

Flanges - General Information

Specifications

Refer to page 8-1 for a list of flange specifications (with page references) covered in this Section.

Manufacture

Summary of materials used for flanges

	ASME/ ANSI B16.5	ASME B16.47 Series A (or MSS SP-44 ¹)	ASME B16.47 Series B (or API 605 ²)	BS 4504	BS 3293	BS 10 ³
Forging (ASTM A 182)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Plate (ASTM A 240) ⁴	✓			✓		✓
Bar ⁵						✓
Casting ⁶	✓			✓		✓

Notes

- MSS SP-44 flanges are designated Series A flanges in ASME B16.47.
- API 605 has been cancelled. API 605 flanges are designated Series B flanges in ASME B16.47.
- BS 10, although obsolete, remains in use for light weight economy stainless steel flanges.
- Within specification ANSI B16.5, plate can only be used to provide blind flanges.
- Most small BS 10 flanges are made from bar.
- Castings are not included in this manual.

- **Materials.** Most standards specify the material from which the flange is produced. The purchaser should specify the exact requirements.
- **Flange Sizes.** All sizes and grades compatible to standard pipe ranges and wall thicknesses (pressure ratings) are available. The table below provides a summary.
- **Flange Face.** There are various face configurations for flanges. Typically: flat face, raised face, tongue and groove, ring joint.
- **Face Finish.** The finish on the face of a flange is measured as an Arithmetical Average Roughness Height (AARH). The finish is determined by the standard used. For example, ANSI B16.5 specifies face finishes within a range 125AARH - 500AARH (3.2 Ra to 12.5 Ra). Other finishes are available on request, for example 1.6 Ra max, 1.6/3.2 Ra, 3.2/6.3 Ra or 6.3/12.5 Ra. The range 3.2/6.3 Ra is most common.

Summary of flange sizes specified by common standards

Flange Type	Specifications				
	ASME/ANSI B16.5	ASME B16.47 Series A (or MSS SP-44 ¹)	ASME B16.47 Series B (or API 605 ²)	BS 4504 (ISO 7005-1)	BS 3293
	Nominal Pipe Sizes				
	< NPS 26	≥NPS 26	≥NPS 26	DN 10 to DN 4000	≥ NPS 26
	Nominal Pressure (Class)				
	Class (lb)	Class (lb)	Class (lb)	PN (bar)	Class (lb)
Weld Neck	150-2500	150-900	75-900	2.5-40	150-600
Slip-on	150-1500	-	-	2.5-40	150-600
Blind	150-2500	300-900	300-900	2.5-40	-
Lap Joint	150-2500	-	-	6-40 ³	-
Socket Weld	150-1500	-	-	N/A	-
Threaded	150-2500	-	-	6-40	-
Flat/Raised Facings	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above
Ring Joint Facings	150-2500	300-900	300-900	2.5-40	300-600
Other Facings	150-2500 ³	-	-	2.5-40	-

Notes

- MSS SP-44 flanges are designated Series A flanges in ASME B16.47. It also covers flanges in the range NPS 12 to 24, these being equivalent to ASME/ANSI B16.5 flanges in the same range (except for the addition of NPS 22 in MSS SP-44).
- API 605 has been cancelled. API 605 flanges are designated Series B flanges in ASME B16.47. Ranges quoted are based on ASME B16.47 Series B.
- Dimensions not covered in this summary.

ASME/ANSI B16.5-1996 and B16.47-1996

American national standards ASME/ANSI B16.5 and B16.47 together cover pipe flanges up to NPS 60 (NPS 48 is the largest detailed in this summary). ASME/ANSI B16.47 covers two series of flanges, Series A which is equivalent to MSS SP-44 (the 1996 Edition of MSS SP-44 complies with B16.47 tolerances), and Series B which is equivalent to API 605 (API 605 is now cancelled).

Dimensions and Tolerances

Tolerances on flange dimensions (ASME/ANSI B16.5 and B16.47, and MSS SP-44)

Dimension	Range	Tolerance	
		in	mm
General and Blind Flanges (For blind flange dimensions see page 8-23 for B16.5, page 8-46 for B16.47 Series A / MSS SP-44 and page 8-51 for B16.47 Series B / API 605):			
G (raised face diameter)	≤ NPS 24	±0.03	±0.76
	≥ NPS 26, with 0.06 in raised face	±0.08	±2.03
	≥ NPS 26, with 0.25 in raised face	±0.04	±1.02
I (bolt hole diameter)	All	No tolerance in B16.5 or B16.47	
J (bolt circle diameter)	All	±0.06	±1.52
Centre to centre of adjacent bolt holes	All	±0.03	±0.76
Eccentricity of bolt circle and machined facing diameters	≤ NPS 2½	±0.03	±0.76
	≥ NPS 3	±0.06	±1.52
Weld Neck Flanges ¹ (For dimensions see page 8-10 for B16.5, page 8-46 for B16.47 Series A / MSS SP-44 and page 8-51 for B16.47 Series B / API 605):			
D (overall length)	≤ NPS 4	+0.06	+1.52
	NPS 5 to 10	+0.06, -0.12	+1.52, -3.05
	NPS 12 to 24	+0.12, -0.18	+3.05, -4.57
	≥ NPS 26	±0.19	±4.83
Thickness of hub	All	> 87.5% of pipe nominal wall thickness	
Slip on (see page 8-17), Lap Joint (see page 8-32 for dimensions) and Socket Welding (see page 8-30 for dimensions) Flanges:			
B (inside diameter, or bore)	≤ NPS 10	+0.03, -0.0	+0.76, -0.0
	≥ NPS 12	+0.06, -0.0	+1.52, -0.0
Threaded Flanges (see page 8-40 for dimensions):			
B (counterbore) (Not applicable for Class 150 lb)	≤ NPS 10	+0.03, -0.0	+0.76, -0.0
	≥ NPS 12	+0.06, -0.0	+1.52, -0.0
Ring Joint Facing (See page 8-6 for dimensions; see page 8-9 for tolerances)			

Note

1 See page 8-5 for weld neck welding end dimension and tolerance data.