



Standard Specification for Copper-Zinc-Lead Alloy (Leaded-Brass) Extruded Shapes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B455; 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.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification establishes the requirements for extruded leaded-brass angles, channels, and other architectural shapes of solid cross section produced in Copper Alloy UNS Nos. C38000 and C38500.

1.1.1 Pipe, tube, or other hollow section products are not included in this specification.

1.2 *Units*—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

[B249/B249M Specification for General Requirements for Wrought Copper and Copper-Alloy Rod, Bar, Shapes and Forgings](#)

[B601 Classification for Temper Designations for Copper and Copper Alloys—Wrought and Cast](#)

[B846 Terminology for Copper and Copper Alloys](#)

[B950 Guide for Editorial Procedures and Form of Product Specifications for Copper and Copper Alloys](#)

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

[E54 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Special Brasses and Bronzes \(Withdrawn 2002\)](#)³

[E255 Practice for Sampling Copper and Copper Alloys for the Determination of Chemical Composition](#)

[E478 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Copper Alloys](#)

3. General Requirements

3.1 The following sections of Specification [B249/B249M](#) constitute a part of this specification:

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B05 on Copper and Copper Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B05.02 on Rod, Bar, Wire, Shapes and Forgings.

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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.

- 3.1.1 Terminology,
- 3.1.2 Materials and Manufacture,
- 3.1.3 Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance,
- 3.1.4 Sampling,
- 3.1.5 Number of Tests and Retests,
- 3.1.6 Specimen Preparation,
- 3.1.7 Test Methods,
- 3.1.8 Significance of Numerical Limits,
- 3.1.9 Inspection,
- 3.1.10 Rejection and Rehearing,
- 3.1.11 Certification,
- 3.1.12 Mill Test Report, and
- 3.1.13 Packaging and Package Marking.

3.2 In addition, when a section with a title identical to that referenced in 3.1 appears in this specification, it contains additional information which supplements that appearing in Specification [B249/B249M](#). In case of conflict this specification shall prevail.

4. Terminology

4.1 For definitions of terms related to copper and copper alloys, refer to Terminology [B846](#).

5. Ordering Information

5.1 Include the following information when placing orders for product under this specification, as applicable:

- 5.1.1 ASTM designation and year of issue (for example, B455 – 01),
- 5.1.2 Copper Alloy UNS No. designation (for example, C38000),
- 5.1.3 Temper (Section 7),
- 5.1.4 Form, dimensions, and tolerances (Section 9), and
- 5.1.5 Quantity; total weight or number of pieces for each form, temper, size, and copper alloy.

5.2 The following options are available and shall be specified at the time of placing of the order when required:

- 5.2.1 Intended end use or application,
- 5.2.2 Heat identification or traceability details (Specification [B249/B249M](#)),
- 5.2.3 Certification (Specification [B249/B249M](#)), and
- 5.2.4 Mill test report (Specification [B249/B249M](#)).

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

6. Chemical Composition

6.1 The material shall conform to the chemical compositional requirements in **Table 1** for the copper alloy UNS No. specified in the ordering information.

6.1.1 These composition limits do not preclude the presence of other elements. By agreement between the manufacturer and purchaser, limits will be established and analysis required for unnamed elements.

6.2 For alloys in which zinc is specified as the remainder, either copper or zinc is permitted to be taken as the difference between the sum of results for all elements analyzed and 100 %. When copper is so determined, that difference value shall conform to the requirements given in **Table 1**.

6.3 When all elements specified in **Table 1** are determined for the copper alloy UNS No. designated in the ordering information, the sum of the results shall be 99.5 % minimum.

7. Temper

7.1 The temper of the product furnished to this specification, as defined in Specification **B249/B249M**, shall be M30 (as hot extruded).

8. Mechanical Property Requirements

8.1 Tensile Strength Requirements :

8.1.1 The product furnished shall conform to the requirements of **Table 2** when tested in accordance with Test Methods **E8**.

8.1.2 The tension test results shall be the basis for purchaser acceptance or rejection based upon mechanical properties.

8.1.2.1 When product is intended for strictly decorative purposes and so stated in the purchase order or contract, it is permitted under this specification for the mechanical property requirements to be waived by the purchaser.

