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Standard Specification for Tool Steels Alloy¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A681; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers the chemical, mechanical, and physical requirements for available wrought alloy tool steel products.

1.2 These products, which include hot or cold finished bar, plate, sheet, strip, rod, wire, or forgings, are normally fabricated into tools, dies, or fixtures. The selection of a material for a particular application will depend upon design, service conditions, and desired properties.

1.3 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

[A370 Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products](#)

[A561 Practice for Macroetch Testing of Tool Steel Bars](#)

[A600 Specification for Tool Steel High Speed](#)

[A700 Guide for Packaging, Marking, and Loading Methods for Steel Products for Shipment](#)

[E3 Guide for Preparation of Metallographic Specimens](#)

[E30 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Steel, Cast Iron, Open-Hearth Iron, and Wrought Iron \(Withdrawn 1995\)³](#)

[E45 Test Methods for Determining the Inclusion Content of Steel](#)

[E59 Practice for Sampling Steel and Iron for Determination of Chemical Composition \(Withdrawn 1996\)³](#)

[E527 Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys in the Unified Numbering System \(UNS\)](#)

2.2 Military Standard:⁴

[MIL-STD-163 Steel Mill Products, Preparation for Shipment and Storage](#)

2.3 Federal Standards:⁴

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

[Fed. Std. No. 183 Continuous Identification Marking of Iron and Steel Products](#)

2.4 Other Standards:⁵

[SAE J1086 Recommended Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys \(UNS\)](#)

3. Classification

3.1 Material in accordance with this specification is classified by chemical composition. Types correspond to respective AISI designations.

3.1.1 Hot Work Tool Steels, Identification H:

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A01.29 on Tool Steels.

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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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on [www.astm.org](#).

⁴ Available from the [Standardization Documents, Order Desk, Bldg. 4, Section DLA Document Services, Building 4/D, 700 D700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094](#). Attn: NPODS; 19111-5094, [http://quicksearch.dla.mil](#).

⁵ Available from the [Society of Automotive Engineers, 400 Commonwealth drive, Warrendale, PA 15096](#); SAE International (SAE), 400 Commonwealth Dr., Warrendale, PA 15096, [http://www.sae.org](#).

3.1.1.1 Types H10 to H19 are characterized by a controlled chromium content along with other alloying elements. The first four, containing molybdenum, offer excellent toughness and high hardenability and are frequently used in cold work applications requiring toughness at relatively high hardness levels.

3.1.1.2 Types H21 to H26 are characterized by a controlled tungsten content along with other alloying elements. These steels offer greater resistance to the softening effect of elevated service temperatures but exhibit a lower degree of toughness.

3.1.1.3 Types H41 to H43 are low-carbon modifications of molybdenum high speed tool steels (**Note 1**) and have characteristics similar to the tungsten types.

NOTE 1—High-speed tool steels are covered in Specification **A600**.

3.1.2 *Cold Work Tool Steels, Identification A*—Types A2 to A10 cover a wide range of carbon and alloy contents but all have high hardenability and may be hardened in air. The low carbon Types A8 and A9 have less wear resistance but offer greater toughness than others in this group. Type A7, with high carbon and vanadium, offers exceptional wear resistance but at a very low level of toughness.

3.1.3 *Cold Work Tool Steels, Identification D*—Types D2 to D7 are characterized by high carbon and high chromium contents and exhibit high resistance to abrasion. The types containing molybdenum may be hardened in air and offer a high degree of dimensional stability in heat treatment.

3.1.4 *Cold Work Tool Steels, Identification O*—Types O1 to O7 are low-alloy types that must be hardened by quenching in oil. Sizes over about 2 in. (50 mm) in cross section usually exhibit lower interior hardness.

3.1.5 *Shock-Resisting Steels, Identification S*—Types S1 to S7 vary in alloy content but are intended for shock-resisting applications.

