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BS 8888:2025



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Foreword

Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 October 2025. It was prepared by Subcommittee TPR/1/8, *Technical Product Realization - BS 8888 Technical product specification*, under the authority of Technical Committee TPR/1, *Technical product realization*. A list of organizations represented on these committees can be obtained on request to the committee manager.

Supersession

This British Standard supersedes BS 8888:2020, which is withdrawn.

Relationship with other publications

The function of BS 8888 is to draw together, in an easily accessible manner, the full complement of international standards relevant to the preparation of technical product specifications. However, it is not the intention for BS 8888 to be a standalone standard. TPR/1 is responsible for a suite of related national standards, including the various parts of BS 8887 and PD 68888, a new training document.

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the document, and introduces relevant international standards published since the 2020 edition. It also incorporates more fully than previous editions some of the fundamental requirements of the key international standards relevant to the preparation of technical product specifications, such as BS EN ISO 1101:2017 and BS EN ISO 5459. It is hoped that UK industry will find this edition of BS 8888 more user-friendly than previous editions. It aims to help organizations better understand and implement the full complement of international standards developed by ISO/TC 213, *Geometrical product specifications and verification*, and ISO/TC 10, *Technical product documentation*.

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Presentational conventions

The provisions of this document are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “shall”.

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

All dimensions shown in the figures in this British Standard are in millimetres.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* is used (e.g. “organization” rather than “organisation”).

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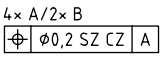
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Introduction

Table 1 is a visual index and an innovation to improve the useability of the standard. It is not exhaustive, but a first attempt to improve the accessibility of the content.

Table 1 — *Visual index*

Symbol	Explanation	Relevant clause
Ⓕ	Non-rigid parts	**5.2.11**
Ⓔ	Envelope requirement	**5.2.13.2**
	Drawing sheets	**6.5**
	Views and projections	**6.11.2**
	Sections	**6.13**
	Dimensions	Clause **7**
	Symbols for dimensions	**7.2.7**
	Running dimensioning	**7.2.14.4**
±	Dimensional tolerances	**7.4.3**
	Datums	Clause **8**
	Datum targets	**8.8**
	Geometrical specifications	Clause **9**
Ⓜ	Maximum material requirement	**9.10.1**
Ⓛ	Least material requirement	**9.10.4**
Ⓡ	Reciprocity requirement	**9.10.7**
Ⓟ	Projected tolerance zones	**9.11.1**
	All-around/over	Clause **10**
A ◄► B	Between	**10.1**
UF	United feature	**10.4**
CZ/SZ	Feature patterns	**10.5**
	Nested patterns	**10.5.3**
	Plane and feature indicators	**10.6**
	Statistical tolerancing	Clause **12**
	Edge conditions	Clause **13**
	Welding symbols	Clause **14**
	Surface texture	Clause **15**
	Document handling	Clause **18**

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- Annex A: Datums and datum systems: Definitions and explanations;
- Annex B: Associations;
- Annex C: Implementation in CAD;
- Annex D: Document security – Enhanced;
- Annex E: Tolerancing system: Former practice;
- Annex F: Selected ISO fits: Hole and shaft basis;
- Annex G: Filtration;
- Annex H: Dimensioning of slots;
- Annex I: Guidance for parts produced by additive manufacture (AM);
- Annex J: Castings;
- Annex K: Examples of profile and areal surface texture specifications, and summary of changes from BS EN ISO 1302 (withdrawn).

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1 Scope

This British Standard specifies requirements for technical product specification and documentation, principally for manufacturing industries and organizations associated with engineering disciplines, such as mechanical, electrical, nuclear, automotive and aerospace.

The needs of building, architectural, civil, and structural engineering and construction services industries continue to be covered by the BS EN ISO 19650 series.

Most of this British Standard consists of an implementation of the ISO system for technical product specification and documentation. The ISO system is defined in a large number of interlinked and related international standards which are referenced in this British Standard.

The purpose of this British Standard is to facilitate the use of the ISO system by providing:

a) an index to the international standards which make up the ISO system, referencing them according to their area of application;

b) key elements of the ISO standards to facilitate their application;

c) references to additional British and European standards where they provide information or guidance over and above that provided by ISO standards; and

d) commentary and recommendations on the application of the standards where this is deemed useful.

The requirements refer to international and European standards which have been implemented as British Standards, either in the BS EN, BS EN ISO, BS ISO series or as international standards renumbered as British Standards.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes provisions, or limits the application, of this document[1)]. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 1916-1, *Limits and fits for engineering – Part 1: Guide to limits and tolerances*

BS 1916-2, *Limits and fits for engineering – Part 2: Guide to the selection of fits in BS 1916-1*

BS 1916-3, *Limits and fits for engineering – Part 3: Guide to tolerances, limits and fits for large diameters*

BS 3238-1, *Graphical symbols for components of servo mechanisms – Part 1: Transductors and magnetic amplifiers*

BS 3238-2, *Graphical symbols for components of servo mechanisms – Part 2: General servo-mechanisms*

BS 3643-1:2007, *ISO metric screw threads – Part 1: Principles and basic data*

BS 3643-2:2007, *ISO metric screw threads – Part 2: Specification for selected limits of size*

BS 4500, *Limits and fits – Guidance for system of cone (taper) fits and tolerances for cones from C = 1:3 to 1:500, lengths from 6 mm to 630 mm and diameters up to 500 mm*

BS 4827:1972, *Specification for ISO miniature screw threads – Metric series*

BS EN 2066, *Aerospace series – Extruded section in aluminium alloys – General tolerances*

1) Documents that are referred to solely in an informative manner are listed in the Bibliography.

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