
Rolling bearings — Balls —

**Part 1:
Steel balls**

Roulements — Billes —

Partie 1: Billes de roulement en acier

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ISO 3290-1:2008

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 3290-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 4, *Rolling bearings*.

This first edition of ISO 3290-1 cancels and replaces ISO 3290:2001, which has been technically revised.

ISO 3290 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Rolling bearings — Balls*:

— *Part 1: Steel balls*

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— *Part 2: Ceramic balls*

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Rolling bearings — Balls —

Part 1: Steel balls

1 Scope

This part of ISO 3290 specifies requirements for finished steel balls for rolling bearings.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 683-17, *Heat-treated steels, alloy steels and free-cutting steels — Part 17: Ball and roller bearing steels*

ISO 1132-1, *Rolling bearings — Tolerances — Part 1: Terms and definitions*

ISO 4288, *Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) — Surface texture: Profile method — Rules and procedures for the assessment of surface texture*

ISO 5593, *Rolling bearings — Vocabulary*

ISO/TS 12181-1, *Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) — Roundness — Part 1: Vocabulary and parameters of roundness*

ISO 15241, *Rolling bearings — Symbols for quantities*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 1132-1, ISO 5593 and the following apply.

3.1

nominal ball diameter

diameter value which is used for the general identification of a ball size

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.01]

3.2

single ball diameter

distance between two parallel planes tangential to the actual surface of a ball

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.02]

3.3

mean ball diameter

arithmetical mean of the largest and the smallest of the single diameters of a ball

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.03]

3.4

variation of ball diameter

difference between the largest and the smallest of the single diameters of a ball

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.04]

3.5

deviation from spherical ball surface

various types of deviation from the perfect spherical ball surface, uniformly or non-uniformly distributed and repeated around the ball surface

NOTE The deviations to which limits can be attributed are:

- deviation from spherical form;
- waviness;
- surface roughness;
- surface defect.

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3.5.1

deviation from spherical form

radial distance between the smallest circumscribed sphere and the greatest inscribed sphere, with their centres common to the least squares sphere centre

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NOTE This definition supersedes ISO 5593:1997, 05.06.03.

3.5.2

waviness

surface irregularities of random or periodical deviation from the ideal spherical form

NOTE 1 Waviness can be evaluated as velocity amplitude by default.

NOTE 2 In practice, the waviness components are separated from the real surface by a waviness analyser (filters).

3.5.3

surface roughness

surface irregularities with relatively small spacings, which usually include irregularities resulting from the method of manufacture being used and/or other influences

NOTE These irregularities are considered within the limits that are conventionally defined, e.g., within the limits of the sampling length.

3.5.4

surface defect

element, irregularity or group of elements and irregularities of the real surface, unintentionally or accidentally caused during manufacture, storage, handling or use of the surface

NOTE 1 These types of element or irregularity differ considerably from those constituting the surface roughness and are not considered during the measurement of the surface roughness.

NOTE 2 The limits for surface defects are not specified in this part of ISO 3290.

3.6**ball lot**

definite quantity of balls manufactured under conditions presumed uniform and which is considered as an entity

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.05]

3.7**mean diameter of ball lot**

arithmetical mean of the mean diameters of the largest ball and the smallest ball in a ball lot

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.06]

3.8**variation of ball lot diameter**

difference between the mean diameters of the largest ball and the smallest ball in a ball lot

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.07]

3.9**ball grade**

specific combination of dimensional, form, surface roughness and sorting tolerances for balls

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.08]

NOTE Ball grade is identified by the letter G and a number, e.g. G 20.

3.10**ball gauge**

amount by which the mean diameter of ball lot should differ from the nominal ball diameter, this amount being one of an established series

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.09] standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/44731e37-d7a4-432c-9566-8fab97c98898/iso-3290-1-2008

NOTE 1 Each ball gauge is a whole multiple of the ball gauge interval established for the ball grade in question.

NOTE 2 A ball gauge, in combination with the ball grade and nominal diameter, is considered as the most exact ball size specification to be used by a customer for ordering purposes.

3.11**deviation of a ball lot from ball gauge**

difference between the mean diameter of a ball lot and the sum of the nominal ball diameter and the ball gauge

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.10]

3.12**ball subgauge**

amount, of an established series of amounts, which is the nearest to the actual deviation from the ball gauge of a ball lot

[ISO 5593:1997, 05.04.11]

NOTE 1 Each ball subgauge is a whole multiple of the ball subgauge interval established for the ball grade in question.

NOTE 2 The ball subgauge, in combination with the nominal ball diameter and the ball gauge, is used by ball manufacturers to denote the mean diameter of a ball lot and is not generally used by customers for ordering purposes.

3.13**hardness**

⟨rolling bearings⟩ measure of resistance to penetration as determined by a specific test method

NOTE For steel balls, such a test method is the Rockwell hardness test.

4 Symbols

For the purposes of this document, the symbols given in ISO 15241 and the following apply.

The symbols (except those for tolerances) and the values given in Tables 1 to 3 denote nominal dimensions unless specified otherwise.

D_w	nominal ball diameter
D_{wm}	mean ball diameter
D_{wmL}	mean diameter of ball lot
D_{ws}	single ball diameter
G	ball grade
S	ball gauge
V_{DwL}	variation of ball lot diameter
V_{Dws}	variation of ball diameter
Δ_{RSw}	deviation from spherical form
Δ_S	deviation of a ball lot from ball gauge

NOTE $\Delta_S = D_{wmL} - (D_w + S)$

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5 Requirements

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5.1 Ball size

The preferred nominal ball diameters are given in Table 1 and, where applicable, the corresponding inch sizes are given for reference purposes only.

5.2 Quality of geometry and surface

Requirements for:

- variation of ball diameter, see Table 2;
- deviation from spherical form, see Table 2;
- waviness, see Note 1;
- surface roughness, see Table 2;
- surface appearance and defects, see Note 2.

Measurement of surface roughness shall be carried out in accordance with ISO 4288.

NOTE 1 Limits and measuring methods for waviness are subject to agreement between customer and supplier.

NOTE 2 Local defects originating from machining and handling are subject to agreement between customer and supplier.

5.3 Sorting accuracy and ball gauges

Table 3 comprises the applicable values for:

- variation of ball lot diameter;
- gauge interval;
- preferred gauges;
- subgauge interval;
- subgauges.

5.4 Hardness

Hardness values and the measuring method shall be agreed upon between customer and supplier.

6 Material

The balls shall be manufactured from steel in accordance with ISO 683-17.

7 Dimensions and tolerances

The preferred nominal ball diameters are given in Table 1. Tolerances for form and surface roughness are given in Table 2. Sorting tolerances and ball gauges are given in Table 3.

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