3.1.6 *Special-Purpose Tool Steels, Identification L*—Types L2 to L6 are low-alloy steels with a wide range of carbon content. The low-carbon types are generally used for structural applications requiring good levels of toughness, while the high-carbon types may be used for short-run tools.

3.1.7 *Special-Purpose Tool Steels, Identification F*—Types F1 to F2 are high-carbon steels with varying tungsten content used primarily for relatively short-run fine edge cutting tools.

3.1.8 *Mold Steels, Identification P*:

3.1.8.1 Types P2 to P6 are very low-carbon steels and must be carburized after machining or hubbing.

3.1.8.2 Types P20 and P21 are usually supplied in the prehardened condition and can be placed in service directly after machining.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 Orders for material under this specification shall include the following information, as required to describe adequately the desired material:

4.1.1 Class of material (hot work tool steel, etc.),

4.1.2 Type (H11, D2, etc.),

4.1.3 Shape (sheet, strip, plate, flat bar, round bar, square bar, hexagon bar, octagon, special shapes),

4.1.4 Dimensions (thickness, width, diameter, length),

4.1.5 Finish (hot rolled, forged, blasted or pickled, cold drawn, machined, ground, precision ground and polished),

4.1.6 Condition (annealed, hardened and tempered, etc.),

4.1.7 ASTM designation and year of issue, and

4.1.8 Special requirements.

5. Materials and Manufacture

5.1 Unless otherwise specified, material covered by this specification shall be made by an electric melting process. It shall be made from ingots or slabs that have been reduced in cross section in such a manner and to such a degree as to ensure proper refinement of the solidification structure.

6. Chemical Composition

6.1 An analysis of each heat of steel shall be made by the manufacturer to determine the percentage of the elements specified, and these values shall conform to the requirements for chemical composition specified in **Table 1**. If requested or required, the chemical composition shall be reported to the purchaser or his representative.

6.2 Analysis may be made by the purchaser from finished bars and forgings by machining off the entire cross section and drilling parallel to the axis of the bar or forging at any point midway between the center and surface in accordance with the latest issue of Practice **E59**. The chemical analysis of the drilling chips shall be made in accordance with the latest issue of Test Methods **E30**. The chemical composition thus determined shall not vary from the limits specified in **Table 1**.

7. Hardness Requirements

7.1 Annealed hardness values shall be obtained in accordance with the latest issue of Test Methods and Definitions **A370**, and shall not exceed the Brinell hardness values (or equivalent Rockwell hardness values) specified in **Table 2**.

TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements, %^A

UNS Designation ^B	Type	Carbon		Manganese ^C		Phosphorus, max	Sulfur, ^D max	Silicon		Chromium		Vanadium		Tungsten		Molybdenum		
		min	max	min	max			min	max	min	max	min	max	min	max	min	max	
F20810	H10	0.35	0.45	0.20	0.70	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	-3.00	-3.75	0.25	0.75	...	...	2.00	3.00	—
F20811	H11	0.33	0.43	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	-4.75	-5.50	0.30	0.60	...	...	1.10	1.60	—
F20812	H12	0.30	0.40	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	-4.75	-5.50	0.20	0.50	-1.00	-1.70	1.25	1.75	—
F20813	H13	0.32	0.45	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	-4.75	-5.50	0.80	1.20	...	...	1.10	1.75	—
F20814	H14	0.35	0.45	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	-4.75	-5.50	...	...	-4.00	-5.25	...	...	—
F20819	H19	0.32	0.45	0.20	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.50	-4.00	-4.75	1.75	2.20	-3.75	-4.50	0.30	0.55	Co 4.00-4.50
F20821	H21	0.26	0.36	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.50	-3.00	-3.75	0.30	0.60	-8.50	10.00	...	...	—
F20822	H22	0.30	0.40	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.40	-1.75	-3.75	0.25	0.50	10.00	11.75	...	...	—
F20823	H23	0.25	0.35	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.60	11.00	12.75	0.75	1.25	11.00	12.75	...	...	—
F20824	H24	0.42	0.53	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.40	-2.50	-3.50	0.40	0.60	14.00	16.00	...	...	—
F20825	H25	0.22	0.32	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.40	-3.75	-4.50	0.40	0.60	14.00	16.00	...	...	—
F20826	H26	0.45	0.55 ^E	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.40	-3.75	-4.50	0.75	1.25	17.25	19.00	...	...	—
F20841	H41	0.60	0.75 ^E	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.45	3.50	4.00	1.00	1.30	1.40	2.10	8.20	9.20	—
F20842	H42	0.55	0.70 ^E	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.45	3.75	4.50	1.75	2.20	5.50	6.75	4.50	5.50	—
F20843	H43	0.50	0.65 ^E	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.45	3.75	4.50	1.80	2.20	...	...	7.75	8.50	—
F30102	A2	0.95	1.05	0.40	1.00	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	-4.75	-5.50	0.15	0.50	...	...	0.90	1.40	—
F30103	A3	1.20	1.30	0.40	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	-4.75	-5.50	0.80	1.40	...	...	0.90	1.40	—
F30104	A4	0.95	1.05	1.80	2.20	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	-0.90	-2.20	...	...	...	...	0.90	1.40	—
F30105	A5	0.95	1.05	2.80	3.20	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	-0.90	-1.40	...	...	...	...	0.90	1.40	—
F30106	A6	0.65	0.75	1.80	2.50	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	-0.90	-1.40	...	...	...	...	0.90	1.40	—
F30107	A7	2.00	2.85	0.20	0.80	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	-5.00	-5.75	3.90	5.15	-0.50	-1.50	0.90	1.40	—
F30108	A8	0.50	0.60	0.20	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.75	1.10	-4.75	-5.50	...	...	-1.00	-1.50	1.15	1.65	—
F30109	A9	0.45	0.55	0.20	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.95	1.15	-4.75	-5.50	0.80	1.40	...	...	1.30	1.80	Ni 1.25-1.75
F30110	A10	1.25	1.50	1.60	2.10	0.030	0.030	1.00	1.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.25	1.75	Ni 1.55-2.05
F30402	D2	1.40	1.60	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.00	13.00	0.50	1.10	...	...	0.70	1.20	...
F30403	D3	2.00	2.35	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.00	13.50	...	1.00	...	-1.00	...	...	...
F30404	D4	2.05	2.40	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.00	13.00	0.15	1.00	...	...	0.70	1.20	...
F30405	D5	1.40	1.60	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.00	13.00	...	1.00	...	...	0.70	1.20	Co 2.50-3.50
F30407	D7	2.15	2.50	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.50	13.50	3.80	4.40	...	...	0.70	1.20	...
F31501	O1	0.85	1.00	1.00	1.40	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	-0.40	-0.70	...	0.30	-0.40	-0.60	...	...	...
F31502	O2	0.85	0.95	1.40	1.80	0.030	0.030	...	0.50	...	-0.50	...	0.30	...	...	...	0.30	...
F31506	O6	1.25	1.55	0.30	1.10	0.030	0.030	0.55	1.50	...	-0.30	...	...	...	...	0.20	0.30	...
F31507	O7	1.10	1.30	0.20	1.00	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	-0.35	-0.85	0.15	0.40	-1.00	-2.00	...	0.30	...
F41901	S1	0.40	0.55	0.10	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	1.20	1.00	1.80	0.15	0.30	1.50	3.00	...	0.50	...
F41902	S2	0.40	0.55	0.30	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.90	1.20	...	...	...	0.50	...	...	0.30	0.60	...
F41904	S4	0.50	0.65	0.60	0.95	0.030	0.030	1.75	2.25	-0.10	-0.50	0.15	0.35	...	...	...	...	...
F41905	S5	0.50	0.65	0.60	1.00	0.030	0.030	1.75	2.25	-0.10	-0.50	0.15	0.35	...	...	0.20	1.35	...
F41906	S6	0.40	0.50	1.20	1.50	0.030	0.030	2.00	2.50	-1.20	-1.50	0.20	0.40	...	...	0.30	0.50	...
F41907	S7	0.45	0.55	0.20	0.90	0.030	0.030	0.20	1.00	-3.00	-3.50	...	0.35	...	...	1.30	1.80	...
F61202	L2	0.45	1.00	0.10	0.90	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	-0.70	-1.20	0.10	0.30	...	...	...	0.25	...
F61203	L3	0.95	1.10	0.25	0.80	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	-1.30	-1.70	0.10	0.30	...	...	...	...	...
F61206	L6	0.65	0.75	0.25	0.80	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	-0.60	-1.20	...	...	...	...	0.50	1.25	2.00
F60601	F1	0.95	1.25	...	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	...	...	...	...	-1.00	-1.75	...	...	...
F60602	F2	1.20	1.40	0.10	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	-0.20	-0.40	...	...	-3.00	-4.50	...	...	...
F51602	P2	...	0.10	0.10	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.40	-0.75	-1.25	...	...	...	...	0.15	0.40	0.10 0.50
F51603	P3	...	0.10	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	...	0.40	-0.40	-0.75	...	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.50
F51604	P4	...	0.12	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.40	-4.00	-5.25	...	...	...	...	0.40	1.00	...
F51605	P5	0.06	0.10	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.40	-2.00	-2.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.35
F51606	P6	0.05	0.15	0.35	0.70	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.40	-1.25	-1.75	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.25 3.75
F51620	P20	0.28	0.40	0.60	1.00	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.80	-1.40	-2.00	...	...	...	...	0.30	0.55	...
F51621	P21 ^E	0.18	0.22	0.20	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.40	-0.20	-0.30	0.15	0.25	...	...	...	...	3.90 4.25

TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements, %^A

UNS Designation ^B	Type	Carbon		Manganese ^C		Phosphorus, max	Sulfur, ^D max	Silicon		Chromium		Vanadium		Tungsten		Molybdenum		
		min	max	min	max			min	max	min	max	min	max	min	max	min	max	
T20810	H10	0.35	0.45	0.20	0.70	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	3.00	3.75	0.25	0.75	...	...	2.00	3.00	—
T20811	H11	0.33	0.43	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	4.75	5.50	0.30	0.60	...	...	1.10	1.60	—
T20812	H12	0.30	0.40	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	4.75	5.50	0.20	0.50	1.00	1.70	1.25	1.75	—
T20813	H13	0.32	0.45	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	4.75	5.50	0.80	1.20	...	...	1.10	1.75	—
T20814	H14	0.35	0.45	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.80	1.25	4.75	5.50	...	...	4.00	5.25	...	...	—
T20819	H19	0.32	0.45	0.20	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.50	4.00	4.75	1.75	2.20	3.75	4.50	0.30	0.55	Co 4.00-4.50
T20821	H21	0.26	0.36	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.50	3.00	3.75	0.30	0.60	8.50	10.00	...	...	—
T20822	H22	0.30	0.40	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.40	1.75	3.75	0.25	0.50	10.00	11.75	...	...	—
T20823	H23	0.25	0.35	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.60	11.00	12.75	0.75	1.25	11.00	12.75	...	...	—
T20824	H24	0.42	0.53	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.40	2.50	3.50	0.40	0.60	14.00	16.00	...	...	—
T20825	H25	0.22	0.32	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.40	3.75	4.50	0.40	0.60	14.00	16.00	...	...	—
T20826	H26	0.45	0.55 ^E	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	0.40	3.75	4.50	0.75	1.25	17.25	19.00	...	...	—
T20841	H41	0.60	0.75 ^E	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.45	3.50	4.00	1.00	1.30	1.40	2.10	8.20	9.20	—
T20842	H42	0.55	0.70 ^E	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.45	3.75	4.50	1.75	2.20	5.50	6.75	4.50	5.50	—
T20843	H43	0.50	0.65 ^E	0.15	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.45	3.75	4.50	1.80	2.20	...	...	7.75	8.50	—
T30102	A2	0.95	1.05	0.40	1.00	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	4.75	5.50	0.15	0.50	...	...	0.90	1.40	—

