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Plating Reference Guide

sealing) Dyed. Specify color on contract.

CHROMIC ANODIZE (MIL-A-8625)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS
Minimum weight type 1 after sealing: <u>Class 1</u> - 200 milligrams/sq. ft. <u>Class 2</u> - 5000 milligrams/sq. ft.	Туре 1А	0.00002″ 0.0003″	Conventional chromic acid bath. Shall not be applied to aluminum alloys with over 5.0% copper, 7.0% silicon, or total alloying
Corrosion Resistance Requirements: Salt spray requirement is 336 hours.	Туре 1В	0.00002″ 0.0003″	constituents over 7.5% (Note: alloys with higher than 8.0% silicon may be anodized subject to approval of acquiring activity if supplier shows
5% solution per method 811.1 of FED-STD-151 or ASTM B117 (surface inclined approximately 6 degrees from the vertical). The specimen panels or finished	Class 1 Class 2		coatings equivalent to that on lower silicon contents).
products shall show no more than a total of 15 isolated spots or parts, none larger than 1/32 inch in diameter, in a total of 150 sq. in. of test area grouped from 5 or more test pieces; or no more than 5			Low voltage chromic acid anodizing (20V). Use Type IB for 7000 series alloys. Heat treatable alloys which are to receive Type I coatings should be tempered (such as T4 or T6).
isolated spots or pits in a total of 30 sq. in. from one or more test pieces.			Non-dyed (natural, including dichromate

HARD ANODIZE (MIL-A-8625)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS & SPEC NO.
Color will vary from light tan to black depending on alloy and thickness. Can be dyed in darker colors	Type III	As specified on drawing.	Conventional chromic acid bath. Shall not be applied to aluminum alloys with over
depending on thickness. Coating PENETRATES base metal as much as builds up on the surface. The term	Class 1	lf not	5.0% copper, 7.0% silicon, or total alloying constituents over 7.5% (Note: alloys with
THICKNESS includes both the build up and penetration. Provides very hard ceramic type coating. Abrasion resistance will vary with alloy and thickness of coating. Good dielectric properties. Does not seal coatings where main the function is to obtain maximum abrasion	Class 2	specified nominal thickness shall be 0.002"	higher than 8.0% silicon may be anodized subject to approval of acquiring activity if supplier shows coatings equivalent to that on lower silicon contents).
or wear resistance. When used for exterior applications requiring corrosion resistance but permitting reduced abrasion resistance, the coating shall be sealed (boiling deionized water or hot 5% sodium dichromate solution, or other suitable chemical solutions). Abrasion resistance for unsealed coatings tested by method 6192			Low voltage chromic acid anodizing (20V). Use Type IB for 7000 series alloys. Heat treatable alloys which are to receive Type I coatings should be tempered (such as T4 or T6).
of FED-STD-141 using CS-17 wheels with 1000 gm load. For 2024 and other copper bearing alloys the anodic coating loss shall not exceed 40 milligrams - for all other alloys shall not exceed 20 milligrams.			Non-dyed (natural, including dichromate sealing) Dyed. Specify color on contract.

BLACK OXIDE COATING (MIL-C-13924)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS & SPEC NO.
A uniform black coating for ferrous metals. Mostly a decorative coating with very limited corrosion protection under mild corrosion conditions. Black oxide coatings should normally be given a supplementary treatment \i.e., oil displacement per Mil-C-6173 Grade 3 or protective treatments of Mil-C-16173).	Class 4	No dimensional change	For moving parts which cannot tolerate the dimensional change of a more corrosion resistant finish. For decorative applications and can be used to decrease light reflection. Alkaline oxidizing. For 300 series corrosion resistant steel alloys only.

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CHEMICAL FILMS (MIL-DTL-5541)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS
Materials qualified produce coatings that range in color from clear to iridescent yellow or brown, inspection diculties may arise with clear coatings	Class 1A		For maximum protection against corrosion, painted or unpainted
because visual inspection does not reveal the presence of a coating.	Class 3 Type I only		For protection against corrosion where low electrical resistance is required

COPPER (MIL-C-14550)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS
Copper in color and matte to very shiny finish. Good corrosion resistance when used as undercoat. A number of copper processes are available, each designed for a specific purpose.	Class 0	Unless otherwise specified .001005	For heat treatment stop-o. For carburizing and decarburizing shield, also plated through printed circuit boards.
Brightness (to eliminate the need for bung; High speed (for electroforming); Fine grain (to prevent	Class 1	.001″	As an undercoat for nickel and other platings.
case hardening); etc. Stress relief steel parts, cold straightened or suspected of having residual tensile	Class 2	.0005″	To prevent basis metal migration into tin (prevents poisoning solderability).
stresses (350"F ± 25°F-3hours). Parts with tensile strength over 210 Ksi bake 24 hours within 4 hours after plating.	Class 3	.0002″	
within 4 hours arter plating.	Class 4	.0001″	

