



Designation: A449 – 14 (Reapproved 2020)

Standard Specification for Hex Cap Screws, Bolts and Studs, Steel, Heat Treated, 120/ 105/90 ksi Minimum Tensile Strength, General Use¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A449; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification² covers quenched and tempered steel hex cap screws, bolts, and studs having a minimum tensile strength of 120 ksi for diameters 1.0 in. and smaller; 105 ksi for diameters over 1.0 in. to 1½ in.; and 90 ksi for diameters 1¾ in. to 3.0 in. inclusive. The term "fasteners" in this specification denotes hex cap screws, bolts, and studs.

1.2 The fasteners are intended for general engineering use.

1.3 The fasteners are furnished in diameters ¼ to 3.0 in. inclusive. They are designated by type denoting chemical composition as follows:

Type	Description
Type 1	Plain carbon steel, carbon boron steel, alloy steel, or alloy boron steel
Type 2	Withdrawn 2003
Type 3	Weathering steel

1.4 Terms used in this specification are defined in Terminology **F1789** unless otherwise defined in this specification.

1.5 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **F16** on Fasteners and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **F16.02** on Steel Bolts, Nuts, Rivets and Washers.

Current edition approved Dec. 1, 2020. Published December 2020. Originally approved in 1963. Last previous edition approved in 2014 as A449 – 14. DOI: 10.1520/A0449-14R20.

² For *ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code* applications see related Specifications SA-449 in Section II of that Code.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:³

- [A563 Specification for Carbon and Alloy Steel Nuts](#)
- [A751 Test Methods, Practices, and Terminology for Chemical Analysis of Steel Products](#)
- [B695 Specification for Coatings of Zinc Mechanically Deposited on Iron and Steel](#)
- [F436/F436M Specification for Hardened Steel Washers Inch and Metric Dimensions](#)
- [F606/F606M Test Methods for Determining the Mechanical Properties of Externally and Internally Threaded Fasteners, Washers, Direct Tension Indicators, and Rivets](#)
- [F788/F788M Specification for Surface Discontinuities of Bolts, Screws, Studs, and Rivets, Inch and Metric Series](#)
- [F1470 Practice for Fastener Sampling for Specified Mechanical Properties and Performance Inspection](#)
- [F1789 Terminology for F16 Mechanical Fasteners](#)
- [F2329 Specification for Zinc Coating, Hot-Dip, Requirements for Application to Carbon and Alloy Steel Bolts, Screws, Washers, Nuts, and Special Threaded Fasteners](#)
- [G101 Guide for Estimating the Atmospheric Corrosion Resistance of Low-Alloy Steels](#)

2.2 ASME Standards:⁴

- [B 1.1 Unified Screw Threads](#)
- [B 18.2.1 Square and Hex Bolts and Screws](#)
- [B 18.24 Part Identifying Number \(PIN\) Code System Standard for B18 Fastener Products](#)

3. Ordering Information

3.1 Orders for fasteners under this specification shall include the following:

- 3.1.1 Quantity (number of pieces),
- 3.1.2 Size, including nominal diameter and length,
- 3.1.3 Name of product,

³ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

⁴ Available from American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), ASME International Headquarters, Two Park Ave., New York, NY 10016-5990, <http://www.asme.org>.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

- 3.1.4 Type, that is, Type 1, or Type 3 as required,
- 3.1.5 ASTM designation and year of issue, and
- 3.1.6 Other components such as nuts and washers if required.

3.1.7 *Hot-Dip or Mechanically Deposited Zinc Coatings*—For hot-dip or mechanically deposited zinc coatings covered by 5.1 and requiring over-tapped nuts, specify the zinc coating process required, that is, hot-dip, mechanically deposited, or no preference (see 5.1).

3.1.8 *Other Coatings*—Specify other protective coating if required (see 5.2).

3.1.9 Specify if inspection at point of manufacture is required.

3.1.10 Test reports if required.

3.1.11 Supplementary or special requirements.

3.1.12 For establishment of a part identifying system, see ASME B18.24.

NOTE 1—A typical ordering description follows: 1000 pieces 1/8 in. diameter × 4.0 in. long hex cap screw, Type 1, ASTM A449–XX, each with one finished hex nut ASTM A563, Grade DH. Each component mechanically zinc coated in accordance with B695, Class 5, Type II.

3.2 Suitable Nuts and Washers:

3.2.1 Suitable nuts are covered in Specification A563. Unless otherwise specified, the grade and style of nut shall be as follows:

Fastener Size and Surface Finish	Nut Grade and Style ^A
1/4 to 1 1/2 in., plain (or with a coating of insufficient thickness to require over-tapped nuts)	B, hex
Over 1 1/2 to 3 in., plain (or with a coating of insufficient thickness to require over-tapped nuts)	A, heavy hex
1/4 to 3 in., zinc-coated (or with a coating thickness requiring over-tapped nuts)	DH, heavy hex
1/4 to 3 in., Type 3	C3, DH3, heavy hex

^A Nuts of other grades and styles having specified proof load stresses (Specification A563, Table 3) greater than the specified grade and style of nut are suitable.

