# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# ISO
# 965-1

Third edition
1998-12-15

# ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Tolerances —

## Part 1:
## Principles and basic data

*Filetages métriques ISO pour usages généraux — Tolérances —*
*Partie 1: Principes et données fondamentales*

# 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.

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.

International Standard ISO 965-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 1, *Screw threads*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Tolerances*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 965-1:1980), which has been technically revised.

ISO 965 consists of the following parts, under the general title *ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Tolerances*

— *Part 1: Principles and basic data*

— *Part 2: Limits of sizes for general purpose bolt and nut threads – Medium quality*

— *Part 3: Deviations for constructional screw threads*

— *Part 4: Limits of sizes for hot-dip galvanized external threads to mate with internal threads tapped with tolerance position H or G after galvanizing*

— *Part 5: Limits of sizes for internal screw threads to mate with hot-dip galvanized external screw threads with maximum size of tolerance position h before galvanizing*

# ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Tolerances —

## Part 1:
Principles and basic data

## 1 Scope

This part of ISO 965 specifies the basic profile for ISO general purpose metric screw threads (M) conforming to ISO 261.

The tolerance system refers to the basic profile in accordance with ISO 68-1.

## 2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 965. At the time of publication the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 965 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 68-1:1998, *ISO general purpose screw threads — Basic profile — Part 1: Metric screw threads.*

ISO 261:1998, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads — General plan.*

ISO 262:1998, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Selected sizes for screws, bolts and nuts.*

ISO 724:1993, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Basic dimensions.*

ISO 898-1:—[1], *Mechanical properties of fasteners made of carbon steel and alloy steel — Part 1: Bolts, screws and studs.*

ISO 965-2:1998, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Tolerances — Part 2: Limits of sizes for general purpose bolt and nut threads — Medium quality.*

ISO 965-3:1998, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Tolerances — Part 3: Deviations for constructional screw threads.*

ISO 1502:1996, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Gauges and gauging.*

ISO 5408:1983, *Cylindrical screw threads — Vocabulary.*

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1)  To be published. (Revision of ISO 898-1:1988)

## 3  Definitions and symbols

### 3.1  Definitions

For the purpose of this part of ISO 965 the definitions given in ISO 5408 apply.

### 3.2  Symbols

The following symbols are used:

| Symbol | Explanation |
|---|---|
| $D$ | basic major diameter of internal thread |
| $D_1$ | basic minor diameter of internal thread |
| $D_2$ | basic pitch diameter of internal thread |
| $d$ | basic major diameter of external thread |
| $d_1$ | basic minor diameter of external thread |
| $d_2$ | basic pitch diameter of external thread |
| $d_3$ | minor diameter of external thread |
| $P$ | pitch |
| $Ph$ | lead |
| $H$ | height of fundamental triangle |
| S | designation for thread engagement group "short" |
| N | designation for thread engagement group "normal" |
| L | designation for thread engagement group "long" |
| $T$ | tolerance |
| $T_{D1}$, $T_{D2}$ $T_{d1}$, $T_{d2}$ | tolerances for $D_1$, $D_2$, $d$, $d_2$ |
| $ei$, $EI$ | lower deviations (see figure 1) |
| $es$, $ES$ | upper deviations (see figure 1) |
| $R$ | root radius of external thread |
| $C$ | root truncation of external thread |
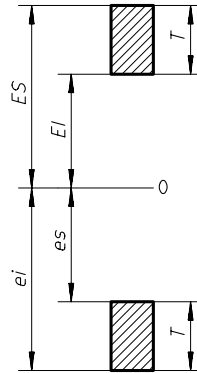
**Figure 1 — Position of tolerances with respect to zero line (basic size)**

## 4 Structure of the tolerance system

The system gives tolerances defined by tolerance grades and tolerance positions and a selection of grades and positions.

The system provides for:

a)  a series of tolerance grades for each of the four screw thread diameters, as follows:

Tolerance grades

| | |
|---|---|
| $D_1$ | 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 |
| $d$ | 4, 6, 8 |
| $D_2$ | 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 |
| $d_2$ | 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 |

Details of tolerance grades and combinations of tolerance grades for pitch and crest diameters according to tolerance quality and length of engagement group required, with order of preference, are shown in clause 12.

b)  Series of tolerance positions:

—  G and H for internal threads;

—  e, f, g and h for external threads.

