



Designation: A499 – 89(Reapproved 2008)

Standard Specification for Steel Bars and Shapes, Carbon Rolled from “T” Rails¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A499; 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 Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers carbon steel bars and shapes produced from standard rail steel. These bars are furnished in the as-wrought condition intended for structural use, or bar and shape uses, where high tensile properties are applicable. These materials are available in two strength levels as Grades 50 and 60.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[A1 Specification for Carbon Steel Tee Rails](#)

[A29/A29M Specification for Steel Bars, Carbon and Alloy, Hot-Wrought, General Requirements for](#)
[A370 Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 Rail steel bars and bar size shapes are available in the following sections and nominal sizes:

3.1.1.1 Rounds, Squares, and Round Corner Squares in sizes ranging from $\frac{3}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. (9.5 to 32 mm).

3.1.1.2 Square and Round Edge Flats, $\frac{5}{8}$ to 5 in. (15.9 to 127 mm), inclusive, in width and thickness from $\frac{7}{64}$ to 1 in. (2.8 to 25 mm), inclusive, within 6 lb/ft (8.8 kg/m) limit.

3.1.1.3 Hexagons and Octagons, in sizes $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 in. (12.7 to 25 mm) in $\frac{1}{16}$ -in. (1.6-mm) increments.

3.1.1.4 Bar Size Shapes:

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of A01.15 on Bars.

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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.

(1) Equal and Unequal Angles, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 3 in. (19.0 to 76 mm) length of legs and thickness ranging from $\frac{7}{64}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ in. (2.8 to 9.5 mm), inclusive.

(2) Tees, $1\frac{1}{4}$, $1\frac{3}{8}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$ by $\frac{1}{8}$ and $\frac{3}{16}$ in. thickness (32, 35, 38 mm by 3.2 and 4.8 mm thickness).

(3) Channels, 1 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. (25 to 64 mm), inclusive, in depth and $\frac{3}{8}$ to 1 in. (9.5 to 25 mm), inclusive, in width of flange.

3.1.1.5 Special Bar Sections:

(1) Ovals, from $\frac{5}{8}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$ in. (15.9 to 22.2 mm) in longest dimension by $\frac{5}{16}$ to $\frac{7}{16}$ in. (7.9 to 11.1 mm), inclusive, in the small dimension.

(2) Diamonds, $\frac{7}{8}$ and $1\frac{3}{16}$ in. (22.2 and 20.6 mm) in the longest dimension by $\frac{5}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. (15.9 to 19.0 mm), inclusive, in the smallest dimension.

(3) I-Beams, $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{8}$ in. (35 and 54 mm) in width and $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (3.2 to 6.4 mm), inclusive, in thickness.

(4) U-Bars, $1\frac{1}{4}$ and $1\frac{5}{16}$ in. (32 and 33 mm) in width and $\frac{5}{32}$ to $\frac{5}{16}$ in. (4.0 to 7.9 mm) in thickness.

(5) Channeled Flats, $1\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 in. (32 to 51 mm), inclusive, in depth, and $\frac{3}{16}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ in. (4.8 to 9.5 mm), inclusive, in thickness.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 Orders for material under this specification should include the following information:

4.1.1 Quantity (weight or number of pieces),

4.1.2 Name of material (rail steel carbon bars),

4.1.3 Grade of steel (Grade 50 and Grade 60),

4.1.4 Dimensions (diameter, thickness, width, etc. and length),

4.1.5 Cross section (rounds, square, hexagon, etc.) (3.1),

4.1.6 ASTM designation and date of issue,

4.1.7 Certification, if required (Section 11), and

4.1.8 End use.

NOTE 1—A typical ordering description is as follows: 10 000 lb, rail steel carbon bars, 1.000 in. diameter by 10 ft, round, ASTM A499 dated _____.

5. General Requirements

5.1 Material furnished under this specification shall conform to the applicable requirements of the current edition of Specification [A29/A29M](#), unless otherwise provided herein.

6. Materials and Manufacture

6.1 *Material*—The material shall be hot wrought from standard section “T” rails. No other materials, such as those known by the terms “rerolled,” “rail steel equivalent,” or “rail steel quality,” shall be substituted.

6.2 *Hot Forming*—The material shall be produced by hot forming slit railroad rail parts to yield straight lengths in the sections and nominal sizes specified in 3.1.1.

6.3 Condition:

6.3.1 The material shall be furnished hot wrought, as wrought.

6.3.2 The material shall be furnished in cut lengths or ranges of random lengths, as specified by the purchaser.

7. Chemical Composition

7.1 The chemical composition of rails does not change during use in track, reheating, slitting or rolling; consequently, the composition of rail steel products will fall within the limits specified in Specification A1 for standard section “T” rails of open-hearth, basic-oxygen, electric-furnace, and Bessemer process.

7.2 Rail steel products are not supplied to definite composition limits. By mutual agreement with the manufacturer, material may be supplied from rails with a desired range of carbon and manganese when such rails are available.

8. Mechanical Properties

8.1 *Requirements*—The material as represented by the test specimens shall conform to the tensile or hardness requirements specified in Table 1.

8.2 *Test Specimens*—Test specimens may be taken from a full section or a machined section.

8.3 *Number of Tests*—One tension test or one hardness test, at the manufacturer’s option, shall be made from each lot. A lot shall consist of one section of the same size produced in one continuous shift (turn) of operation (normally an 8-h period).

TABLE 1 Mechanical Requirements

	Grade 50	Grade 60
Tensile strength, min, ksi (MPa)	80 (550)	90 (620)
Yield point, min, ksi (MPa)	50 (345)	60 (415)
Elongation in 8 in. or 200 mm, min, %	5	5
Elongation in 2 in. or 50 mm, min, %	7	7
Brinell hardness, min ^A	159	190
Rockwell B hardness, min ^A	83	91

^A Hardness tests are an acceptable alternative for tension tests where the bar size precludes a tension test specimen in accordance with Test Methods and Definitions A370.

9. Dimensions and Permissible Variations

9.1 *Dimensions*—The permissible variations in dimensions shall be in accordance with the requirements specified in Tables 2–7. Due to differences in mill facilities, tolerances of special bar sections vary among the manufacturers and such tolerances are subject to agreement between manufacturer and purchaser.

9.2 *Length*—The permissible variations for length shall be in accordance with the requirements specified in Table 8.

9.3 *Straightness*—Variations in straightness shall not exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (6.4 mm) in any 5 ft (1.52 m); or $\frac{1}{4}$ in. \times number of feet of length divided by 5 (6.4 mm \times number of metres of length divided by 1.52).

10. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

10.1 *Descaling*—The bars shall be furnished “not descaled.”

11. Certification and Report of Testing

11.1 Upon request of the purchaser in the contract or order, a manufacturer’s certification that the material was manufactured and tested in accordance with this specification together with a report of the test results shall be furnished at the time of shipment.

12. Keywords

12.1 carbon steel bars; carbon steel shapes