UNS Designation ^B	Type	Carbon		Manganese ^C		Phosphorus ^D max	Sulfur ^D max	Silicon		Chromium		Vanadium		Tungsten		Molybdenum		
		min	max	min	max			min	max	min	max	min	max	min	max	min	max	
T30103	A3	1.20	1.30	0.40	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	4.75	5.50	0.80	1.40	...	...	0.90	1.40	
T30104	A4	0.95	1.05	1.80	2.20	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	0.90	2.20	...	...	...	...	0.90	1.40	
T30105	A5	0.95	1.05	2.80	3.20	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	0.90	1.40	...	...	...	...	0.90	1.40	
T30106	A6	0.65	0.75	1.80	2.50	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	0.90	1.40	...	...	...	...	0.90	1.40	
T30107	A7	2.00	2.85	0.20	0.80	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.70	5.00	5.75	3.90	5.15	0.50	1.50	0.90	1.40	
T30108	A8	0.50	0.60	0.20	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.75	1.10	4.75	5.50	...	...	1.00	1.50	1.15	1.65	
T30109	A9	0.45	0.55	0.20	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.95	1.15	4.75	5.50	0.80	1.40	...	...	1.30	1.80	Ni 1.25–1.75
T30110	A10	1.25	1.50	1.60	2.10	0.030	0.030	1.00	1.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.25	1.75	Ni 1.55–2.05
T30402	D2	1.40	1.60	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.00	13.00	0.50	1.10	...	...	0.70	1.20	...
T30403	D3	2.00	2.35	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.00	13.50	...	1.00	...	1.00	...	...	...
T30404	D4	2.05	2.40	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.00	13.00	0.15	1.00	...	...	0.70	1.20	
T30405	D5	1.40	1.60	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.00	13.00	...	1.00	...	...	0.70	1.20	Co 2.50–3.50
T30407	D7	2.15	2.50	0.10	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	11.50	13.50	3.80	4.40	...	...	0.70	1.20	
T31501	O1	0.85	1.00	1.00	1.40	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	0.40	0.70	...	0.30	0.40	0.60	...	...
T31502	O2	0.85	0.95	1.40	1.80	0.030	0.030	...	0.50	...	0.50	...	0.30	...	...	...	0.30	
T31506	O6	1.25	1.55	0.30	1.10	0.030	0.030	0.55	1.50	...	0.30	...	...	...	...	0.20	0.30	
T31507	O7	1.10	1.30	0.20	1.00	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.60	0.35	0.85	0.15	0.40	1.00	2.00	...	0.30	
T41901	S1	0.40	0.55	0.10	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.15	1.20	1.00	1.80	0.15	0.30	1.50	3.00	...	0.50	
T41902	S2	0.40	0.55	0.30	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.90	1.20	...	...	...	0.50	...	...	0.30	0.60	
T41904	S4	0.50	0.65	0.60	0.95	0.030	0.030	1.75	2.25	0.10	0.50	0.15	0.35	...	...	...	...
T41905	S5	0.50	0.65	0.60	1.00	0.030	0.030	1.75	2.25	0.10	0.50	0.15	0.35	...	...	0.20	1.35	
T41906	S6	0.40	0.50	1.20	1.50	0.030	0.030	2.00	2.50	1.20	1.50	0.20	0.40	...	...	0.30	0.50	
T41907	S7	0.45	0.55	0.20	0.90	0.030	0.030	0.20	1.00	3.00	3.50	...	0.35	...	...	1.30	1.80	
T61202	L2	0.45	1.00	0.10	0.90	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	0.70	1.20	0.10	0.30	...	...	...	0.25	
T61203	L3	0.95	1.10	0.25	0.80	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	1.30	1.70	0.10	0.30	...	...	...	...
																		Nickel
T61206	L6	0.65	0.75	0.25	0.80	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	0.60	1.20	...	...	...	...	0.50	1.25	2.00
T60601	F1	0.95	1.25	...	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.75	...	...
T60602	F2	1.20	1.40	0.10	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.50	0.20	0.40	...	...	3.00	4.50	...	...
T51602	P2	...	0.10	0.10	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.40	0.75	1.25	...	...	...	...	0.15	0.40	0.10
T51603	P3	...	0.10	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	...	0.40	0.40	0.75	...	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.50
T51604	P4	...	0.12	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.40	4.00	5.25	...	...	...	...	0.40	1.00	
T51605	P5	0.06	0.10	0.20	0.60	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.40	2.00	2.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.35
T51606	P6	0.05	0.15	0.35	0.70	0.030	0.030	0.10	0.40	1.25	1.75	...	...	...	...	...	3.25	3.75
T51620	P20	0.28	0.40	0.60	1.00	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.80	1.40	2.00	...	...	...	...	0.30	0.55	
T51621	P21 ^F	0.18	0.22	0.20	0.40	0.030	0.030	0.20	0.40	0.20	0.30	0.15	0.25	...	...	...	3.90	4.25