The established tolerance positions comply with the need of current coating thickness and with the demands of easy assembly.

c)  Selection of recommended combinations of grades and positions (tolerance classes) giving the commonly used tolerance qualities fine, medium and coarse for the three groups of length of thread engagement short, normal and long. Moreover a further selection of tolerance classes is given for commercial bolt and nut threads. Tolerance classes other than those shown in clause 12 are not recommended and shall only be used for special cases.

## 5 Designation

### 5.1 General

The complete designation for a screw thread comprises a designation for the thread system and size, a designation for the thread tolerance class followed by further individual items if necessary.

### 5.2 Designation of single-start screw threads

A screw thread complying with the requirements of the International Standards for ISO general purpose metric screw threads according to ISO 68-1, ISO 261, ISO 262, ISO 724, ISO 965-2 and ISO 965-3 shall be designated by the letter M followed by the value of the nominal diameter and of the pitch, expressed in millimetres and separated by the sign "×".

EXAMPLE:     M8 × 1,25

For coarse pitch threads listed in ISO 261, the pitch may be omitted.

EXAMPLE:     M8

The tolerances class designation comprises a class designation for the pitch diameter tolerance followed by a class designation for the crest diameter tolerance.
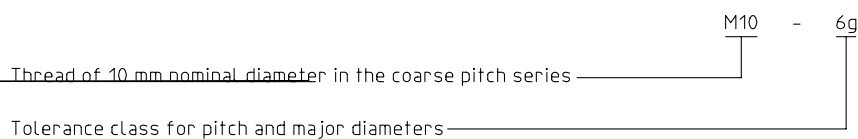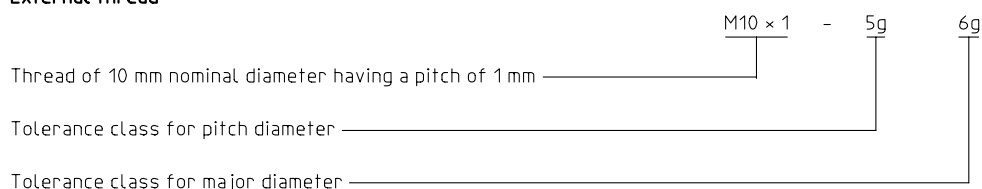
Each class designation consists of

—  a figure indicating the tolerance grade;

—  a letter indicating the tolerance position, capital for internal threads, small for external threads.

If the two class designations for the pitch diameter and crest diameter (major or minor diameter for internal and external threads respectively) are the same it is not necessary to repeat the symbols.

EXAMPLES:

**External thread**

M10 × 1  —  5g  6g

Thread of 10 mm nominal diameter having a pitch of 1 mm ————

Tolerance class for pitch diameter ————

Tolerance class for major diameter ————

M10  —  6g

Thread of 10 mm nominal diameter in the coarse pitch series ————

Tolerance class for pitch and major diameters ————

**Internal thread**

M10 × 1  —  5H  6H

Thread of 10 mm nominal diameter having a pitch of 1 mm ————

Tolerance class for pitch diameter ————

Tolerance class for minor diameter ————

M10  —  6H

Thread of 10 mm nominal diameter in the coarse pitch series ————

Tolerance class for pitch and minor diameters ————

A fit between threaded parts is indicated by the internal thread tolerance class followed by the external thread tolerance class separated by a stroke.

EXAMPLE:

M6 – 6H/6g

M20 × 2 – 6H/5g6g

The absence of tolerance class designation means that tolerance quality "medium" with the following tolerance classes are specified:

**Internal threads**

— 5H for threads up to and including M1,4;

— 6H for threads M1,6 and larger.

NOTE   Except for threads with pitch  $P$ = 0,2 mm for which the tolerance grade 4 is defined only (see tables 3 and 5).

**External threads**

— 6h for threads up to and including M1,4;

— 6g for threads M1,6 and larger.

The designation for the group of length of thread engagement "short" S and "long" L should be added to the tolerance class designation separated by a dash.

EXAMPLE:     M20 × 2 – 5H – S

M6 – 7H/7g6g – L

The absence of the designation for the group of length of thread engagement means the group "normal" N is specified.

