

Proposed ANSI/BHMA A156.9-2003  
Revision of  
ANSI/BHMA A156.9-2001



AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD  
FOR  
CABINET HARDWARE



Sponsor

BUILDERS HARDWARE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

ANSI Approval January 8, 2003

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE, INC.

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Published by

BUILDERS HARDWARE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
355 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10017  
[www.buildershardware.com](http://www.buildershardware.com)

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Printed in the USA

This Standard was first published November 1968 by the Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association. It was entitled "Standard 201 BHMA Product Standards Section B, Cabinet Hardware." BHMA was accredited on 21 March 1983 by ANSI as a sponsor using the canvass method.

FOREWORD (This Foreword is not a part of A156.9)

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. Cabinet hardware 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 this product. The total Product Standards effort is, therefore, a collection of sections, each covering a specific category of items.

Performance tests, and where it has been necessary, material requirements, have been established to insure safety and stability to which the public is entitled. There are no restrictions on design. Cabinet hardware described in this Section represents a cross-section of that which is available today. However, since cabinet hardware styling and functional application is constantly changing, new items are not to be excluded. Each manufacturer of this type of hardware shall determine which of its products will meet these requirements. On all items, styling is optional.

The BHMA recognizes that errors will be found, items will become obsolete, and new products, methods and materials will be developed. With this in mind, the Association plans to update, correct and revise these Standards on a regular basis.

Cabinet hardware products generally have been described in three levels of performance. Choice of product is made on the basis of utility, aesthetics, security objectives and end use desired. As a general guide, Grade 1 is the highest and is suitable for most institutional applications, Grade 3 is suitable for most residential uses, and Grade 2 is often used in all applications.

The BHMA numbers which indicate types of hardware do not identify size, finish or design and are not intended to be used without necessary supplementary information.

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## 1. SCOPE

1.1 This Standard contains requirements for cabinet hardware and includes hinges, knobs, pulls, catches, shelf rests, standards and brackets, drawer slides, rotating shelves and track with guides for sliding panels. Included are performance tests covering operational, cyclical, strength, and finish criteria.

1.2 Tests described in this Standard are performed under laboratory conditions. In actual usage results vary because of installation, maintenance and environmental conditions. Tests required are applicable to hardware products only and are not intended to evaluate systems incorporating cabinet components. Fixtures described are designed to withstand the test forces required and only hardware items are measured.

1.3 **Grade Qualifications** Manufacturers shall indicate the grade level of their products. Cabinet hardware shall meet all tests for the grade listing. Three grades are offered for most products; for drawer slides, additional grades 1HD are available.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 **Catch** A product with a holding capacity that keeps a cabinet door closed.

2.2 **Drawer Slide** Elements suspending a drawer and in which the drawer moves.

2.2.1 **Standard Duty Drawer Slide** Intended for use in residential or light commercial applications.

2.2.2 **Heavy Duty Drawer Slide** Intended for use in commercial and institutional casework.

### 2.3 Hinges

2.3.1 **Butt Hinge** In this Standard, a hinge attached to the edge of a cabinet door and the edge of a cabinet face frame.

2.3.2 **Concealed Hinge** A hinge installed in such a way that it cannot be seen from the outside when the cabinet door is in a closed position.

2.3.3 **Continuous Hinge** A butt type hinge that is as long or nearly as long as the height of a cabinet door.

2.3.4 **Full Surface Hinge** A hinge having one leaf attached to the face of a door and the other leaf attached to the face of a door frame.

2.3.5 **Olive Knuckle Hinge** A pivot hinge with a joint shaped like an olive.

2.3.6 **Pivot Hinge** A hinge with a fixed pin and a single joint having a height less than the adjacent hinge leaves.

2.3.7 **Self Closing Hinge** A hinge incorporating energy, usually a spring, causing a door to close from an open position.

2.3.8 **Semiconcealed Hinge** A hinge mounted to the face or edge of a door frame and to the back of a cabinet door. When the door is closed, only the pin or the frame mounted portion of the hinge is seen from the outside.

2.4 **Hinge Catch** A semiconcealed hinge incorporating a cabinet catch.

2.5 **Knob** A projecting part, surface or back mounted, used to operate a door or drawer.

2.6 **Latch** A device used to hold a door and requiring movement of an element before the door is released for opening.

2.7 **Pull** A surface or flush mounted part used to operate a door or drawer.