



Designation: A834 – 95(Reapproved 2011)

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

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A834; 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

A47/A47M
A48/A48M
A197/A197M
A220/A220M
A278/A278M
A319
A395/A395M
A436
A439
A518/A518M
A532/A532M
A536
A571/A571M
A823
A842
A874/A874M
A897/A897M

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 standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

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

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- A47/A47M Specification for Ferritic Malleable Iron Castings
- A48/A48M Specification for Gray Iron Castings
- A197/A197M Specification for Cupola Malleable Iron
- A220/A220M Specification for Pearlitic Malleable Iron
- A247 Test Method for Evaluating the Microstructure of Graphite in Iron Castings
- A278/A278M Specification for Gray Iron Castings for Pressure-Containing Parts for Temperatures Up to 650°F (350°C)
- A319 Specification for Gray Iron Castings for Elevated Temperatures for Non-Pressure Containing Parts
- A395/A395M Specification for Ferritic Ductile Iron Pressure-Retaining Castings for Use at Elevated Temperatures
- A436 Specification for Austenitic Gray Iron Castings
- A439 Specification for Austenitic Ductile Iron Castings
- A518/A518M Specification for Corrosion-Resistant High-Silicon Iron Castings
- A532/A532M Specification for Abrasion-Resistant Cast Irons
- A536 Specification for Ductile Iron Castings
- A571/A571M Specification for Austenitic Ductile Iron Castings for Pressure-Containing Parts Suitable for Low-Temperature Service
- A644 Terminology Relating to Iron Castings
- A802/A802M Practice for Steel Castings, Surface Acceptance Standards, Visual Examination
- A823 Specification for Statically Cast Permanent Mold Gray Iron Castings
- A842 Specification for Compacted Graphite Iron Castings
- A874/A874M Specification for Ferritic Ductile Iron Castings Suitable for Low-Temperature Service

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.

- [A897/A897M Specification for Austempered Ductile Iron Castings](#)
- [A919 Terminology Relating to Heat Treatment of Metals \(Withdrawn 1999\)³](#)
- [E8 Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials](#)
- [E10 Test Method for Brinell Hardness of Metallic Materials](#)
- [E29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications](#)
- [E30 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Steel, Cast Iron, Open-Hearth Iron, and Wrought Iron \(Withdrawn 1995\)³](#)
- [E59 Practice for Sampling Steel and Iron for Determination of Chemical Composition \(Withdrawn 1996\)³](#)
- [E94 Guide for Radiographic Examination](#)
- [E165 Practice for Liquid Penetrant Examination for General Industry](#)
- [E351 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Cast Iron—All Types](#)
- [E689 Reference Radiographs for Ductile Iron Castings](#)
- [E709 Guide for Magnetic Particle Testing](#)
- [E802 Reference Radiographs for Gray Iron Castings Up to 4½ in. \(114 mm\) in Thickness](#)

2.2 *Military Standard:*

[MIL-STD-129 Marking for Shipment and Storage⁴](#)

2.3 *Federal Standard:*

[Fed. Std. No. 123 Marking for Shipment \(Civil Agencies\)⁴](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 Definitions for many terms common to iron castings and their heat treatment are found in Terminology [A919](#) and Terminology [A644](#). A classification of graphite structure is found in Test Method [A247](#).

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 [E8](#).

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.

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

⁴ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, DODSSP, Bldg. 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5098, <http://www.dodssp.daps.mil>.

6.2 Sampling shall be conducted in accordance with Test Method [E59](#). Spectrographic or other methods such as those in Test Methods [E30](#) and [E351](#) may be used for chemical analysis. In the event of a dispute regarding chemical composition, Test Methods [E351](#) and [E30](#) 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 ½ 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 [E29](#), 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.