



Designation: B 105 – 9400

Standard Specification for Hard-Drawn Copper Alloy Wires for Electric Conductors¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B 105; 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 Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers hard-drawn round copper alloy wires for electric conductors.

1.2 The copper alloy wires shall be made in any one of ten distinct alloys designated 8.5 to 85 in accordance with their increasing conductivities or designated by assigned UNS numbers as follows:

	Copper Alloy UNS No.		Copper Alloy UNS No.
Alloy 8.5	C65100	Alloy 40	
Alloy 13	C51000	Alloy 55	C16500
Alloy 15		Alloy 74	C19600
Alloy 20		Alloy 80	C16200
Alloy 30	C50700	Alloy 85	C16200

NOTE 1—The UNS system for copper and copper alloys (see Practice E 527) is a simple expansion of the former standard designation system accomplished by the addition of a prefix “C” and a suffix “00”. The suffix can be used to accommodate composition variations of the base alloy.

1.3 The SI values of density and resistivity are to be regarded as standard. For all other properties the inch-pound values are to be regarded as standard, and the SI values may be approximate.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 The following documents of the issue in effect on the date of material purchase form a part of this specification to the extent referenced herein.

2.2 *ASTM Standards:*

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of the ASTM Committee B-1 on Electrical Conductors and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B01.04 on Conductors of Copper and Copper Alloys.

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B 193 Test Method for Resistivity of Electrical Conductor Materials²

B 258 Specification for Standard Nominal Diameters and Cross-Sectional Areas of AWG Sizes of Solid Round Wires Used as Electrical Conductors²

E 527 Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys (UNS)³

2.3 *Other Document:*

NBS Handbook 100—Copper Wire Tables⁴

3. Ordering Information

3.1 Orders for material under this specification should include the following information:

3.1.1 Quantity of each size and grade,

3.1.2 Wire size: diameter in inches or millimetres (see 9.1 and Table 1),

3.1.3 Alloy (see 1.2 and Table 1),

3.1.4 Special composition limits, if required (see 5.2),

3.1.5 Package size (see 14.1),

3.1.6 Special package marking, if required, and

3.1.7 Place of inspection (see 13.1).

3.2 ~~In addition, Supplementary Requirements shall apply only when specified by the purchaser in the inquiry, contract, or purchase order for direct procurement by agencies of the U.S. Government (S1, S2, and S3).~~

4. Material and Manufacture

4.1 The material used shall be copper alloys of such nature and composition as to secure by proper treatment the properties prescribed in this specification for the finished wire.

5. Chemical Composition

5.1 The copper alloy wires shall conform to the requirements of Table 2 as to chemical composition. The values prescribed in Table 2 cover limits of composition of the different alloys which may be supplied (see Note 2).

NOTE 2—It is the intention of this specification to permit under each of the alloys listed in 1.2 any alloy coming within the total range of analysis specified in Section 5, provided the product conforms to the other requirements of this specification. For purposes of information only, the types of alloy now commonly used for each of the several alloys are listed below. Certain alloys that have a “commercial standing” may have been assigned a UNS designation (see 1.2). The chemical composition of any of the materials shall be within the total range specified in Section 5, but in no case shall the alloy contain the allowed maximum of more than one constituent other than copper.

Alloy	Alloy Type
8.5	Copper, Silicon, Iron
	Copper, Silicon, Manganese
	Copper, Silicon, Zinc
	Copper, Silicon, Tin, Iron
13	Copper, Silicon, Tin, Zinc
	Copper, Aluminum, Tin
	Copper, Aluminum, Silicon, Tin
15	Copper, Silicon, Tin
	Copper, Aluminum, Silicon
	Copper, Aluminum, Tin
	Copper, Aluminum, Silicon, Tin
20	Copper, Silicon, Tin
	Copper, Tin
30	Copper, Tin
	Copper, Zinc, Tin
40	Copper, Tin
	Copper, Tin, Cadmium
55	Copper, Tin, Cadmium
	Copper, Tin, Cadmium
74	Copper, Iron, Phosphorus
80	Copper, Cadmium
85	Copper, Cadmium

5.2 The maximum percentage of the various alloying elements to be found in any one of the alloys is prescribed in Table 2. If the purchaser elects to check the composition of any material supplied to conform to the performance requirements of any one of the alloys, the composition limits should be made the subject of a definite agreement between the manufacturer and the purchaser in the placing of individual orders.

² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 02.03.

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

⁴ Available from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Rd, Springfield, VA 22161.

TABLE 2 1 Tensile Requirements^A

NOTE 1—Conversion factors are presented for ready adaptation to computer readout and electronic data transmission. The factors are written as a number greater than one and less than ten with six or less decimal places. This number is followed by the letter E (for exponent), a plus or minus symbol, and two digits which indicate the power of 10 by which the number must be multiplied to obtain the correct value. For example: 2.54 E + 01 = 2.54 × 10¹ = 25.4.

Element	Diameter		Area at 20°C		Elongation, min, % in 10 in. (250 mm)	Tensile Strength, min. Alloy 8.5		Alloy 13		Alloy 15 and 20		Alloy 30		Alloy 40		Alloy 55		Alloy 74		Alloy 80		Alloy 85		
	mm	cmil	in. ²	mm ²		ksi	Mpa	ksi	Mpa	ksi	Mpa	ksi	Mpa	ksi	Mpa	ksi	Mpa	ksi	Mpa	ksi	Mpa	ksi	Mpa	ksi
Composition, %0.2893	7.3482	83694.49	0.065733	42.4086	2.2	97.5	672.2	102.5	706.7	109.5	755.0	74.0	510.2	73.4	508.1	76.0	524.0	74.0	510.2	72.0	496.4	68.5	472.3	
Phosphorus, max	0.02576	65430	0.052117	33.6240	2.0	103.8	715.7	108.8	750.2	114.5	789.5	80.0	551.6	74.9	516.4	77.8	536.4	75.5	520.6	73.5	506.8	69.9	481.9	
Manganese, max	0.2294	58268	0.041331	26.6652	1.8	107.5	741.2	112.5	775.7	118.5	817.0	85.0	586.1	76.3	526.1	79.3	546.8	77.5	534.3	75.0	517.1	71.2	490.9	
Iron, max	0.02043	41738.49	0.032781	21.1492	1.6	110.2	759.8	115.2	794.3	121.3	836.3	89.0	613.6	77.7	535.7	80.9	557.8	79.0	544.7	76.4	526.8	72.5	499.9	
Cadmium, max	0.150	150																						
Silicon, max	0.1819	46203	0.025987	16.7657	1.5	112.2	773.6	117.2	808.1	123.3	850.1	92.5	637.8	79.0	544.7	82.4	568.1	80.0	551.6	77.5	534.3	73.6	507.5	
Aluminum, max	0.1620	41148	0.020612	13.2980	1.4	114.0	786.0	119.0	820.5	125.0	861.9	94.8	653.6	80.4	554.3	84.0	579.2	81.0	558.5	78.6	541.9	74.7	515.0	
Tin, max	0.1443	36652	0.016354	10.5509	1.3	115.3	795.0	120.3	829.4	126.5	872.2	96.5	665.3	81.8	564.0	85.5	589.5	82.4	568.1	79.8	550.2	75.8	522.6	
Zinc, max	0.1285	32639	0.012969	8.3669	1.3	116.6	803.9	121.6	838.4	127.9	881.8	97.9	675.0	83.2	573.6	87.0	599.8	83.5	575.7	81.0	558.5	77.0	530.9	
Copper, min	0.0808	20523	0.00512758	3.3081	1.1	120.6	831.5	125.6	866.0	132.0	910.1	102.2	704.6	88.2	608.1	92.6	638.5	87.7	604.7	85.7	590.9	81.4	561.2	
Sum of the above elements, min	0.1144	29058	0.01027879	6.6315	1.2	117.8	812.2	122.8	846.7	129.2	890.8	99.0	682.6	84.6	583.3	88.5	610.2	84.6	583.3	82.2	566.8	78.1	538.5	
	0.1019	25883	0.00815527	5.2615	1.2	118.9	819.8	123.9	854.3	130.3	898.4	100.1	690.2	86.0	593.0	90.0	620.5	85.5	589.5	83.4	575.0	79.2	546.1	
	0.0907	23038	0.00646107	4.1684	1.2	119.8	826.0	124.8	860.5	131.2	904.6	101.2	697.8	87.1	600.5	91.3	629.5	86.6	597.1	84.6	583.3	80.3	553.7	
	0.0720	18288	0.00407150	2.6268	1.1	121.2	835.6	126.2	870.1	132.6	914.3	103.0	710.2	89.6	617.8	93.8	646.7	88.8	612.3	86.8	598.5	82.5	568.8	
	0.0641	16281	0.00322705	2.0820	1.1	121.7	839.1	126.7	873.6	133.2	918.4	103.7	715.0	90.4	623.3	95.0	655.0	89.8	619.2	87.8	605.4	83.4	575.0	

