
**Metallic materials — Knoop hardness
test —**

Part 1:
Test method

*Matériaux métalliques — Essai de dureté Knoop —
Partie 1: Méthode d'essai*



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 164, *Mechanical testing of metals*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Hardness testing*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 459, *ECISS - European Committee for Iron and Steel Standardization*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This third edition of ISO 4545-1, together with ISO 6507-1:2023, cancels and replaces ISO 4516:2002, ISO 4545-1:2017 and ISO 6507-1:2018, which have been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- Scope revised to include testing on metallic coatings and other inorganic coatings;
- added subclause 7.5 on metallic and other inorganic coatings;
- added [Annex F](#) to cover coatings specific requirements;
- updated references.

A list of all parts in the ISO 4545 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Metallic materials — Knoop hardness test —

Part 1: Test method

1 Scope

This document specifies the Knoop hardness test method for metallic materials for test forces from 0,009 807 N to 19,613 N.

This document specifies Knoop hardness tests for length of the long diagonal $\geq 0,020$ mm. Using this method to determine the Knoop hardness from smaller indentations is outside the scope of this document as results would suffer from large uncertainties due to the limitations of optical measurement and imperfections in tip geometry.

The Knoop hardness test specified in this document is also applicable for metallic and other inorganic coatings including electrodeposited coatings, autocatalytic coatings, sprayed coatings and anodic coatings on aluminium. This document is applicable to measurements normal to the coated surface and to measurements on cross-sections, provided that the characteristics of the coating (smoothness, thickness, etc.) permit accurate readings of the diagonal of the indentation. This document is not applicable for coatings with thickness less than 0,007 mm when testing normal to the coating surface. This document is not applicable for coatings with thickness less than 0,020 mm when testing a cross-section of the coating. ISO 14577-1 can be used for the determination of hardness from smaller indentations.

A periodic verification method is specified for routine checking of the testing machine in service by the user.

2 Normative references

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

ISO 4545-2:2017, *Metallic materials — Knoop hardness test — Part 2: Verification and calibration of testing machines*

ISO 4545-3, *Metallic materials — Knoop hardness test — Part 3: Calibration of reference blocks*

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>