

6 Essentials Of Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW)

1. Correct electrode size-

- Type
- Position
- Joint preparation

2. Correct current-

- If current on equipment is too high or too low, you are certain to be disappointed in your weld.

3. Correct arc length-

- Arc length varies with each electrode. As a good starting point, arc length should not exceed the diameter of the metal portion (core) of the electrode.

4. Correct travel speed-

- When your speed is too fast your pool does not last long enough, impurities and gas locked in.

5. Correct electrode angle-

- The angle at which you hold the electrode greatly affects the shape of the weld bead which is very important in fillet and deep groove welding.

6. Correct voltage-

- Welding voltage primarily controls the arc length which is the distance between the molten weld pool and the wire filler metal at the point of melting within the arc.



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