3.2.2 Unless otherwise specified, washers ordered with fasteners shall be furnished to the requirements of Specification F436/F436M, Type 1 or Specification F436/F436M, Type 3. Washers for A449 Type 3 fasteners shall conform to Specification F436/F436M Type 3.

4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 Heat Treatment:

4.1.1 Type 1 fasteners produced from medium carbon steel shall be quenched in a liquid medium from the austenitizing temperature.

4.1.2 Type 1 fasteners produced from medium carbon steel to which chromium, nickel, molybdenum, or boron were intentionally added, and Type 3 fasteners, shall be quenched in oil from the austenitizing temperature.

4.1.3 Type 1 and Type 3 fasteners, regardless of the steel used, shall be tempered by reheating to not less than 800 °F.

4.2 *Threading*—Threads shall be rolled, cut, or ground.

4.3 *Secondary Processing*—If any processing which can affect the mechanical properties of the fasteners is performed after the initial testing, the fasteners shall be retested for all specified mechanical properties affected by the reprocessing.

5. Protective Coatings

5.1 *Zinc, Hot Dip, and Mechanically Deposited Requiring Over-tapped Nuts:*

5.1.1 When zinc-coated fasteners are required, the purchaser shall specify the zinc-coating process, such as, hot-dip, mechanically deposited, or no preference.

5.1.2 When hot dip is specified, the fasteners shall be zinc coated by the hot-dip process in accordance with the requirements of Specification F2329.

5.1.3 When mechanically deposited is specified, the fasteners shall be zinc coated by the mechanical deposition process in accordance with the requirements of Class 55 of Specification B695.

5.1.4 When no preference is specified, the supplier may furnish either a hot-dip zinc coating in accordance with Specification F2329, or a mechanically deposited zinc coating in accordance with Specification B695, Class 55. Threaded components (bolts and nuts) shall be coated by the same zinc coating process, and the suppliers' option shall be limited to one process per item with no mixed processes in a lot.

NOTE 2—When the intended application requires that assembled tension exceeds 50 % of minimum bolt or stud proof load, an anti-galling lubricant may be needed. Application of such a lubricant to nuts and a test of the lubricant efficiency are provided in Supplementary Requirement S1 of Specification A563 and should be specified when required.

5.2 Other Coatings:

5.2.1 When other coatings are required, the purchaser shall specify the coating specification, including the classification codes or grade numbers to identify the coating material, thickness, supplemental treatments, or other requirements to define the coating. The fasteners shall be coated in accordance with and conform to the specified coating specification.

5.2.2 When a specification does not apply, the purchaser shall specify the desired coating, coating thickness, supplemental treatments, or other requirements to define the coating.

6. Chemical Composition

6.1 Type 1 fasteners shall be plain carbon steel, carbon boron steel, alloy steel, or alloy boron steels, at the manufacturers option, conforming to the requirements in Table 1.

6.2 Type 3 fasteners shall be weathering steel and shall conform to one of the chemical compositions specified in Table 2. The selection of the chemical composition, A, B, C, D, E or F, shall be a the option of the manufacturer. See Guide G101 for methods of estimating the atmospheric corrosion resistance of low alloy steel.

6.3 Product analyses made on finished fasteners representing each lot shall conform to the product analysis requirements specified in Table 1 or Table 2, as applicable.

6.4 Heats of steel to which bismuth, selenium, tellurium, or lead has been intentionally added shall not be permitted for bolts. Compliance shall be based on certification that heats of steel having any of the listed elements intentionally added were not used to produce the bolts.

6.5 Chemical analyses shall be performed in accordance with Test Methods, Practices, and Terminology A751.

TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements for Type 1 Fasteners

Element	Carbon Steel	
	Heat Analysis	Product Analysis
Carbon	0.30–0.52	0.28–0.55
Manganese, min	0.60	0.57
Phosphorus, max	0.040	0.048
Sulfur, max	0.050	0.058
Silicon	0.15–0.30	0.13–0.32
Element	Boron Steel	
	Heat Analysis	Product Analysis
Carbon	0.30–0.52	0.28–0.55
Manganese, min	0.60	0.57
Phosphorus, max	0.040	0.048
Sulfur, max	0.050	0.058
Silicon	0.10–0.30	0.08–0.32
Boron	0.0005–0.003	0.0005–0.003
Element	Alloy Steel	
	Heat Analysis	Product Analysis
Carbon	0.30–0.52	0.28–0.55
Manganese, min	0.60	0.57
Phosphorus, max	0.035	0.040
Sulfur, max	0.040	0.045
Silicon	0.15–0.35	0.13–0.37
Alloying Elements	A	A
Element	Alloy Boron Steel	
	Heat Analysis	Product Analysis
Carbon	0.30–0.52	0.28–0.55
Manganese, min	0.60	0.57
Phosphorus, max	0.035	0.040
Sulfur, max	0.040	0.045
Silicon	0.15–0.35	0.13–0.37
Boron	0.0005–0.003	0.0005–0.003
Alloying Elements	A	A