^A Chemistry limits include product analysis tolerances. Unless otherwise specified, nickel plus copper equal 0.75 % max for all types.

^B New designation established in accordance with Practice E527 and SAE J1086–SAE J1086.

^C Manganese limit is 1.0 % max for H13 resulfurized.

^D Where specified, sulfur may be 0.06 to 0.15 % to improve machinability.

^E Available in several carbon ranges.

^F Also contains 1.05–1.25 % aluminum.

7.2 Specimens for determination of minimum response to hardening shall be ¼-in. (6.4-mm) thick disks cut so as to represent either the full cross-sectional area or that midway between the center and outer surface of the material. If the material form or size does not lend itself to accurate hardness determination on ¼-in. thick cross-sectional disks, then longitudinal specimens may be used for hardness testing. Examples are round bars less than ½ in. (12.7 mm) in diameter or sheet. In this case, the specimen shall be a minimum of 3 in. (76 mm) in length and parallel flats shall be ground on the original mill surfaces. The specimens shall be heat treated as prescribed in Table 3.

7.2.1 The hardness of the specimen after the specified heat treatment shall meet the minimum hardness value for the particular type of steel shown in Table 3. Rockwell C tests should be used where possible but light load tests may be necessary on thin specimens. These tests should be specified by agreement between the seller and the purchaser. The hardness value shall be obtained in accordance with the latest issue of Test Methods and Definitions A370, and shall be the average of at least five readings taken in an area midway between the center and surface of the largest dimension of the cross-sectional specimen or along the parallel surfaces of the longitudinal specimen.

8. Macrostructure

8.1 Specimens for the determination of the macrostructure shall represent the entire cross-sectional area in the annealed condition and be prepared in accordance with the latest issue of Practice A561. Material supplied to this specification shall be capable of exhibiting a structure free of excessive porosity, segregation, slag, dirt or other nonmetallic inclusions, pipe, checks, cracks, and other injurious defects.

8.2 Macroetch severity levels for center porosity and ingot pattern, illustrated photographically in Practice A561, shall not exceed the ratings specification in Table 4 for the appropriate material size and composition. More stringent requirements are available by agreement between seller and purchaser.