ELECTROLESS NICKEL (MIL-C-26074)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS
Similar to stainless steel in color. Plates uniformly in recesses and cavities (does not build up on edges). Corrosion resistance is good for coatings over .001" thickness. Electroless nickel is used extensively in salvage of mis-machined parts. Also, for inside		Unless otherwise specified .001005	*The minimum thickness of the nickel coating shall be 0.0005 inch (grade B) for copper-, nickel-, and cobalt-based titanium and beryllium alloys.
dimensions and irregular shapes (where assembly	Class 1		As plated, no subsequent heat treatment. A
tolerances need uniformity provided by "electroless"	Class 2		bake for hydrogen embrittlement relief is not
process).	Class 3		considered a treatment.
Precoating and postcoating procedures:	Class 4		
-Class 1- below RC40. Baking at 375°F ± 25°F at user's option	Grade A	0.001″	Heat treated to obtain required hardness. May be used on all metals not aected by heating
-Class 1-RC40 and above. Bake at 375°F ± 25°F FOR 3 HOURS. Shot peen steel parts designed for unlimited	Grade B	0.0005″min	to 500°F and above.
life under dynamic loads prior to plating. Class 2-below RC4 0. Shot penned parts designed for unlimited life prior to plating. Post plating bake 3	Grade C	0.0015″min	Aluminum alloys non-heattreatable, and beryllium alloys processed to improve adhesion of the nickel deposit.
hours min. 350°F. Class 2 coating. Shall have minimum hardness of 850 knoop (100gm load) Class 3. Post bake 1-1½ hours at 375"F ± 25°F Class 4. Post bake heat treatable alloys 1-1½ hours at			Aluminum alloy, heat treatable, processed to improve adhesion of the nickel deposit.

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240°F-260"

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ELECTROPOLISHING (NO MIL-SPEC NO.)

PROCESS

Process electrolytically removes or diminishes scratches, burrs and unwanted sharp edges from most metals. Finishes from satin to mirror-bright are produced by controlling time, temperature, or both TYPE CLASS THICKNESS

COMMENTS

Typical Thickness Loss .0002" Typical dimensional change. Process is not recommended for close tolerance surfaces.

GOLD (MIL-DTL-45204)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS
Yellow to orange color depending on proprietary	Туре І		99.7 gold minimum Grades A, B, C.
process used. Will range from matte to bright	Type II		99.0 gold minimum Grades A, B, C .
finish depending on basis metal. Good corrosion	Type III		99.9 gold minimum Grades A, B, C .
resistance, and has high tarnish resistance.	Grade A		90 Knoop maximum.
Provides a low contact resistance, and is a good	Grade B		91-129 Knoop maximum.
conductor. Has excellent solderability. If the	Grade C		130-200 Knoop maximum.
hardness grade for the gold coating is not specified, Type I shall be furnished at hardness	Grade D		201 Knoop and over.
Grade A, and type II shall be furnished at hardness Grade C. For soldering, a thin purity soft gold	Class 00	.00002″ min.	
coating is preferred. A minimum thickness of 0.000050 inch and a maximum thickness of	Class O	.00003″ min.	
0.00010 inch shall be plated.	Class 1	.00005″ min.	
	Class 2	.00010″ min.	
	Class 3	.00020″ min.	
	Class 4	.00030″ min.	
	Class 5	.00050″ min.	
	Class 6	.00150″ min.	

SULFAMATE NICKEL (MIL-P-27418 (USAF))

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS
Soft Gray ductile nickel plate. Additives may be used to harden.		.000010 to .200+″	Electroforms, molds, electronic leads for ductility. Flexible circuits, soldering, brazing, PC boards, diusion barrier in between Gold over Copper.