^A Steel, as defined by the American Iron and Steel Institute, shall be considered to be alloy when the maximum of the range given for the content of alloying elements exceeds one or more of the following limits: manganese, 1.65 %; silicon, 0.60 %; copper, 0.60 % or in which a definite range or a definite minimum quantity of any of the following elements is specified or required within the limits of the recognized field of constructional alloy steels: aluminum, chromium up to 3.99 %, cobalt, columbium, molybdenum, nickel, titanium, tungsten, vanadium, zirconium, or any other alloying elements added to obtain a desired alloying effect.

7. Mechanical Properties

7.1 *Hardness*—The fasteners shall conform to the hardness specified in **Table 3**. See **Table 3**, Note A.

7.2 *Tensile Properties:*

7.2.1 Except as permitted in **7.2.2** for large diameter fasteners and **7.2.3** for short fasteners, hex cap screws and hex and square head bolts in sizes 1.00 in. and smaller having a nominal length of $2\frac{1}{4}$ D and longer, and sizes $1\frac{1}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. inclusive having a nominal length of 3D and longer shall be wedge tested full size. Bolts of these sizes with heads other than hex or square shall be axially tested full size. All screws and bolts of these sizes shall conform to the proof load or alternative proof load requirements, and minimum tensile load requirements in **Tables 4 and 5**.

7.2.2 Bolts larger than $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, other than those excepted in **7.2.3**, shall preferably be wedge tested full size and when so tested shall conform to the tensile strength and either the specified proof load or yield strength requirements in **Tables 4 and 5**. When equipment of sufficient capacity for full size testing is not available, or when the length of the bolt

makes full size testing impractical, machined specimens shall be tested and shall conform to the requirements of **Table 6**.

7.2.3 Bolt with diameters of 1.00 in. and smaller having a nominal length shorter than $2\frac{1}{4}$ D down to 2D inclusive, which cannot be wedge tensile tested shall be axially tension tested full size and shall conform to the minimum tensile load and proof load or alternate proof load specified in **Table 4** or **Table 5**. Bolts with diameters of 1.00 in. and smaller having a nominal length shorter than 2D, and those with diameters above 1.00 in. having a nominal length shorter than 3D, which cannot be axially tensile tested shall be qualified on the basis of hardness.

7.2.4 Studs with nominal lengths of 5D and longer shall be axially tension tested full size and shall conform to the tensile and proof load or alternate proof load specified in **Table 4** and **Table 5**. Studs with nominal lengths less than 5D shall be qualified on the basis of hardness. When equipment for full size testing is not available, machined specimens shall be tested and shall conform to the tensile requirements in **Table 6**.

7.2.4.1 When the length of a stud makes full-size testing impractical, it is permissible for manufacturers to test a full-sized section cut from the longer stud. Such sections shall conform to the tensile and proof load or alternate proof load specified in **Table 5** and **Table 6**.

7.2.5 If fasteners are subjected to both hardness and tensile tests, the tensile test results shall take precedence in the event of low hardness test results.

7.2.6 If fasteners are subjected to both full size and machined specimen tests, the full size test results shall take precedence if the results of the two methods differ.

8. Dimensions

8.1 *Head and Body:*

8.1.1 *Hex Cap Screws*—Unless otherwise specified, hex cap screws shall be furnished with dimensions conforming to ASME B18.2.1.

8.1.2 *Bolts*—When styles other than specified in **8.1.1** are required, they shall have dimensions conforming to those specified by the purchaser.

8.1.3 *Studs*—Studs shall have dimensions conforming to those specified by the purchaser.

8.2 *Threads:*

8.2.1 *Uncoated*—Unless otherwise specified, uncoated threads shall be the Unified Coarse Thread Series as specified in the latest issue of ASME B1.1, and shall have Class 2A tolerances.

