



Standard Specification for Berths, Marine¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 1244; 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 approval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers the construction of marine berths for officers, crew, and passengers.

1.2 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 366/A 366M Specification for Commercial Steel (CS) Sheet, Carbon, (0.15 Maximum Percent) Cold-Rolled²

A 512 Specification for Cold-Drawn Butt-weld Carbon Steel Mechanical Tubing³

F 825 Specification for Drawers, Furniture, Marine, Steel⁴

F 1085 Specification for Mattress and Box Springs, Berths⁴

2.2 American Institute of Steel Construction Manual:

AISC Wire and Sheet Metal Gages-Equivalent Thicknesses in Decimals of an Inch, U.S. Standard Gage for Uncoated, Hot and Cold Rolled Sheets⁵

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *base*—the structure on which the drawer and pan sections are supported and which serves to tie the berth to the deck.

3.1.2 *berth*—an item of fixed or built-in furniture for sleeping, with a base and drawer section below the mattress and box spring pan.

3.1.3 *berth side rail*—the berth side that runs from head to foot of berth.

3.1.4 *box spring*—the resilient box-type support for the mattress covered by fabric.

3.1.5 *drawer section*—the section of the berth below the pan section normally designed to contain drawers for stowage of life preservers and other items.

3.1.6 *hand*—the berth may be right hand, left hand, or finished both sides for use in the middle of the room. Right hand is defined as follows: the berth is right hand if the head of the berth is on the right hand end when the berth is viewed from the front. Left hand is opposite. See Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 and Table 1 and Table 2 for elevations of left-handed berths. A berth finished on both sides is not shown, but it is one that is accessible from either side, has the head of the berth against a bulkhead, and is not handed.

3.1.7 *lee rail*—a guard to inhibit a person from rolling out of bed because of ship motion. In this specification, the lee rail is a raised pine railing.

3.1.8 *mattress*—a fabric-covered, box-type unit containing springs and cushioning material that supports the sleeping surface.

3.1.9 *pan section*—the section of the berth designed to support the mattress and box spring.

4. Classification

4.1 *Type I*—A single berth with pipe, side lee rail with a box spring and mattress pan having inside measurements of 54 in. (1372 mm) wide by 80½ in. (2045 mm) long. (See Fig. 1, Table 1, and Note 8 and Note 11 of Fig. 1.)

4.1.1 *Type IA*—Berths conforming generally to the Type I specifications but having special requirements as indicated in the ordering information.

4.2 *Type II*—A single berth with pipe, side lee rail with a box spring and mattress pan having inside measurements of 39 in. (991 mm) wide by 80½ in. (2045 mm) long. (See Fig. 1, Table 1, and Note 8 and Note 11 of Fig. 1.)

4.2.1 *Type IIA*—Berths conforming generally to the Type II specifications but having special requirements as indicated in the ordering information.

4.3 *Type III*—A two-high berth with pipe, side lee rail, the same as Type II, but fitted with an additional pan and uprights to form an upper berth. (See Fig. 2, Table 2, and Note 8, Note 10, and Note 11 of Fig. 1.)

4.3.1 *Type IIIA*—Berths conforming generally to the Type III specifications but having special requirements as indicated in the ordering information.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F-25 on Ships and Marine Technology and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F25.03 on Outfitting.

Current edition approved Sept. 29, 1989. Published November 1989.

² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.03.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.01.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.07.

⁵ Available from American Institute of Steel Construction, One E. Wacker Dr., Suite 3100, Chicago, IL 60601-2001.

5. Ordering Information

5.1 Orders for items purchased under this specification shall include the following:

5.1.1 Type of berth.

5.1.1.1 Type I, IA; II, IIA; or III, IIIA.

5.1.1.2 *Hand*—Right, left, or finished both sides.

5.1.2 *Quantity*—The quantity of right hand, left hand, or finished both sides for each type.

5.1.3 *Mattress and Box Spring*—Shall be furnished in accordance with Specification F 1085.

5.1.4 *Paint*:

5.1.4.1 *Color*—The purchaser shall pick from manufacturer's samples or submit a sample chip of the color desired.

5.1.4.2 The manufacturer's standard baked enamel will be furnished unless otherwise required and specified by the purchaser.

5.1.5 *Weights*—If the total weight of the berth assembly is required, it shall be requested by the purchaser.

5.1.6 *Options*:

5.1.6.1 If a special architectural appearance or finish is required for these berths to match other furniture in the same space, it shall be defined in the ordering documents.

5.1.6.2 The pipe lee rail at the foot of all berths shall be furnished extending above the mattress, to restrain occupants in heavy sea.

5.1.6.3 Normally, on berths installed in a corner, the head of the berth is installed against one of the bulkheads. On some smaller ships, the trim of the vessel is such that this configuration would place the foot of the berth higher than the head. In such cases, the head and foot shall be reversed, and this requirement shall be so noted in the ordering document.

6. Materials and Manufacture

6.1 For berth details, see Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 and Table 1 and Table 2.

6.2 *Sheet Metal*:

6.2.1 Sheet metal shall be steel in accordance with Specification A 366/A 366M.

6.2.2 Minimum steel sheet metal thicknesses shall be as follows:

6.2.2.1 Drawer section 18 USSG (0.0478 in. or 1.21 mm).

6.2.2.2 Pan section 18 USSG (0.0478 in. or 1.21 mm).

6.2.2.3 Base frame 16 USSG (0.0598 in. or 1.52 mm).

6.3 *Welding*:

6.3.1 Metal components shall be joined by welding.

6.3.2 Welding shall be adequate to prevent racking of berth components during handling.

6.3.3 Spotwelds shall be spaced approximately 3 to 5 in. (76 to 127 mm) on centers.

6.3.4 Spotwelds, on exposed surfaces, higher than the general surface of the adjacent metal, shall be ground flush.

6.3.5 Spotweld depressions, on exposed surfaces, shall be spot filled and sanded.

6.4 Side and end panels shall be suitably stiffened to prevent buckling or oil-canning.

6.5 Sound deadening shall be vermin proof and applied to unstiffened areas where needed, and in thickness required, to sound deaden berth.

6.6 Drawers shall be manufactured in accordance with Specification F 825. Minimum stowage capacity for each drawer shall be 1.35 ft³ (0.038 m³).

6.7 A furniture base shall be provided suitable for securing berth to deck. Base shall be equipped with means for leveling when installed aboard ship.

ASTM F1244-89(1999)

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