

SEPARATION DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMETS AND MINES

- Because there are two basic orientations of the mortars (vertical and angled), there are two minimum mortar-to-spectator separation distances for comets and mines: ^(a)

Comet or Mine Size ^(a,b)		Vertical Mortars		Angled Mortars ^(c)	
in.	mm	ft	m	ft	m
≤1	≤25	38	12	38	12
1.5	38	53	16	38	12
2	50	70	22	48	15
2.5	63	88	27	58	18
3	75	105	32	70	22
4	100	140	43	95	29
5	125	175	54	115	35
6	150	210	64	140	43

- (a) These separation distances are half those required for the same size aerial shells. These separation distances only apply to non-splitting or non-bursting comets and mines that contain only stars or non-splitting or non-bursting comets.
- (b) For reasons of spectator and crew safety, the use of comets larger than 4 inch (100 mm) and mines larger than 6 inch (150 mm) are definitely not recommended.
- (c) Assumes the maximum (1/3) displacement of mortars from the center of the display site. Note, however, that the overall size requirement for the site is not reduced when using angled mortars.