STANDARD

FOR

THRESHOLDS

SPONSOR

BUILDERS HARDWARE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE
Approved October 3, 2019

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

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This Standard was developed by the Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association, Inc. It was approved by ANSI under the Canvass Method. BHMA was accredited on 21 March 1983 as a sponsor using the Canvass Method.

FOREWORD   (This Foreword is not a part of ANSI/BHMA A156.21)

The general classification of builders hardware includes a wide variety of items which are divided into several categories. To recognize this diversity, a sectional classification system has been established. Architectural Door Trim, Thresholds and Gasketing, is one such section and this Standard is the result of the collective efforts of members of the Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association, Inc. who manufacture these products. The total Product Standards effort is, therefore, a collection of sections, each covering a specific category of items.

Strength and gasketing tests, fastening systems and, where it has been necessary, material and dimensional requirements have been established to ensure safety and stability to which the public is entitled. There are no restrictions on design except for those dimensional requirements imposed for the reasons given above.

This Standard is not intended to obstruct but rather to encourage the development of improved products, methods and materials. The BHMA recognizes that errors will be found, items will become obsolete, and new products and methods will be developed. With this in mind, the Association plans to update, correct and revise these Standards on a regular basis. It shall also be the responsibility of manufacturers to request such appropriate revisions.

The BHMA numbers which indicate functions of thresholds do not identify size or design and are not intended to be used without necessary supplementary information. Individual manufacturer's catalogs are consulted.

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1. **SCOPE**

1.1   This Standard establishes requirements for thresholds. Types are described with identifying numbers. Strength tests, fastening systems, and gasketing tests are included.

1.2   Tests described or referenced in this Standard are performed under laboratory conditions. In actual use, results vary because of installation, maintenance, and environmental conditions.

2. **DEFINITIONS**

2.1   **Threshold** A horizontal member installed beneath a closed door or in a wall opening.

   2.1.1   **Compressing Top Threshold** A threshold with a compressible seal which seals against the bottom of the door.

   2.1.2   **Flat Saddle.** A threshold with a flat top that is smooth or fluted.

   2.1.3   **Half Saddle** A threshold with a flat top that is smooth or fluted and lies flush with an offset.

   2.1.4   **Interlocking Threshold** A threshold with a lip which engages a hook strip applied to a door.

      2.1.4.1   **Hook Strip** A member applied to the bottom or face of a door that engages an interlocking threshold and thus contributes to inhibiting the passage of air, water, or air borne particles.

   2.1.5   **Rabbeted or Bumper Seal Threshold** A threshold with an integral stop that a door closes against. May include a gasket.

   2.1.6   **Latching/Panic Thresholds** A threshold with an integral stop that the door closes against and shaped to provide a latching element for the bottom latches of surface mounted vertical rod devices. May include a gasket.

   2.1.7   **Plate Threshold** A solid flat threshold with a flat top that is smooth or fluted.

   2.1.8   **Ramped Threshold** A threshold with a continuous incline.

   2.1.9   **Saddle Threshold for Floor Closer** A threshold that has been prepared for use with a floor closer.

   2.1.10   **Thermal Break Threshold** A multipart threshold separated by material that inhibits the transfer of heat or cold.

3. **GENERAL**

3.1   **Reference to other Standards** ANSI Standards are available from BHMA at www.buildershardware.com or the American National Standards Institute, 11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036.

3.2   **Values and Tolerances** Required values in this Standard are given in US units. The SI (metric) equivalents are approximate. All values which do not carry specific tolerances or are not marked maximum or minimum shall have the following tolerances: Linear dimensions shall be ± 1/16 in (1.6 mm). Pounds or pound force shall be ± 5%. Angular measurements shall be ± 4 degrees. Temperature measurements shall be ± 4 degrees F (±2 degrees C).