



**STANDARD  
FOR  
MATERIALS AND FINISHES**



**SPONSOR**  
**BUILDERS HARDWARE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD INSTITUTE**

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## FOREWORD (Not a part of ANSI/BHMA A156.18)

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. Each Standard is the result of the collective efforts of members of the Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association, Inc. who manufacture the products included in each Section. The total product standards effort is, therefore, a collection of Section Standards, each covering a specific category of items.

In BHMA Standards, performance tests and, where it has been necessary, material and dimensional requirements have been established to ensure safety, security, 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. It is also required that some hardware items fit certain specified cutout dimensions.

This Standard on materials and finishes contains a description of types of finishes and divides them into categories. A numbering system has been established which identifies base material and finish.

Performance test methods for finishes are included. Requirements and exemptions concerning appearance are contained in this Standard.

The finish test methods, code numbers and finish descriptions contained in this Standard are intended to apply to the builders hardware industry.

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## 1. SCOPE

1.1 This Standard establishes tests for architectural finishes applied to various types of Builders Hardware with specific performance requirements by individual standards described in Section 6. Tests include salt spray, UV, perspiration, hardness, and humidity. This Standard also provides a numbering system to describe finishes by base material and coatings.

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

1.3 **Performance Requirements** Are established based on the individual ANSI/BHMA A156 Series requirements as listed in Section 6. Finish requirements can be different depending on the product type and standard. Finishes can be tested and listed to multiple standard finish requirements.

1.4 Door hardware shall be certified to the applicable ANSI/BHMA A156 Standard selected for the finish certification specified by the manufacturer to qualify for this certification. Related additional performance requirements are covered in ANSI/BHMA A156 Standards listed in 1.5.

1.5 Related additional performance requirements are covered in BHMA Publications:

- A156.1-2016 for Butts and Hinges
- A156.2-2017 for Bored and Preassembled Locks and Latches
- A156.3-2014 for Exit Devices
- A156.4-2019 for Door Controls – Closers
- A156.6-2016 for Architectural Door Trim
- A156.8-2016 for Door Controls – Overhead Stops and Holders
- A156.9-2016 for Cabinet Hardware
- A156.11-2019 for Cabinet Locks
- A156.12-2018 for Interconnected Locks and Latches
- A156.13-2017 for Mortise Locks and Latches
- A156.14-2019 for Sliding and Folding Door Hardware
- A156.15-2015 for EM Release Device Closer Holder
- A156.16-2018 for Auxiliary Hardware
- A156.17-2019 for Self Closing Hinges and Pivots
- A156.20-2017 for Straps and Tee Hinges
- A156.23-2017 for Electromagnetic Locks
- A156.26-2017 for Continuous Hinges
- A156.29-2017 for Exit Locks and Alarms for Exit Devices
- A156.31-2019 for Electric Strike and Frame Mounted Actuators
- A156.36-2016 for Auxiliary Locks
- A156.37-2014 for Multipoint Locks
- A156.39-2015 Residential Locksets and Latches
- A156.40-2015 Residential Deadbolts