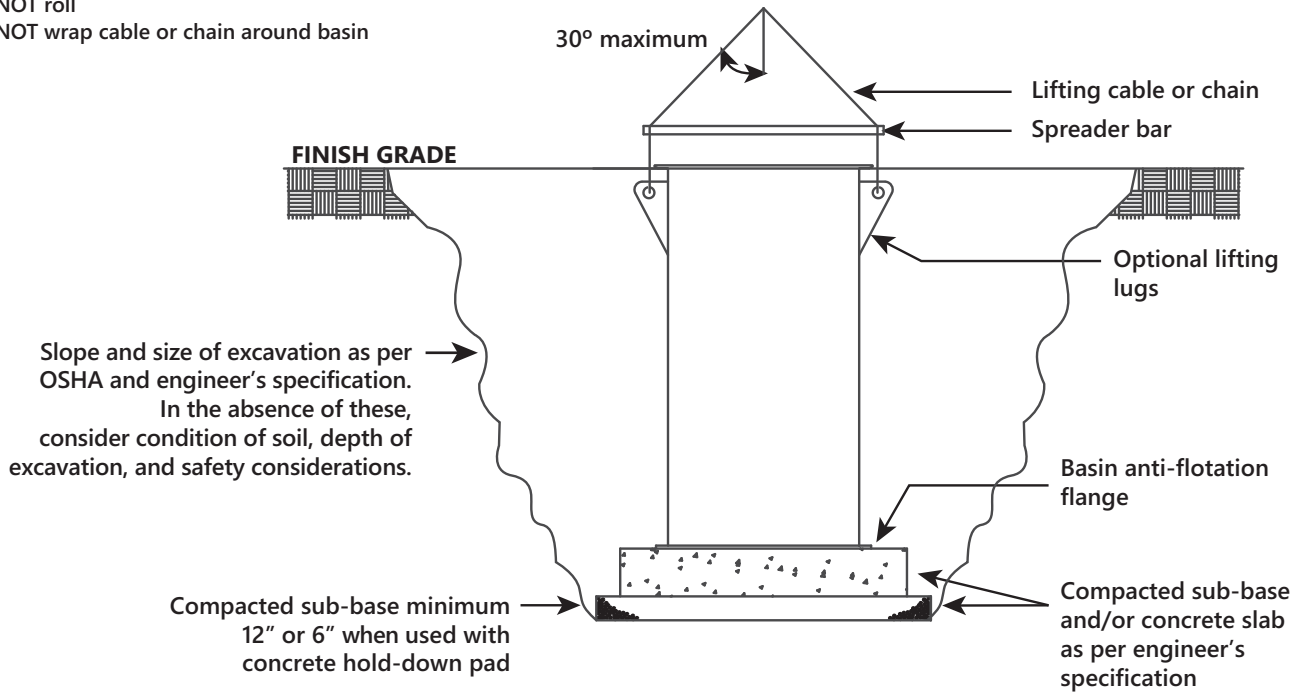
- Use "submerged" material weights when calculating anchorage requirements.

Requirements of anchorage, thickness of concrete hold-down pads, as well as the size of anchors and reinforcement must be calculated for each installation based on the environmental conditions of that specific installation.

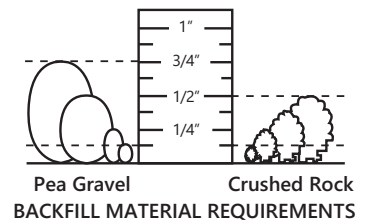
Example: weight of concrete (150 pounds per cubic foot) minus the weight of the water (62.4 pounds per cubic foot) equals a "submerged" weight of 87.6 pounds per cubic foot.

For additional information, contact Liberty Pumps customer service at 800-543-2550.

CAUTION:  
 HANDLE WITH CARE  
 Do NOT drop  
 Do NOT impact  
 Do NOT roll  
 Do NOT wrap cable or chain around basin



In the absence of building codes or regulations, maintain a minimum distance of 5 feet plus a slope of 45° from the bottom of the compacted sub-base to the bottom of the adjacent structure's foundation, footing, or property line.



NOTE: The intent of these installation instructions and illustration is to ensure that damage or premature failure to the basin does not occur. These installation instructions and illustration are not intended to preclude normal safety procedures that should be followed to prevent injury to personnel.

**SAFE INSTALLATION PROCEDURES ARE ENTIRELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INSTALLER**