



Designation: ~~A48/A48M – 03 (Reapproved 2012)~~ A48/A48M – 03 (Reapproved 2016)

Standard Specification for Gray Iron Castings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A48/A48M; 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 U.S. Department of Defense.
This specification replaces Federal Specification QQ-I-652.*

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers gray iron castings intended for general engineering use where tensile strength is a major consideration. Castings are classified on the basis of the tensile strength of the iron in separately cast test bars.

1.1.1 This specification subordinates chemical composition to tensile strength.

1.2 Castings produced to this specification are graded on the basis of minimum tensile strength obtained in special test coupons designed to standardize cooling rate. The tensile strength developed in certain casting sections may vary from test coupon values (see [X1.2](#)).

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

[A644 Terminology Relating to Iron Castings](#)

[E8 Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials](#)

2.2 *Military Standard:*

[MIL-STD-129 Marking for Shipment and Storage](#)²

2.3 *Federal Standard:*

[Federal Standard No. 123 Marking for Shipment \(Civil Agencies\)](#)²

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 Definitions for many terms common to gray iron castings are found in Terminology [A644](#).

4. Classification

4.1 Castings ordered and produced in accordance with this specification are classified into a number of grades based on the properties of separately cast test bars (~~Table 1~~ [Tables 1 and 2](#), ~~Table 2~~). Each class is designated by a number followed by a letter. The number indicates the minimum tensile strength of the separately cast test bar, and the letter indicates the size of the test bar. Examples of proper designations are as follows:

Gray Iron Castings, ASTM Specification A48, Class 30B.

Gray Iron Castings, ASTM Specification A48, Class 40C.

5. Ordering Information

5.1 Orders for material to this specification shall include the following information:

5.1.1 ASTM designation number and year of issue,

5.1.2 Class of iron required (see [4.1](#), ~~Table 1~~, and ~~Table 2~~ [Tables 1 and 2](#)),

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

TABLE 1 Requirements for Tensile Strength of Gray Cast Irons in Separately Cast Test Bars (Inch-Pound)

Class	Tensile Strength, min, ksi	Nominal Test Bar Diameter, in.
No. 20 A	20	0.8
No. 20 B		1.2
No. 20 C		2.0
No. 20 S		Bars S ^A
No. 25 A	25	0.88
No. 25 B		1.2
No. 25 C		2.0
No. 25 S		Bars S ^A
No. 30 A	30	0.88
No. 30 B		1.2
No. 30 C		2.0
No. 30 S		Bars S ^A
No. 35 A	35	0.88
No. 35 B		1.2
No. 35 C		2.0
No. 35 S		Bars S ^A
No. 40 A	40	0.88
No. 40 B		1.2
No. 40 C		2.0
No. 40 S		Bars S ^A
No. 45 A	45	0.88
No. 45 B		1.2
No. 45 C		2.0
No. 45 S		Bars S ^A
No. 50 A	50	0.88
No. 50 B		1.2
No. 50 C		2.0
No. 50 S		Bars S ^A
No. 55 A	55	0.88
No. 55 B		1.2
No. 55 C		2.0
No. 55 S		Bars S ^A
No. 60 A	60	0.88
No. 60 B		1.2
No. 60 C		2.0
No. 60 S		Bars S ^A

■ ^A All dimensions of test bar S shall be as agreed upon between the manufacturer and the purchaser.

5.1.3 The size of the separately cast test bar (letter classification—A, B, C, or S) that best represents the thickness of the controlling section of the casting (see [Table 3](#)),

5.1.4 The tension test specimen (B or C) to be machined from test bar C (see [13.3](#), [Table 4](#), and [Fig. 1](#)),

5.1.5 The tension test specimen to be machined from test bar S (see [13.4](#), [Table 4](#), and [Fig. 1](#)),

5.1.6 Lot size (see [Section 10](#)),

5.1.7 Special requirements (see [Section 6](#)),

5.1.8 Saving tested specimens or unbroken test bars (see [15.1](#)), and

5.1.9 Special preparation for delivery (see [Section 19](#)).

6. Special Requirements

6.1 When agreed upon in writing between the manufacturer and the purchaser, it may be necessary for the castings to meet special requirements as to hardness, chemical composition, microstructure, pressure tightness, radiographic soundness, dimensions, surface finish, and so forth.

7. Tensile Requirements

7.1 Test bars representing castings conforming to this specification shall meet the requirements for tensile strength as described in [Table 1](#), [Tables 1 and 2](#), and [Table 2](#).



TABLE 2 Requirements for Tensile Strength of Gray Cast Irons in Separately Cast Test Bars (Metric)

Class	Tensile Strength, min, ksi [MPa]	Nominal Test Bar Diameter, in. [mm]
No. 150A	150	20 to 22
No. 150B		30
No. 150C		50
No. 150S		Bars S ^A
No. 175A	175	20 to 22
No. 175B		30
No. 175C		50
No. 175S		Bars S ^A
No. 200A	200	20 to 22
No. 200B		30
No. 200C		50
No. 200S		Bars S ^A
No. 225A	225	20 to 22
No. 225B		30
No. 225C		50
No. 225S		Bars S ^A
No. 250A	250	20 to 22
No. 250B		30
No. 250C		50
No. 250S		Bars S ^A
No. 275A	275	20 to 22
No. 275B		30
No. 275C		50
No. 275S		Bars S ^A
No. 300A	300	20 to 22
No. 300B		30
No. 300C		50
No. 300S		Bars S ^A
No. 325A	325	20 to 22
No. 325B		30
No. 325C		50
No. 325S		Bars S ^A
No. 350A	350	20 to 22
No. 350B		30
No. 350C		50
No. 350S		Bars S ^A
No. 375A	375	20 to 22
No. 375B		30
No. 375C		50
No. 375S		Bars S ^A
No. 400A	400	20 to 22
No. 400B		30
No. 400C		50
No. 400S		Bars S ^A

^AAll dimensions of test bar S shall be as agreed upon between the manufacturer and the purchaser.

TABLE 3 Separately Cast Test Bars for Use When a Specific Correlation Has Not Been Established Between the Test Bar and the Casting

Thickness of the Wall of the Controlling Section of the Casting, in. [mm]	Test Bar
Under 0.25 [under 5]	S
0.25 to 0.50 [5 to 14]	A
0.51 to 1.00 [15 to 25]	B
1.01 to 2 [26 to 50]	C
Over 2 [over 50]	S