8.2.2 *Coated*—Unless otherwise specified, zinc-coated bolts, to be used with zinc-coated nuts or tapped holes, which are tapped oversize in accordance with Specification **A563**, shall have UNC Class 2A threads before hot-dip or mechanically deposited zinc-coating. After zinc coating, the pitch diameter and major diameter shall not exceed the Class 2A limits by more than the following amounts:

TABLE 2 Chemical Requirements for Type 3 Fasteners^A

Element	Composition, %					
	Type 3 Fasteners ^A					
	A	B	C	D	E	F
Carbon:						
Heat analysis	0.33–0.40	0.38–0.48	0.15–0.25	0.15–0.25	0.20–0.25	0.20–0.25
Product analysis	0.31–0.42	0.36–0.50	0.14–0.25	0.14–0.25	0.18–0.27	0.19–0.25
Manganese:						
Heat analysis	0.90–1.20	0.70–0.90	0.80–1.35	0.40–1.20	0.60–1.00	0.90–1.20
Product analysis	0.86–1.24	0.67–0.93	0.76–1.39	0.36–1.24	0.56–1.04	0.86–1.24
Phosphorus:						
Heat analysis	0.035 max	0.06–0.12	0.035 max	0.035 max	0.035 max	0.035 max
Product analysis	0.040 max	0.06–0.125	0.040 max	0.040 max	0.040 max	0.040 max
Sulfur:						
Heat analysis	0.040 max	0.040 max	0.040 max	0.040 max	0.040 max	0.040 max
Product analysis	0.045 max	0.045 max	0.045 max	0.045 max	0.045 max	0.045 max
Silicon:						
Heat analysis	0.15–0.35	0.30–0.50	0.15–0.35	0.25–0.50	0.15–0.35	0.15–0.35
Product analysis	0.13–0.37	0.25–0.55	0.13–0.37	0.20–0.55	0.13–0.37	0.13–0.37
Copper:						
Heat analysis	0.25–0.45	0.20–0.40	0.20–0.50	0.30–0.50	0.30–0.60	0.20–0.40
Product analysis	0.22–0.48	0.17–0.43	0.17–0.53	0.27–0.53	0.27–0.53	0.17–0.43
Nickel:						
Heat analysis	0.25–0.45	0.50–0.80	0.25–0.50	0.50–0.80	0.30–0.60	0.20–0.40
Product analysis	0.22–0.48	0.47–0.83	0.22–0.53	0.47–0.83	0.27–0.63	0.17–0.43
Chromium:						
Heat analysis	0.45–0.65	0.50–0.75	0.30–0.50	0.50–1.00	0.60–0.90	0.45–0.65
Product analysis	0.42–0.68	0.47–0.83	0.27–0.53	0.45–1.05	0.55–0.95	0.42–0.68
Vanadium:						
Heat analysis	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	0.020 min	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>
Product analysis	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	0.010 min	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>
Molybdenum:						
Heat analysis	<i>B</i>	0.06 max	<i>B</i>	0.10 max	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>
Product analysis	<i>B</i>	0.07 max	<i>B</i>	0.11 max	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>
Titanium:						
Heat analysis	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	0.05 max	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>
Product analysis	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>	0.06 max	<i>B</i>	<i>B</i>

^AA,B,C,D, E and F are classes of material used for Type 3 fasteners. Selection of a class shall be at the option of the bolt manufacturer.

^BThese elements are not specified or required.

TABLE 3 Hardness Requirements for Hex Cap Screws, Bolts, and Studs

Nominal Diameter, in.	Nominal Length, in.	Brinell		Rockwell C	
		Min	Max	Min	Max
		1/4 to 1, inclusive	Less than 2D 2D and over	253 ...	319 319
Over 1 to 1 1/2, inclusive	Less than 3D 3D and over	223 ...	286 286	19 ...	30 30
Over 1 1/2 to 3, inclusive	Less than 3D 3D and over	183 ...	235 235

D = Nominal diameter or thread size

Nominal Diameter, in.	Oversize Limit, in. ^A	
	Hot-Dip Zinc	Mechanical Zinc
1/4	0.016	0.012
5/16, 3/8	0.017	0.012
7/16, 1/2	0.018	0.012
9/16, 5/8, 3/4	0.020	0.013
7/8	0.022	0.015
1.0 to 1 1/4	0.024	0.016
1 3/8, 1 1/2	0.027	0.018
1 3/4 to 3.0, incl	0.050	0.033

^A Hot-dip zinc nuts are tapped oversize after coating and mechanical zinc coated nuts are tapped oversize before coating.

8.2.3 Unless otherwise specified, fasteners electroplated or mechanically coated to 0.0005 in. or less, threads prior to plating shall conform to ASME B1.1 Class 2A and after plating shall not exceed the Class 3A maximum limits, that is, Class 2A plus the allowance.

9. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

9.1 Surface discontinuity limits, inspection, and evaluation shall be in accordance with Specification **F788/F788M**.

10. Number of Tests and Retests

10.1 Testing Responsibility:

10.1.1 Each lot shall be tested by the manufacturer prior to shipment in accordance with the lot identification control quality assurance plan in **10.2 – 10.5**.

10.1.2 When fasteners are furnished by a source other than the manufacturer, the responsible party as defined in **15.1** shall be responsible for assuring all tests have been performed and the fasteners comply with the requirements of this specification (see **4.3**).