## 5.3   Designation of multiple-start screw threads

Multiple-start metric screw threads shall be designated by the letter M followed by the value of the nominal diameter, the sign ×, the letters Ph and the value of the lead, the letter P and the value of the pitch (axial distance between two neighbouring flanks in the same direction) a dash, and  the tolerance class. Nominal diameter, lead and pitch are expressed in millimetres.

EXAMPLE:     M16 × Ph3P1,5 – 6H

For extra clarity the number of starts i.e. the value of $\dfrac{Ph}{P}$ may be added in verbal form and in paranthesis.

EXAMPLE:     M16 × Ph3P1,5 (two starts) – 6H

## 5.4   Designation of the left hand threads

When left hand threads are specified the letters LH shall be added to the thread designation, separated by a dash.

EXAMPLES:     M8 × 1 – LH

M6 × 0,75 – 5h6h – S – LH

M14 × Ph6P2 – 7H – L – LH

M14 × Ph6P2 (three starts) – 7H – L – LH

## 6  Tolerance grades

For each of the two elements, pitch diameter and crest diameter, a number of tolerance grades have been established. In each case, grade 6 shall be used for tolerance quality medium and normal length of thread engagement. The grades below 6 are intended for tolerance quality fine and/or short length of thread engagement. The grades above 6 are intended for tolerance quality coarse and/or long lengths of thread engagement. In some grades, certain tolerance values for small pitches are not shown because of insufficient thread overlap or the requirement that the pitch diameter tolerance shall not exceed the crest diameter tolerance.

## 7  Tolerance positions

The following tolerance positions are standardized:

— for internal threads:   G with positive fundamental deviation

H with zero fundamental deviation

— for external threads:   e, f and g with negative fundamental deviation

h with zero fundamental deviation

**Figure 2 — Internal threads with tolerance position G**

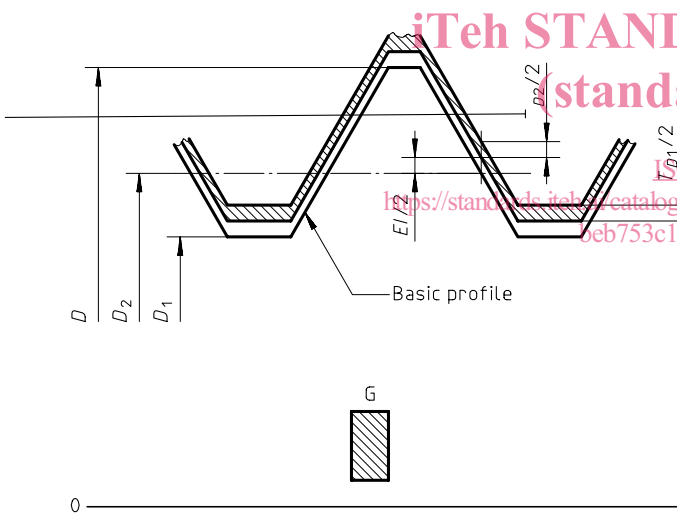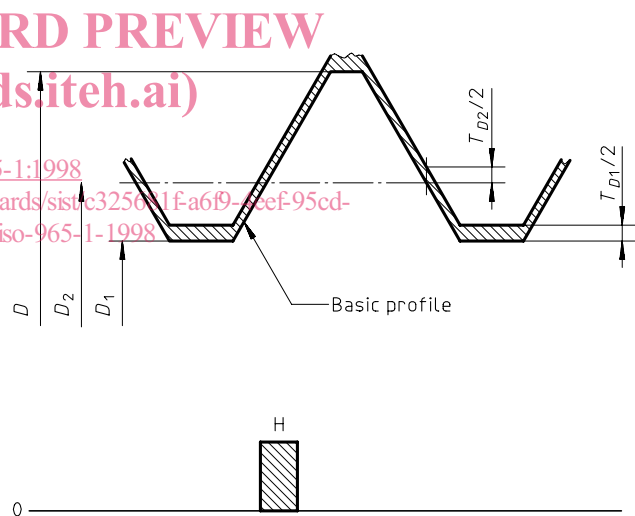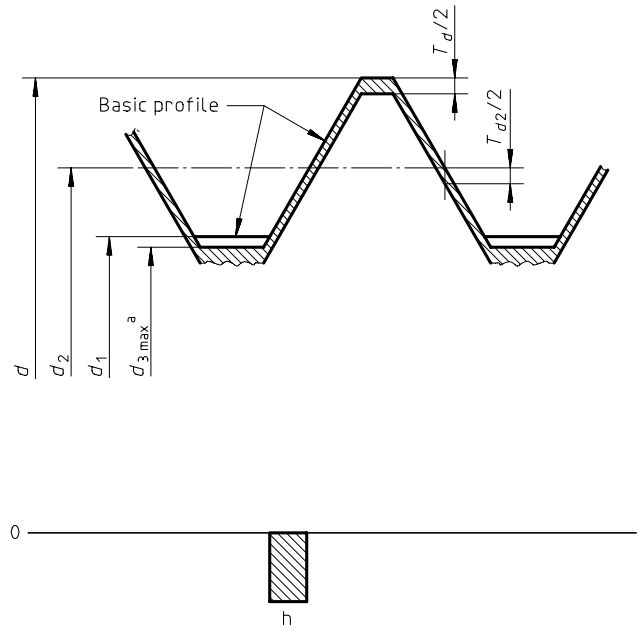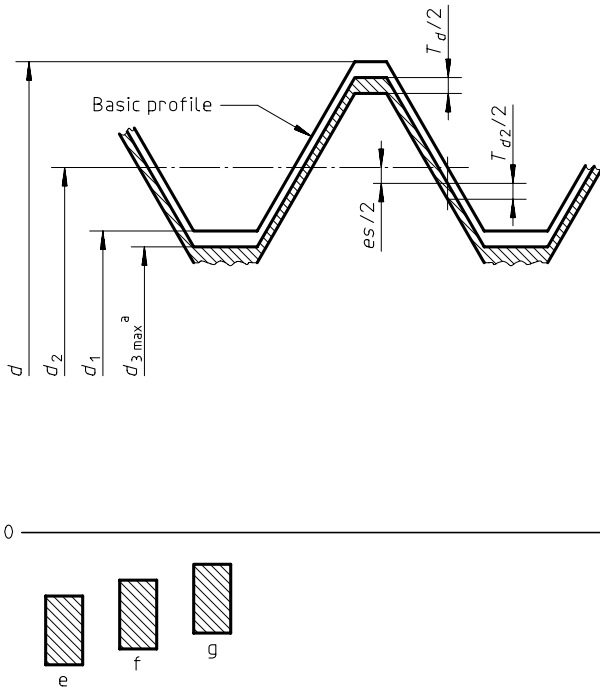**Figure  3 — Internal threads with tolerance position H**