TABLE 2 Maximum Brinell Hardness in Annealed or Cold-Drawn Condition

Type	Annealed BHN	Cold Drawn BHN	Type	Annealed BHN	Cold Drawn BHN
H10	229	255	O1	212	241
H11	235	262	O2	217	241
H12	235	262	O6	229	241
H13	235	262	O7	241	255
H14	235	262			
H19	241	262	S1	229	255
H21	235	262	S2	217	241
H22	235	262	S4	229	255
H23	255	269	S5	229	255
H24	241	262	S6	229	255
H25	235	262	S7	229	255
H26	241	262			
			L2	197	241
H41	235	262	L3	201	241
H42	235	262	L6	235	262
H43	235	262			
			F1	207	241
A2	248	262	F2	235	262
A3	229	255			
A4	241	262	P2	100	...
A6	248	262	P3	143	...
A7	269	285	P4	131	...
A8	241	262	P5	131	...
A9	248	262	P6	212	...
A10	269	285	P20	^A	...
			P21	^A	...
D2	255	269			
D3	255	269			
D4	255	269			
D5	255	269			
D7	262	277			

^A Normally furnished in prehardened condition.

9. Decarburization

9.1 Specimens for the determination of decarburization shall represent a cross section of the material and be prepared in accordance with the latest issue of Guide E3. Material supplied to this specification shall be capable, when examined at 20 times or greater magnification, of not exceeding the values given in Tables 5-8 for the appropriate size and shape of material. Lower limits of decarburization may be specified by agreement between the seller and purchaser.

9.2 Material ordered as ground and polished or ground finished or machine finished shall be free of scale and decarburization.

10. Permissible Variations for Dimensions

10.1 Permissible variations for dimensions shall not exceed the applicable limits stated in Tables 9-28.

11. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

11.1 All alloy tool steels shall be free of heavy scale, deep pitting, laps, porosity, injurious segregations, excessive nonmetallic inclusions, seams, cracks, checks, slivers, scale marks, dents, soft and hard spots, pipes, or any defects that would detrimentally affect the suitability of the material after removal of the recommended stock allowance.

12. Sampling

12.1 Each particular shipment of a heat of steel by type, size, and shape shall be considered a lot and must conform to the provisions of this specification.

13. Inspection

13.1 Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the supplier is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements as specified herein. The supplier may utilize his own facilities or any other acceptable to the purchaser.

13.2 When specified in the purchase order, the inspector representing the purchaser shall have access to the material subject to inspection for the purpose of witnessing the selection of samples, preparation of test pieces, and performance of the tests. For such

TABLE 3 Heat-Treating Requirements

NOTE 1—The austenitizing temperatures are stipulated for the response to hardening test only. Other combinations of austenitizing and tempering temperatures may be used for particular applications.

NOTE 2—Preheating temperature may be $\pm 25^{\circ}\text{F}$ (14°C), but austenitizing and tempering temperatures shall be $\pm 10^{\circ}\text{F}$ (5.6°C). If samples are austenitized in salt, the sample shall be at the austenitizing temperature for the minimum time shown. If a controlled atmosphere furnace is used, the sample shall be at the austenitizing temperature for 5 to 15 min (10 to 20 min for D types). The time at temperature is the time after the sample reaches the austenitizing temperature. This range of time is given because of the difficulty in determining when the sample reaches temperature in some types of controlled atmosphere furnaces.

NOTE 3—Those steels tempered at 400°F (204°C) shall have a single 2-h temper, while those tempered at 950 (510), 1025 (552), or 1200°F (649°C) shall be double-tempered for 2 h each cycle.

NOTE 4—The P types shall not be tested for response to heat treatment since P2 to P6 are used in the carburized condition and P20 are normally furnished in the prehardened condition.

NOTE 5—Specimens as described in 7.2 shall be capable of producing the specified minimum hardness when the stipulated heat treating parameters are used.