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NICKEL (QQ-N-290)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS
There is a nickel finish for almost any need. Nickel can be deposited soft or hard-dull or bright, depending on process used and conditioned	Class 1 Grade A	.0016"	NOTE: All steel parts having a tensile strength of 220,000 or greater shall not be nickel plated without specific approval of procuring
employed in plating. Thus, hardness can range from 150-500 Vickers. Can be similar to stainless steel in	Grade B	.0012″	agency.
color, or can be a dull grey or light grey (almost white) color. Corrosion resistance is a function of	Grade C	.0010″	For corrosion protection. Plating shall be applied over an underplating of copper or
thickness. Has a low coecient of thermal expansion- is magnetic. All steel parts having a	Grade D	.0008″	yellow brass on zinc and zinc based alloys. In no case, shall the copper underplate be
hardness of RC-40 or greater require a post bake at 375°F ± 25″F for 3 hours.	Grade E	.0006″	substituted for any part of the specified nickel thickness.
	Grade F	.0004″	
	Grade G	.0002″	For engineering applications.

PASSIVATE (QQ-P-35)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS & SPEC NO.
Specifications covers standard recommendation practice for cleaning and descaling stainless steel parts, equipment and systems. Cleaning includes	Type II	No dimensional change	Medium temperature nitric acid solution with sodium dichromate additive.
all operations necessary for the removal of surface		0	Low temperature nitric acid solution.
contaminates from metals to ensure (1) maximum corrosion resistance of the metal; (2) prevention of	Type VI Type VII		Medium temperature nitric acid solution.
product contamination; and (3) achievement of desired appearance.	Type VII		Medium temperature high concentrate nitric acid solution.

RHODIUM (MIL-R-46085)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS & SPEC NO.
Metallic and similar to stainless steel in color. Excellent corrosion resistance. Almost as hard as	Туре І		Over nickel, silver, gold, or platinum.
chromium. Very good abrasion resistance. Thicker coatings are very brittle. Has high reflectivity.	Туре II	Thickness: .000002″	Over other metals, requires nickel undercoat.
Parts having hardness of Rockwell C33 or above shall be baked at 375°F for 3 hours prior to cleaning. Parts		min.	Used on silver for tarnish resistance.
having hardness of Rockwell C-40 and above shall be baked within 4 hours after plating at 375"F for 3 hours.	Class 1		Applications range from electronic to nose cones, wherever wear, corrosion, resist solderability, and reflectivity are important.

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SILVER (QQ-S-365)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS
White matte to very bright in appearance. Good corrosion resistance, depending on base metal. Will tarnish easily. Hardness varies from about 90 Brinnell to about		Typical Thickness Loss .0002"	Increasing use in both decorative and engineering fields, including electrical and electronic fields
135 Brinnell depending on process and plating	Type I		Matte
conditions. Solderability is excellent, but decreases	Type II		Semi-bright
with age. Best electrical conductor. Has excellent	Type III		Bright
lubricity and smear characteristics for anti-galling	Grade A		
uses on static seals, bushings, etc. Stress relief steel parts at a minimum 375°F ± 25″F or more prior to cleaning and plating if they contain or are suspected	Grade B		Chromate post-treatment to improve tarnish resistance.
of having damaging, residual tensile stresses. Embittlement relief on all steel parts RC40 and above at 375°F ± 25°F for 3 hours within 4 hours after plating.			No supplementary treatment.

TIN (MIL-T-10727)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS & SPEC NO.
Color is gray-white in a plated condition. Has very high luster in fused condition. Soft, but is very ductile.	Туре І		Electrodeposited
Corrosion resistance is good. (Coated items should		.0001-	Flash for soldering
meet 24-hour 5% salt spray requirement).		.00025″	To prevent galling and seizing
Solderability is excellent.		.0002-	Where corrosion resistance is important. To
Tin is not good for low temperature applications		.0004″	prevent formation of case during nitriding.
(changes structure and loses adhesion when exposed		.0003″ min.	
to temperatures below 40°C). Customer to specify		0002-	
bright or dull.		0006″	

TIN LEAD (MIL-P-81728)

PROCESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS & SPEC NO.
Excellent solderability. Either a matte or bright luster is acceptable. For electronic components use only parts with a matte or flow brightened finish.	60/40 90/10	Unless otherwise specified .0003" .0005" 0.0003" max	Electroforms, molds, electronic leads for ductility. Flexible circuits, soldering, brazing, PC boards, diusion barrier in between Gold over Copper.

ZINC (ASTM-B633)

PROC	ESS	TYPE CLASS	THICKNESS	COMMENTS & SPEC NO.
Corrosi	on Resistance	Туре І		As plated
Require	ements	Typell		
Types	Test Period hr.	Type III		With colored chromate conversion coatings.
II.	96			-
III	12			With colorless chromate conversion coatings
				0

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