a  Application only in connection with minimum material limits ($d_{2\,min}$), see clause 11, figure 6.

**Figure 4 — External threads with tolerance positions e, f and g**

a  Application only in connection with minimum material limits ($d_{2\,min}$), see clause 11, figure 6.

**Figure 5 — External threads with tolerance position h**

**Table 1 — Fundamental deviations for internal threads and external threads**

| Pitch | Fundamental deviation | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| $P$ | Internal thread $D_2, D_1$ | | External thread $d, d_2$ | | | |
| | G | H | e | f | g | h |
| | $EI$ | $EI$ | $es$ | $es$ | $es$ | $es$ |
| mm | μm | μm | μm | μm | μm | μm |
| 0,2 | + 17 | 0 | — | — | − 17 | 0 |
| 0,25 | + 18 | 0 | — | — | − 18 | 0 |
| 0,3 | + 18 | 0 | — | — | − 18 | 0 |
| 0,35 | + 19 | 0 | — | − 34 | − 19 | 0 |
| 0,4 | + 19 | 0 | — | − 34 | − 19 | 0 |
| 0,45 | + 20 | 0 | — | − 35 | − 20 | 0 |
| 0,5 | + 20 | 0 | − 50 | − 36 | − 20 | 0 |
| 0,6 | + 21 | 0 | − 53 | − 36 | − 21 | 0 |
| 0,7 | + 22 | 0 | − 56 | − 38 | − 22 | 0 |
| 0,75 | + 22 | 0 | − 56 | − 38 | − 22 | 0 |
| 0,8 | + 24 | 0 | − 60 | − 38 | − 24 | 0 |
| 1 | + 26 | 0 | − 60 | − 40 | − 26 | 0 |
| 1,25 | + 28 | 0 | − 63 | − 42 | − 28 | 0 |
| 1,5 | + 32 | 0 | − 67 | − 45 | − 32 | 0 |
| 1,75 | + 34 | 0 | − 71 | − 48 | − 34 | 0 |
| 2 | + 38 | 0 | − 71 | − 52 | − 38 | 0 |
| 2,5 | + 42 | 0 | − 80 | − 58 | − 42 | 0 |
| 3 | + 48 | 0 | − 85 | − 63 | − 48 | 0 |
| | 53 | 0 | − 90 | − 70 | − 53 | 0 |
| 4 | + 60 | 0 | − 95 | − 75 | − 60 | 0 |
| 4,5 | + 63 | 0 | − 100 | − 80 | − 63 | 0 |
| 5 | + 71 | 0 | − 106 | − 85 | − 71 | 0 |
| 5,5 | + 75 | 0 | − 112 | − 90 | − 75 | 0 |
| 6 | + 80 | 0 | − 118 | − 95 | − 80 | 0 |
| 8 | + 100 | 0 | − 140 | − 118 | − 100 | 0 |

