



Designation: F4 – 66 (Reapproved 2005)

Standard Specification for Carbonized Nickel Strip and Carbonized Nickel-Plated and Nickel-Clad Steel Strip for Electron Tubes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F4; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers carbonized nickel strip and carbonized nickel-plated and nickel-clad steel strip for use in electron tubes.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The metric equivalents of inch-pound units may be approximate.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

F1 Specification for Nickel-Clad and Nickel-Plated Steel Strip for Electron Tubes^{3 2}

F3 Specification for Nickel Strip for Electron Tubes

F155 Test Method for Temper of Strip and Sheet Metals for Electronic Devices (Spring-Back Method)⁴

3. Temper

3.1 The temper of the strip shall conform to limits agreed upon by the producer and the consumer, and shall be determined in accordance with Test Method F155.

4. Dimensions, Mass and Permissible Variations

4.1 *Thickness*—The thickness of the material shall conform to the following tolerances:

Thickness, in. (mm)	Thickness, Tolerance, in. (mm)
Under 0.010 (0.25)	± 0.0005 (0.013)
0.010 to 0.020 (0.25 to 0.5), incl	± 0.0008 (0.020)

The thickness shall be measured 0.375 in. (9.5 mm) from the edge on 1-in. (25.4-mm) or wider strip, or at any point on narrower strip.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F01 on Electronics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F01.03 on Metallic Materials.

Current edition approved January 1, 2005. Published January 2005. Originally approved in 1957. Last previous edition approved in 1999 as F4 – 66 (1999). DOI: 10.1520/F0004-66R05.

² 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.

³ Withdrawn. The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

⁴ Discontinued 1985, see 1983 *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 10.04.

4.2 *Width*—For strip less than 3.0 in. (76 mm) wide and less than 0.020 in. (0.51 mm) thick, the width tolerance shall be ± 0.005 in. (0.13 mm).

4.3 *Edgewise Bow* shall be a maximum of 0.5 in. (13 mm) in 8 ft (2.4 m).

4.4 *Edge*—The edge shall be such as would result from a standard slitting operation.

4.5 *Burr*—The burr shall not exceed one half the strip thickness or 0.0025 in. (0.064 mm) whichever is smaller, as measured in accordance with the procedure described in the Appendix of Specification F1.

5. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

5.1 The surface shall be free of any lubricant used in processing. The appearance of the carbonized strip shall be uniform.

5.2 Other appearance characteristics shall be defined as agreed upon by the producer and the consumer.

6. Test for Carbon Loss

6.1 Testing for carbon loss by firing of carbonized materials covered by this specification shall be conducted in such a manner as to ensure an acceptable standard of quality for operation in electron-tube applications.

6.2 The materials being tested shall be protected by the use of a suitable covered boat, so as to prevent direct radiation from the furnace heating elements or direct impingement of gas.

6.3 The cooling section of the furnace shall contain the same atmosphere as that in the hot zone.

6.4 The furnace atmosphere shall consist of pure hydrogen or 25 % nitrogen and 75 % hydrogen, and shall have a moisture content no greater than saturation at -45°C . The maximum oxygen content of the furnace atmosphere shall be 0.001 % by volume.

6.5 The firing temperature shall be $850 \pm 10^{\circ}\text{C}$. The firing time shall be 9 ± 1 min at temperature for carbonized nickel, for both classes of carbonized nickel-clad steel, and for carbonized nickel-plated steel, Type II; and 4 ± 1 min for carbonized nickel-plated steel, Type I.

6.6 Samples after firing shall show no visual loss of carbon and shall be free from uncarbonized bare metal exposure.