



Designation: E288 – 10 (Reapproved 2017)

Standard Specification for Laboratory Glass Volumetric Flasks¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E288; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers requirements for glass volumetric flasks of precision and general-purpose grades suitable for laboratory purposes.

1.1.1 *Class A*—Each flask of precision grade shall be marked with the letter “A” to signify compliance with applicable construction and accuracy requirements. Flasks may be marked with an identification number (serial number) at the option of the manufacturer.

1.1.2 *Class B*—General purpose flasks are of the same basic design as Class A flasks. However, volumetric tolerances for Class B flasks shall be within twice the specified range allowed for Class A flasks. These flasks need not be marked with their class designation.

NOTE 1—Specifications for micro volumetric flasks in sizes from 1 mL to 25 mL, inclusive, are given in Specification E237.

NOTE 2—The Twelfth General (International) Conference on Weights and Measures redefined the litre as a “special name for the cubic decimetre,” but agreed to permit continuance of the terms litre, millilitre, and mL, except in association with measurements of the highest precision. For volumetric glassware the difference between the old and new meanings of litre is negligible. Therefore, either mL or cm³ may be marked on ware covered by this Specification.

1.1.3 *Special Size Flasks*—Precision grade flasks may be manufactured with nominal capacities not listed in this standard. Such flasks shall be considered “Class A” flasks, provided they meet the accuracy tolerance of the next largest “Class A” flask appearing in Table 1 and comply with the marking requirements of 1.1.1.

1.1.4 *Wide-Mouth Flasks*—Requirements for insertion of tablets or capsules for assay dilution and to accommodate access of larger diameter pipets require volumetric flasks with larger necks. These flasks appear in Table 2. These flasks shall conform to the marking requirements of 1.1.1. Additionally, the accuracy tolerance shall be marked on each “Class A” wide-mouth flask.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E41 on Laboratory Apparatus and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E41.01 on Laboratory Ware and Supplies.

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1.1.5 *Special Size Wide-Mouth Flasks*—Precision grade wide-mouth flasks may be manufactured with nominal capacities not listed in this standard. Such flasks shall be considered “Class A” flasks provided they meet the accuracy tolerance of the next largest “Class A” wide-mouth flask appearing in Table 2 and the marking requirements of 1.1.4.

1.2 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- E237 Specification for Laboratory Glass Microvolumetric Vessels (Volumetric Flasks and Centrifuge Tubes)
- E438 Specification for Glasses in Laboratory Apparatus
- E542 Practice for Calibration of Laboratory Volumetric Apparatus
- E675 Specification for Interchangeable Taper-Ground Stopcocks And Stoppers
- E694 Specification for Laboratory Glass Volumetric Apparatus
- E920 Specification for Commercially Packaged Laboratory Apparatus
- E921 Specification for Export Packaged Laboratory Apparatus
- E1133 Practice for Performance Testing of Packaged Laboratory Apparatus for United States Government Procurements
- E1157 Specification for Sampling and Testing of Reusable Laboratory Glassware

3. General Requirements

3.1 *Calibration*—Flasks shall be calibrated in accordance with the methods outlined in Practice E542.

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.