



The Aluminum Association Designation System for Anodized Aluminum Finishes

The Aluminum Association has developed a system of designations for finishes on aluminum. Three specific characteristics of finishes are each individually designated by a letter followed by a two or three digit number. The three finish components this system includes are mechanical finishing (M), chemical finishing (C) and coatings (A). The number which follows each of the above letters describes the type of treatment or end appearance desired. Most common category designations are as follows:

Mechanical Finishes

- M10 Unspecified (no mechanical finishing)
- M22 Buffed to a specular finish
- M32 Medium satin directional textured

Chemical Finishes

- C22 Medium matte sodium hydroxide etch
- C31 Highly specular chemical bright dip
- C32 Diffuse bright using both etch and bright dip

Anodic Coatings

- A211 0.1 mil thick clear coating
- A212 0.2 mil thick clear coating
- A31 0.4 mil thick clear coating
- A33 0.4 mil thick dyed coating
- A34 0.4 mil thick with electrolytically deposited color
- A41 0.7 mil thick clear coating
- A43 0.7 mil thick dyed coating
- A44 0.7 mil thick with electrolytically deposited color

Using the System

When all components of the designation for a desired anodized finish are determined, they are put together in a string, beginning with "AA-" to indicate that it is an Aluminum Association designation. For example, a matte champagne finish (AaCron finish #301M) would have the designation AA-M10C22A44.

AaCron Finish	Aluminum Association Designation
101M	AA-M10C22A41 (Also called 215-R1)
102M	AA-M10C22A31 (Also called 204-R1)
103M	AA-M10C22A212 (Also called 202-R1)
201M thru 203M	AA-M10C22A43
300M thru 307M	AA-M10C22A44
321M thru 366M	AA-M10C22A44A43

For any bright finish, substitute the C22 with C31. For example, a bright champagne finish (AaCron finish #301B) would have the designation AA-M10C31A44.

Assistance with this system is available from AaCron's Technical Service experts.

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