## 8 Lengths of thread engagement

The length of thread engagement is classified into one of three groups S, N or L, in accordance with table 2.

**Table 2 — Lengths of thread engagement**

Dimensions in millimetres

| Basic major diameter D, d | | Pitch P | Lengths of thread engagement | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | S | N | | L |
| over | up to and including | | up to and including | over | up to and including | over |
| 0,99 | 1,4 | 0,2 | 0,5 | 0,5 | 1,4 | 1,4 |
| | | 0,25 | 0,6 | 0,6 | 1,7 | 1,7 |
| | | 0,3 | 0,7 | 0,7 | 2 | 2 |
| 1,4 | 2,8 | 0,2 | 0,5 | 0,5 | 1,5 | 1,5 |
| | | 0,25 | 0,6 | 0,6 | 1,9 | 1,9 |
| | | 0,35 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 2,6 | 2,6 |
| | | 0,4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| | | 0,45 | 1,3 | 1,3 | 3,8 | 3,8 |
| 2,8 | 5,6 | 0,35 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| | | 0,5 | 1,5 | 1,5 | 4,5 | 4,5 |
| | | 0,6 | 1,7 | 1,7 | 5 | 5 |
| | | 0,7 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 6 |
| | | 0,75 | 2,2 | 2,2 | 6,7 | 6,7 |
| | | 0,8 | 2,5 | 2,5 | 7,5 | 7,5 |
| 5,6 | 11,2 | 0,75 | 2,4 | 2,4 | 7,1 | 7,1 |
| | | 1 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 9 |
| | | 1,25 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 12 |
| | | 1,5 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 15 |
| 11,2 | 22,4 | 1 | 3,8 | 3,8 | 11 | 11 |
| | | 1,25 | 4,5 | 4,5 | 13 | 13 |
| | | 1,5 | 5,6 | 5,6 | 16 | 16 |
| | | 1,75 | 6 | 6 | 18 | 18 |
| | | 2 | 8 | 8 | 24 | 24 |
| | | 2,5 | 10 | 10 | 30 | 30 |
| 22,4 | 45 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 12 |
| | | 1,5 | 6,3 | 6,3 | 19 | 19 |
| | | 2 | 8,5 | 8,5 | 25 | 25 |
| | | 3 | 12 | 12 | 36 | 36 |
| | | 3,5 | 15 | 15 | 45 | 45 |
| | | 4 | 18 | 18 | 53 | 53 |
| | | 4,5 | 21 | 21 | 63 | 63 |
| 45 | 90 | 1,5 | 7,5 | 7,5 | 22 | 22 |
| | | 2 | 9,5 | 9,5 | 28 | 28 |
| | | 3 | 15 | 15 | 45 | 45 |
| | | 4 | 19 | 19 | 56 | 56 |
| | | 5 | 24 | 24 | 71 | 71 |
| | | 5,5 | 28 | 28 | 85 | 85 |
| | | 6 | 32 | 32 | 95 | 95 |
| 90 | 180 | 2 | 12 | 12 | 36 | 36 |
| | | 4 | 24 | 24 | 71 | 71 |
| | | 6 | 36 | 36 | 106 | 106 |
| | | 8 | 45 | 45 | 132 | 132 |
| 180 | 355 | 3 | 20 | 20 | 60 | 60 |
| | | 4 | 26 | 26 | 80 | 80 |
| | | 6 | 40 | 40 | 118 | 118 |
| | | 8 | 50 | 50 | 150 | 150 |