8.2 Rockwell Hardness:

8.2.1 A Rockwell hardness test offers a quick and convenient method of checking general conformity to temper and tensile requirements.

NOTE 1—For assistance in testing, the minimum Rockwell B hardness of M30 (as hot-extruded) temper shapes to this specification is approximately 42.

9. Dimensions, Mass, and Permissible Variations

9.1 The dimensions, contours, and tolerances shall be provided by the purchaser, by means of a drawing or other medium, and shall be a part of the contract or purchase order.

TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements

Element	Composition, %	
	Copper Alloy UNS No. C38000	Copper Alloy UNS No. C38500
Copper	55.0–60.0	55.0–59.0
Lead	1.5–2.5	2.5–3.5
Zinc	remainder	remainder
Iron, max	0.35	0.35
Tin, max	0.30	...
Aluminum, max	0.50	...

TABLE 2 Mechanical Requirements

	Copper Alloy UNS Nos. C38000 and C38500
Tensile strength, min, ksi ^A (MPa) ^B	48 (330)
Yield strength at 0.5 % extension under load, min, ksi (MPa) ^B	16 (110)
Elongation ^B in 2 in. (50.8 mm), min, %	15

^Aksi = 1000 psi.

^BSee **Appendix X1**.

9.2 Straightness tolerances shall be subject to agreement between the manufacturer and the purchaser and such agreement shall be part of the purchase order.

10. Sampling

10.1 Lot size, portion size, and selection of sample pieces shall be as follows:

10.1.1 *Lot Size*—An inspection lot shall be 5000 lb (2275 kg) or fraction thereof, of the same mill form, alloy, and nominal dimensions, subject to inspection at one time.

10.1.2 *Portion Size*—The portion shall be two individual pieces of the lot selected as to be representative of the lot.

10.2 Chemical Analysis:

10.2.1 The sample for chemical analysis shall be taken in accordance with Practice **E255** for the product in its final form from the pieces selected in **10.1.2** and combined into one composite sample. The minimum weight of the composite sample shall be 150 g.

10.2.2 Instead of sampling in accordance with Practice **E255**, the manufacturer shall have the option of determining conformance to chemical composition by analyzing samples taken at the time the castings are poured.

10.2.2.1 When samples are taken at the time of casting, at least one sample shall be taken from each group of castings poured from the same source of molten metal.

10.3 *Samples for All Other Tests*—Samples taken for all other tests shall be taken from the sample portions selected in **10.1.2** and be of a convenient size to accommodate the test and comply with the requirements of the appropriate test method.

11. Test Methods

11.1 Product composition shall be determined, in case of dispute, as follows:

Element	ASTM Test Method
Aluminum	E54–80 (Reapproved 1996)
Copper	E478
Iron	E478
Lead	E478 (AA)
Tin	E478 (photometric)
Zinc	E478 (titrimetric)

11.1.1 Test method(s) to be followed for the determination of element(s) resulting from contractual or purchase order agreement shall be as agreed upon between the supplier and the purchaser.

12. Keywords

12.1 architectural extruded shapes; extruded shapes; leaded brass extruded shapes; UNS No.C38000; UNS No. C38500

APPENDIX

(Nonmandatory Information)

X1. METRIC EQUIVALENTS

X1.1 The SI unit for strength properties now shown is in accordance with the International System of Units (SI). The derived SI unit for force is the newton (N), which is defined as that force which when applied to a body having a mass of one kilogram gives it an acceleration of one metre per second square ($N = \text{kg}\cdot\text{m}/\text{s}^2$). The derived SI unit for pressure or stress

is the newton per square metre (N/m^2), which has been named the pascal (Pa) by the General Conference on Weights and Measures. Since $1 \text{ ksi} = 6\,894\,757 \text{ Pa}$, the metric equivalents are expressed as megapascal (MPa), which is the same as MN/m^2 and N/mm^2 .

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Committee B05 has identified the location of selected changes to this standard since the last issue, B455-05, that may impact the use of this standard. (Approved April 1, 2010.)

(1) Minor Editing to conform to Standard Guide **B950** for Editorial Procedures and Form of Product Specifications for Copper and Copper Alloys which should not impact the use.

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