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TABLE 1 2 TChemsmicale RequirementsA

Diameter, in.	kemil	in. ²	Alloy 8-5	Alloy 13 Alloys 15 and 20Alloy		
	Element	in. ²	Alloy 8-5	Alloy 13 Alloys 15 and 20Alloy		
	0.2893	83.69	0.065-73	-97.5	102.5	109
	0.2893	83.69	0.065-73	-97.5	102.5	109
	0.2576	66.36	0.052-12	103.8	108.8	114.
	Phosphorus, max	66.36	0.052-12	103.8	108.8	114.
	0.2294	52.62	0.041-33	107.5	112.5	118.
	Manganese, max	52.62	0.041-33	107.5	112.5	118.
	0.2043	41.74	0.032-78	110.2	115.2	121.
	Iron, max	41.74	0.032-78	110.2	115.2	121.
	0.1819	33.09	0.025-99	112.2	117.2	123.
	Cadmium, max	33.09	0.025-99	112.2	117.2	123.
	Silicon, max					
	0.1620	26.24	0.020-61	114.0	119.0	125.
	0.1443	20.82	0.016-35	115.3	120.3	126.
	Aluminum, max	20.82	0.016-35	115.3	120.3	126.
	0.1285	16.51	0.012-97	116.6	121.6	127.
	Tin, max	16.51	0.012-97	116.6	121.6	127.
	0.1144	13.09	0.010-28	117.8	122.8	129.
	Zinc, max	109	0.010-28	117.8	122.8	129.
	0.1019	10.380-008-155	118.9123.9	130.3	100.1	86.1
	Copper, min	80.008-155	118.9.9	130.3	100.1	86.1
		0.0907	-8.23	0.006-46	119.8	124.
	Sum of the above elements, min	907	-8.23	0.006-46	119.8	124.
	0.0808	-6.53	0.005-13	120.6	125.6	132.
	0.0720	-5.18	0.004-07	121.2	126.2	132.
	0.0641	-4.11	0.003-23	121.7	126.7	133.
	0.0571	-3.26	0.002-56	122.2	127.2	133.
	0.0508	-2.58	0.002-03	122.5	127.5	134.
	0.0453	-2.05	0.001-61	122.8	127.8	134.
	0.0403	-1.62	0.001-28	123.0	128.0	134.
	0.0359	-1.29	0.001-01	123.2	128.2	134.
	0.0320	-1.02	0.000-804	123.5	128.5	135.

^AConversion factors: 1 in. = 2.54 E + 01 mm, 1 kemil = 5.067 E - 01 mm², 1 in.² = 6.452 E + 02 mm², 1 ksi = 6.895 E + 00 MPa.

NOTE—Conversion factors are presented for ready adaptation to computer readout and electronic data transmission. The factors are written as a number greater than one and less than ten with six or less decimal places. This number is followed by the letter E (for exponent), a plus or minus symbol, and two digits which indicate the power of 10 by which the number must be multiplied to obtain the correct value. For example: 2.54 E + 01 = 2.54 × 10¹ = 25.4.

6. Chemical Analysis

6.1 An analysis may be made on each lot of 5000 lb (2300 kg) or fraction thereof. Millings or clippings shall be made from at least ten separate coils. Equal quantities shall be taken from each coil and shall be thoroughly mixed together. Samples so prepared shall be divided into three equal parts, each of which shall be placed in a sealed package, one for the manufacturer, one for the purchaser, and one for a referee, if necessary.

7. Tensile Properties

7.1 The wire of a designated alloy shall be so drawn that it conforms to the requirements as to tensile properties prescribed in Table 1 (see Note 3 and Note 4).