Type	Preheat Temperature, °F (°C)	Austenitizing Temperature, °F (°C)		Austenitizing Time (minutes)	Quench Medium	Tempering Temperature, °F (°C)	Minimum Hardness, RC
		Salt Bath	Controlled Atmosphere Furnaces				
H10	1450 (788)	1850 (1010)	1875 (1024)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	55
H11	1450 (788)	1825 (996)	1850 (1010)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	53
H12	1450 (788)	1825 (996)	1850 (1010)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	53
H13	1450 (788)	1825 (996)	1850 (1010)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	52
H14	1450 (788)	1900 (1038)	1925 (1052)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	55
H19	1450 (788)	2150 (1177)	2175 (1191)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	55
H21	1450 (788)	2150 (1177)	2175 (1191)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	52
H22	1450 (788)	2150 (1177)	2175 (1191)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	53
H23	1500 (816)	2275 (1246)	2300 (1260)	5–15	Oil	1200 (649)	42
H24	1450 (788)	2200 (1204)	2225 (1218)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	55
H25	1450 (788)	2250 (1232)	2275 (1246)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	44
H26	1550 (843)	2275 (1246)	2300 (1260)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	58
H41	1450 (788)	2125 (1163)	2150 (1177)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	60
H42	1450 (788)	2175 (1191)	2200 (1204)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	60
H43	1450 (788)	2150 (1177)	2175 (1191)	5–15	Air	1025 (552)	58
A2	1450 (788)	1725 (941)	1750 (954)	5–15	Air	400 (204)	60
A3	1450 (788)	1775 (968)	1800 (982)	5–15	Air	400 (204)	63
A4	1250 (677)	1550 (843)	1575 (857)	5–15	Air	400 (204)	61
A6	1200 (649)	1525 (829)	1550 (843)	5–15	Air	400 (204)	58
A7	1500 (816)	1750 (954)	1775 (968)	5–15	Air	400 (204)	63
A8	1450 (788)	1825 (996)	1850 (1010)	5–15	Air	950 (510)	56
A9	1450 (788)	1825 (996)	1850 (1010)	5–15	Air	950 (510)	56
A10	1200 (649)	1475 (802)	1500 (816)	5–15	Air	400 (204)	59
D2	1500 (816)	1825 (996)	1850 (1010)	10–20	Air	400 (204)	59
D3	1500 (816)	1750 (954)	1775 (968)	10–20	Oil	400 (204)	61
D4	1500 (816)	1800 (982)	1825 (996)	10–20	Air	400 (204)	62
D5	1500 (816)	1825 (996)	1850 (1010)	10–20	Air	400 (204)	61
D7	1500 (816)	1925 (1052)	1950 (1066)	10–20	Air	400 (204)	63
O1	1200 (649)	1450 (788)	1475 (802)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	59
O2	1200 (649)	1450 (788)	1475 (802)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	59
O6	...	1450 (788)	1475 (802)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	59
O7	1200 (649)	1575 (857)	1600 (871)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	62
S1	1250 (677)	1725 (941)	1750 (954)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	56
S2	1250 (677)	1625 (885)	1650 (899)	5–15	Brine	400 (204)	58
S4	1250 (677)	1625 (885)	1650 (899)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	58
S5	1250 (677)	1625 (885)	1650 (899)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	58
S6	1450 (788)	1700 (927)	1725 (941)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	56
S7	1250 (677)	1725 (941)	1750 (954)	5–15	Air	400 (204)	56
L2	1200 (649)	1575 (857)	1600 (871)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	53 ^A
L3	1200 (649)	1525 (829)	1550 (843)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	62
L6	1200 (649)	1500 (816)	1525 (829)	5–15	Oil	400 (204)	58
F1	1200 (649)	1525 (829)	1550 (843)	5–15	Brine	400 (204)	64
F2	1200 (649)	1525 (829)	1550 (843)	5–15	Brine	400 (204)	64

^A 0.45–0.55 % carbon type.

tests, the inspector shall have the right to indicate the pieces from which samples will be selected. Otherwise the seller shall report to the purchaser, or his representative, the results of the chemical analysis and the physical and mechanical property tests made in accordance with this specification.

13.3 The purchaser may perform any of the inspections set forth in this specification on the as-received material where such inspections are deemed necessary to ensure that supplies and services conform to the prescribed requirements.