

IP Rating – What Does it Mean?

IP stands for Ingress Protection

Electrical equipment often has an IP rating. This tells you how resistant it is to dust and fluid. The IP Rating is a simple encoding that covers a range of international standards for enclosures and electrical switchgear up to 1000V A.C. and 1200V D.C.

IP Rating Code

In security equipment, the rating code commonly consists of 2 numbers (e.g. IP56) that tell you the amount of protection a given product has against dust and fluid. Each digit represents the degree of protection against one of the environmental factors. The first number is for solid particle ingress, and the second is for liquids ingress. The meanings of the numbers are given in the following table:

What the Numbers Mean

First Number (Dust)		Second Number (Fluid)	
#	Protection against...	#	Protection against...
0	No Protection	0	No Protection
1	Solid objects over 50mm, e.g. accidental touch by hands	1	Vertically falling drops of water
2	Solid objects over 12mm, e.g. fingers	2	Direct sprays of water up to 15° from the vertical
3	Solid objects over 2.5mm, e.g. tools & wires	3	Sprays up to 60° from the vertical
4	Solid objects over 1mm, e.g. small wires	4	Water sprayed from all direction - limited ingress permitted
5	Dust - limited ingress (no harmful deposits)	5	Low pressure jets of water from all direction - limited ingress permitted
6	Dust - total; no ingress	6	Strong jets of water from all direction - limited ingress permitted
		7	Immersion between 15cm and 1m
		8	Long periods of immersion under pressure

What Rating do I Need?

A rating of IP54 or greater will give you protection against the elements for your outdoor security equipment, as long as they are not submersed in water. All SVAT outdoor cameras have a rating of at least IP54. Most of our professional cameras are rated IP65, providing complete protection against dust and protection against jets of water from all directions.