NOTE 3—The values of the wire diameters in Table 1 are given to the nearest 0.0001 in. (0.0025 mm) or 0.0001 mm and correspond to the standard sizes given in Specification B 258. The use of gage numbers to specify wire size is not recognized in these specifications because of the possibility of confusion. An excellent discussion of wire gages and related subjects is contained in *NBS Handbook 100*.

NOTE 4—Other tests than those provided in this specification have been considered at various times, such as twist tests, wrap tests, tests for elastic limit, etc. It is the opinion of the committee that twist and wrap tests on hard-drawn alloy wire do not serve a useful purpose and should be regarded as undesirable, as well as inconclusive as to results and significance. Tests for values of elastic limit are likewise indefinite as to results. Tests to determine elastic properties of hard-drawn wire from which wire stringing and sagging data may be compiled are considered to be outside the scope of the acceptance tests contemplated in this specification.

7.2 Tests on a specimen containing a joint shall show at least 95 % of the minimum tensile strength given in Table 1. Elongation tests shall not be made on a specimen containing a joint.

7.3 Wire, the nominal diameter of which is between sizes listed in Table 1, shall conform to the requirements of the next larger size if the nominal diameter is more than 0.003 in. (3 mils) (0.076 mm) larger than a listed size whose diameter is 0.100 in. (2.5 mm) or over, and likewise if the nominal diameter is more than 0.002 in. (2 mils) (0.051 mm) larger than a listed size whose diameter is less than 0.100 in.

7.4 Tension tests shall be made on representative samples. Determine the elongation of the wire as the permanent increase in length, due to the breaking of the wire in tension, measured between gage marks placed originally 10 in. (250 mm) apart upon the test specimen (see Note 5).

NOTE 5—It is known that the rate of loading during tension testing of copper and copper alloys affects the performance of the sample to a greater or lesser extent, depending upon many factors. In general, tested values of tensile strength are increased and tested values of elongation are reduced with increase of speed of the moving head of the testing machine. These effects are pronounced when the speed of the moving head is excessive in the testing of hard-drawn and medium-hard-drawn copper and copper-alloy wires. It is suggested that tests be made at speeds of moving head which, under no-load conditions, are not greater than 3 in./min (75 mm/min), but in no case at a speed greater than that at which correct readings can be made.

7.5 If any part of the fracture takes place outside the gage marks or in the jaws of the testing machine, or if an examination of the specimen indicates a flaw, the value obtained may not be representative of the material. In such cases the test may be discarded and a new test made.

7.6 *Retests*—If upon testing a sample from any coil or spool of wire, the results do not conform to the requirements prescribed in Table 1, two additional samples shall be tested, and the average of the three tests shall determine the acceptance or rejection of the coil or spool.

8. Resistivity

8.1 Electrical resistivity shall be determined on representative samples by resistance measurements (see Note 6). At a temperature of 20°C the resistivity shall not exceed the values shown in Table 3 for the designated alloy.

NOTE 6—Relationships that may be useful in connection with the values of electrical resistivity prescribed in this specification are shown in Table 3. Resistivity units are based on the International Annealed Copper Standard (IACS) adopted by IEC in 1913, which is $\frac{1}{58} \Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2/\text{m}$ at 20°C for 100 % conductivity. The value of $0.017241 \Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2/\text{m}$ and the value of $0.15328 \Omega \cdot \text{g}/\text{m}^2$ at 20°C are respectively the international equivalent of volume and mass resistivity of annealed copper equal (to five significant figures) to 100 % conductivity. The latter term means that a copper wire 1 m in length and weighing 1 g would have a resistance of 0.15328 Ω . This is equivalent to a resistivity value of 875.20 $\Omega \cdot \text{lb}/\text{mile}^2$, which signifies the resistance of a copper wire 1 mile in length weighing 1 lb. It is also equivalent, for example, to 1.7241 $\mu\Omega$ per centimetre of length of a copper bar 1 cm^2 in cross section. A complete discussion of this subject is contained in *NBS Handbook 100*. The use of five significant figures in expressing resistivity does not imply the need for greater accuracy of measurement than that specified in Test Method B 193. The use of five significant figures is required for reasonably accurate reversible conversion from one set of resistivity units to another. The equivalent resistivity values in the table were derived from the fundamental IEC value ($\frac{1}{58} \Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2/\text{m}$) computed to seven significant figures and then rounded to five significant figures.

