

CHOOSING A LID FOR YOUR 5¼" VALVE BOX

A QUICK START GUIDE

In this guide we will discuss what you should consider when purchasing a lid for your valve box, including shape, weight, material, and traffic volume. We will also look at the options available to you for customization, security, and leak detection.

VALVE BOX MATERIAL

If your 5¼" valve box is plastic, you will need both a cast iron lid and a cast iron rim. Lids for plastic boxes are made to specifically fit the rim you select. A cast iron box will not require a separate rim.

SHAPE

There are typically two shapes of lids for a 5¼" valve box: circular and square. Circular lids are generally used in both the water and gas industry, however some gas utilities use square to differentiate themselves.

WEIGHT

The **cast iron drop-in lid** rests on top of the box and fits snugly to its opening. It has small pick holes on opposite sides to remove the lid. We recommend the B&T lid lifter for easy, safe lid removal. Drop-in lids come with varying lengths of skirt. The skirt is what extends down into the box and lengths include 1.5" and 4".

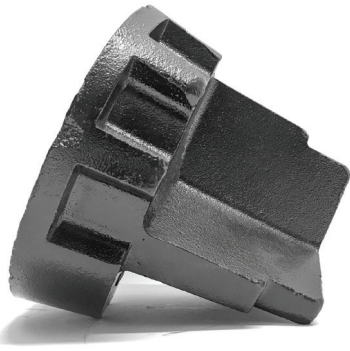
If you have had problems with lids popping out resulting in liability claims or an uptick in crews needing to replace lids, a longer skirt with a heavier weight would be a good option.



A Cast Iron 5¼" Valve Box with stabilizer and drop-in lid.



A square lid



4" Tri-Skirt Lid

TRAFFIC VOLUME

If you are installing your valve box in a high traffic area, consider a heavier weight lid with a longer skirt. The 4" tri-skirt lid is designed for areas with speeds above 45 mph and will only come out when lifted straight up vertically. For low traffic or no traffic areas, consider a short skirt with less weight and a lower cost.

CUSTOMIZATION

Cast Iron lids can be customized with your Municipality's name or logo and can be painted, or powder coated to your specifications. You can customize for clarity of ownership or to take pride in your utility.



B&T Custom Lids



Universal Locking Lid

SECURITY MEASURES

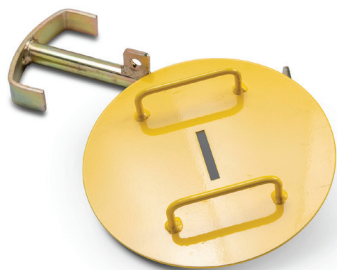
If you have dealt with incidents of unauthorized access, confusion with over-lapping utility service areas, or safety concerns with crews, consider a lid with security features.

A **universal locking lid** has a positive locking mechanism against the side of the box that is tamper resistant and minimizes the risk of lid ejections.



Locking Lid with Locking Bar

The **locking lid with locking bar** secures the lid against the underside of a specially designed rim.



Valve Sentinel

A **valve sentinel** is not a lid but is installed underneath the lid in the top section of your valve box. This device uses your own lock providing easy lock-out/tag-out protection and provides maximum protection against unauthorized access.

LEAK DETECTION

Leak detection lids work with leak detection sensors for accurate readings with clear signals. There are two different kinds of leak detection lids: a cast iron lid with a thru-hole and a cast iron lid with a plastic insert.

The cast iron lid with the plastic insert provides a housing for a variety of antennae, keeping it covered and protected from the elements. The cast iron outer section resists dislodging while the plastic insert allows for clear signal transmission.



Solid Lid with Recessed Thru-hole



Cast Iron Lid with Plastic Insert

IN REVIEW

CONSIDERATIONS FOR SELECTING A LID

Valve Box Material: Cast Iron (no rim) or Plastic (requires rim)

Shape: circular or square

Weight: light weight or heavy weight

Location: no traffic, low traffic, or heavy traffic

Customization: custom logo or municipality name

Security: universal locking lid, locking lid with bar, or valve sentinel

Leak detection: cast iron lid with thru-hole or cast iron lid with plastic insert

*Looking for additional lid options? **Contact us** and one of our experienced sales directors can help guide you to the best solution for your utility.*

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- Plastic Meter Pits & Cast Iron Meter Boxes
- Cast Iron, Plastic & Combination Valve Boxes
- Custom Lids
- 100% American Made

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