

However, while nitrogen as a carrier yields excellent response to hydrogen, the response to oxygen and carbon dioxide is diminished compared to the levels that could be achieved with helium or hydrogen. Argon would yield poor response to carbon dioxide and water, but would be adequate for other components.

There is no absolute "best choice" of carrier gas. For any situation, the choice must take into account all of the parameters involved: column characteristics, components of interest and their concentrations, safety considerations, carrier cost, etc.

GC Column Selection

Cell volume has been minimized to accommodate capillary, megabore, and micropacked columns, and to optimize the sensitivity of the detector at low flow rates. However, standard packed columns may also be used if sensitivity is not an issue.

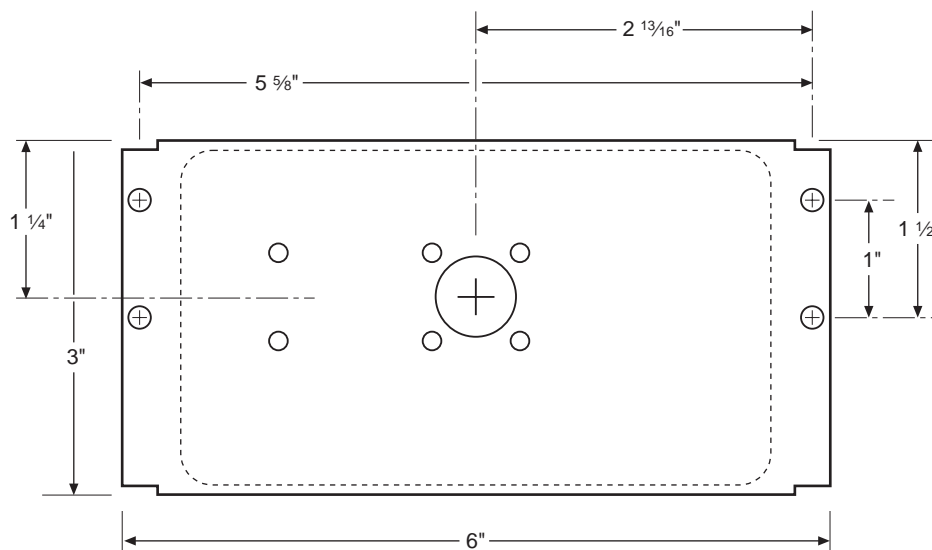


Figure 5: Detector assembly mounting dimensions