



Designation: A 834 – 95 (Reapproved 2001)

Standard Specification for Common Requirements for Iron Castings for General Industrial Use¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A 834; 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 a group of requirements that are mandatory requirements when used in conjunction with the following iron casting specifications issued by ASTM:

ASTM Specification²
A 47
A 48
A 197
A 220
A 278
A 319
A 395
A 436
A 439
A 518
A 532
A 536
A 571
A 823
A 842
A 874
A 897

1.2 This specification also covers a group of supplementary requirements which may be applied to the above specifications as indicated herein. These are provided for use when additional testing or inspection is desired and apply only when specified individually by the purchaser in the order.

1.3 The requirements of the individual material specification, and this general specification shall prevail in the sequence named.

1.4 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- A 47 Specification for Ferritic Malleable Iron Castings²
- A 48 Specification for Gray Iron Castings²
- A 197 Specification for Cupola Malleable Iron²
- A 220 Specification for Pearlitic Malleable Iron²

- A 247 Test Method for Evaluating the Microstructure of Graphite in Iron Castings²
- A 278 Specification for Gray Iron Castings for Pressure-Containing Parts for Temperatures Up to 650°F²
- A 319 Specification for Gray Iron Castings for Elevated Temperatures for Non-Pressure Containing Parts²
- A 395 Specification for Ferritic Ductile Iron Pressure-Retaining Castings for Use at Elevated Temperatures²
- A 436 Specification for Austenitic Gray Iron Castings²
- A 439 Specification for Austenitic Ductile Iron Castings²
- A 518 Specification for Corrosion-Resistant High-Silicon Iron Castings²
- A 532 Specification for Abrasion-Resistant Cast Irons²
- A 536 Specification for Ductile Iron Castings²
- A 571 Specification for Austenitic Ductile Iron Castings for Pressure-Containing Parts Suitable for Low-Temperature Service²
- A 644 Terminology Relating to Iron Castings²
- A 802/A802M Practice for Steel Castings, Surface Acceptance Standards, Visual Examination²
- A 823 Specification for Statically Cast Permanent Mold Gray Iron Castings²
- A 842 Specification for Compacted Graphite Iron Castings²
- A 874 Specification for Ferritic Ductile Iron Castings Suitable for Low-Temperature Service²
- A 897 Specification for Austempered Ductile Iron Castings²
- A 919 Terminology Relating to Heat Treatment of Metals³
- E 8 Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials⁴
- E 10 Test Method for Brinell Hardness of Metallic Materials⁴
- E 29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications⁵
- E 30 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Steel, Cast Iron, Open-Hearth Iron, and Wrought Iron⁶
- E 59 Practice for Sampling Steel and Iron for Determination of Chemical Composition⁷
- E 94 Guide for Radiographic Testing⁸

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A04 on Iron Castings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A04.01 on Gray and White Iron Castings.

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² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 01.02.

³ Discontinued; see 1999 Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 01.01.

⁴ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.01.

⁵ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 14.02.

⁶ Discontinued; see 1994 Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.05.

⁷ Discontinued; see 1995 Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.05.

⁸ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.03.



- E 165 Test Method for Liquid Penetrant Examination⁸
E 351 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Cast Iron—
All Types⁹
E 689 Reference Radiographs for Ductile Iron Castings⁸
E 709 Guide for Magnetic Particle Examination⁸
E 802 Reference Radiographs for Gray Iron Castings Up to
4½ in. (114 mm) in Thickness⁸
2.2 *Military Standard:*
MIL-STD-129 Marking for Shipment and Storage¹⁰
2.3 *Federal Standard:*
Fed. Std. No. 123 Marking for Shipment (Civil Agencies)¹⁰

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 Definitions for many terms common to iron castings and their heat treatment are found in Terminology A 919 and Terminology A 644. A classification of graphite structure is found in Test Method A 247.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 The purchase order for castings ordered under this specification shall stipulate the applicable material specification(s), grade of iron, and any options or additions to the basic requirements, including the supplementary requirements included in this specification.

5. Tensile Requirements

5.1 The individual product specifications vary as to whether tension tests are required. For this reason, and to determine specific test requirements, the individual product specification shall be reviewed. When required, tension tests shall be determined in accordance with Test Methods E 8.

6. Chemical Requirements

6.1 The individual product specifications vary as to whether chemical analysis is required. To determine specific requirements, the individual product specification should be reviewed.

6.2 Sampling shall be conducted in accordance with Test Method E 59. Spectrographic or other methods such as those in Test Methods E 30 and E 351 may be used for chemical analysis. In the event of a dispute regarding chemical composition, Test Methods E 351 and E 30 shall be used for referee purposes.

6.3 The chemical analysis for total carbon shall be made on chilled pencil-type specimens or from thin wafers approximately 1/32 in. (0.8 mm) thick cut from test coupons. Drillings are not reliable because of a probable loss of graphite.

6.4 Chemical analysis results shall be rounded, in accordance with Practice E 29, to the nearest unit in the last right-hand place of values in the table of chemical requirements.

6.5 A product analysis may be made by the purchaser from material representing each heat, lot, or casting. The analysis shall be made on representative material. Samples for carbon

analysis shall be taken no closer than ¼ in. to a cast surface, and shall follow the practice in 5.3, except where the size or shape of the casting does not permit such sampling. The chemical composition thus determined shall meet the requirements specified in the applicable specification for the grade involved.

7. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

7.1 All castings shall be made in a workman-like manner and shall conform to the dimensions on drawings furnished by the purchaser before manufacture is started. If the pattern is supplied by the purchaser, the dimensions of the casting shall be as predicted by the pattern.

8. Sampling

8.1 A lot shall consist of one of the following:

8.1.1 All the metal from a single heating in a batch-type melting furnace.

8.1.2 All the metal poured from two or more batch-type melting furnaces into a single ladle or a single casting.

8.1.3 All the metal poured from a continuous melting furnace for a given period of time between changes in charge, processing conditions, or aim-for chemistry, or 4 h, whichever is the shorter period.

8.1.3.1 The purchaser may agree to extend the 4-h time period to 8 h if the manufacturer can demonstrate sufficient process control to warrant such an extension.

9. Inspection

9.1 All tests and inspections required by this specification shall be performed by the manufacturer or other reliable sources whose services have been contracted for by the manufacturer. Complete records of all tests and inspections shall be maintained by the manufacturer and shall be available for review by the purchaser.

9.2 The manufacturer shall afford the purchaser's inspector all reasonable facilities necessary to satisfy that the material is being produced and furnished in accordance with the applicable specification. Foundry inspection by the purchaser shall not interfere unnecessarily with the manufacturer's operations.

9.3 When agreed upon between manufacturer and purchaser, test specimens or unbroken test bars from the same lot shall be saved for a period of 3 months after date of the test report.

9.4 When unbroken test bars are reprocessed with castings for reheating, test specimens from these bars shall be saved, as described in 9.3.

9.5 The purchaser reserves the right to perform any inspections set forth in the specification where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure that supplies and services conform to the prescribed requirements.

10. Repair

10.1 Any repair shall be made in accordance with the requirements of the individual specification using procedures qualified by the manufacturer for the type of repair involved.

⁹ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.05.

¹⁰ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Attn: NPODS.