8.2 The electrical resistivity of the material shall be determined in accordance with Test Method B 193.

9. Diameter and Permissible Variations

9.1 The wire sizes shall be expressed as the diameter of the wire in decimal fractions of an inch or a millimetre to the nearest 0.1 mil (0.0001 in.) (0.0025 in. or 0.0001 mm) (see Note 3).

9.2 The wire shall not vary from the specified diameter by more than the amounts shown in Table 4.

9.3 Ten percent, but not less than five coils or spools (or all if the lot is less than five) from any lot of wire shall be gaged at three places. If accessible, one gaging shall be taken near each end and one near the middle. If any of the selected coils or spools fails to conform to the requirements prescribed in 9.2, all coils or spools shall be gaged in the manner specified.

10. Density

10.1 For the purpose of calculating mass per unit length, cross sections, etc., the density of the various alloys shall be taken as shown in Table 5, based on a temperature of 20°C.

11. Joints

11.1 No joints shall be made in the completed wire (see Note 7). Joints in wire and rods, prior to final drawing, shall be made in accordance with the best commercial practice and shall conform to the requirements prescribed in 7.2.

TABLE 3 Electrical Resistivity

Alloy	Maximum Resistivity at 20°C		
	$\Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2/\text{m}$	$\Omega \cdot \text{lb}/\text{mile}^2$	$\Omega \cdot \text{cmil}/\text{ft}$
8.5	0.202 84	10 169	122.01
13	0.132 63	6 649.0	79.779
15	0.114 94	5 605.0	69.141
20	0.086 207	4 376.0	51.856
30	0.057 471	2 917.3	34.571
40	0.043 103	2 188.0	25.929
55	0.031 348	1 591.3	18.857
74	0.023 299	1 182.7	14.015
80	0.021 552	1 094.0	12.964
85	0.020 284	1 029.7	12.201

TABLE 4 Diameters of Wire and Permissible Variations in Diameter

Nominal Diameter of Wire	Permissible Variations in Diameter			
	Plus	Minus	in. (mm)	mm
Under 0.0571	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)
0.0571 and over	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)
Under 1.45	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)
1.45 and over	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)	0.001 in. (0.025 mm)

^A Expressed to the nearest 0.1 mil (0.0001 in.) (0.0025 mm).

TABLE 5 Densities

Alloy	Density	
	kg/m ^{3A}	lb/in. ³
8.5 and 13	8.78 E + 03	0.31720
15	8.54 E + 03	0.30853
20, 30, 40, 55, 74, 80, and 85	8.89 E + 03	0.32117

^A See Note of Table 1.

NOTE 7—Mechanical joints made during inspection at the request of the purchaser are permissible if agreed upon at the time of placing the order.

12. Finish

12.1 The wire shall be free from all imperfections not consistent with the best commercial practice.

13. Inspection

13.1 All tests and inspection shall be made at the place of manufacture unless otherwise especially agreed upon between the manufacturer and the purchaser at the time of purchase. The manufacturer shall afford the inspector representing the purchaser all reasonable facilities to satisfy him that the material is being furnished in accordance with this specification.

14. Packaging and Shipping

14.1 Package sizes shall be agreed upon by the manufacturer and the purchaser in the placing of individual orders.

14.2 The wire shall be protected against damage in ordinary handling and shipping.

15. Keywords

15.1 copper alloy wires for electric conductors; hard-drawn round copper alloy; round copper alloy wires

SUPPLEMENTARY REQUIREMENTS

The following supplementary requirements shall apply only when specified by the purchaser in the inquiry, contract, or order, for agencies of the U.S. Government.

S1. Referenced Documents

S1.1 The following documents form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise specified, the issues of these documents shall be those listed in the issue of the Department of Defense Index of Specifications and Standards (DODISS) and supplement thereto, cited in the solicitation:

S1.2 *Military Specifications:*⁵

MIL-C-12000 Cable, Cord, and Wire, Electric; Packaging of

S2. Inspection

S2.1 The government shall have the right to perform any of the inspections and tests set forth in this specification when such tests are deemed necessary to assure that the material conforms to the prescribed requirements.

S3. Packaging

S3.1 Packaging shall be in accordance with MIL-C-12000.

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