

DATA SHEET

440C

Typical Composition						
C	Mn	Si	Cr	P	Mo	S
0.95/1.20	1.00	1.00	16.00/18.00	0.40	0.75	0.03

440C is a hardenable chromium steel. It has one of the highest attainable hardnesses of the corrosion and heat resisting grades. This grade is magnetic at all times. For those applications where superior machinability is desired and where slightly lower corrosion resistance is satisfactory 440C can be supplied.

The *typical applications* of 440C include ball bearings, bushings, valve parts and cutlery.

Cutlery Applications

440C is particularly designed for cutlery applications requiring a high hardness and an excellent retention of the cutting edge. When this grade is ordered specifically for mirror-finish cutlery applications, material will be supplied which has been processed in such a manner as to insure the obtaining of a polished surface of "mirror finish" quality. Care should be taken in grinding and polishing this grade so that excessive heat is not produced by this operation as the resistance to staining will be lowered. In general, 440C resembles tool steels in that it required great care in fabrication and hardening.

Forging

440C should be forged at 1950 to 2050° F and finished not lower than 1750° F. Reheating should be used if necessary. This grade should be allowed to cool slowly after forging.

Annealing

440C should be annealed for maximum softness by thorough soaking at 1650°F for six hours followed by a furnace cool. This grade can be *cycle annealed by heating to 1600°F, holding two hours, cooling to 1300°F, and holding four hours. The steel may be cooled in air if desired.

**Cycle (isothermal) annealing is most practical for applications in which full advantage may be taken of the rapid cooling to the transformation temperature and from this temperature down to room temperature. Thus, for small parts which can be conveniently handled in salt or lead baths, this isothermal annealing makes possible large time savings as compared with the conventional slow furnace cooling. The method offers no particular advantage for applications such as batch annealing of large furnace loads in which the rate of cooling to the center of load may be so slow as to preclude any rapid cooling to the transformation temperatures. For such applications, the conventional full annealing method usually offers better assurance of obtaining the desired microstructure and properties.*

This data sheet is for informational purposes only. Alloy characteristics are subject to change due to chemical composition and/or processing. We do not certify the material's suitability for specific applications.



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Hardening and Tempering

440C can be hardened for maximum hardness by oil quenching or air cooling from 1850 to 1900°F. Large sections or complex parts should be preheated to 1425°F, equalize, and then raised to the austenitizing temperature. If the finished part is not to be ground and polished, the surface may be improved by packing in a neutral material during heating. Tempering should be at the proper temperature to give the desired approximate hardness as indicated below.

Tempering Temperature (F)	HRC
As quenched	59
212°	59
400°	56
600°	54
800°	55
1000°	51

It is desirable to avoid tempering between 800 and 1100°F, as there is a drop in impact strength within this range, coincidental with which there is also a reduction in resistance to corrosion.

Welding

440C should be welded with Type 440C filler weld metal if the mechanical properties of the weld metal must be similar to those of the parent metal. In welding annealed material, the steel should be preheated to 600°F and annealed following welding by heating uniformly and thoroughly at 1300°F followed by the air cooling. When welding hardened and tempered material, preheat to the tempering temperature, weld and post-heat at the appropriate tempering temperature for 2 hours.

Resistance to Scaling

440C scales at approximately 1400°F. This temperature will vary with the type of atmosphere, type of construction, and cycle of operation.

General Corrosion Resistance

440C is resistant to corrosion in atmosphere environments, fresh water, mild acids, alkalis, and fruit and vegetable juices. The better the finish of the hardened and tempered part, the better will be its corrosion resistance.

Machining Data

440C STAINLESS STEEL

Operation	Tooling Width or Depth of cut (in)	High Speed Tooling*		Carbide Tooling	
		Speed (fpm)	Feed (in/rev)	Speed (fpm)	Feed (in/rev)
Turning Single point	0.050	65	0.0045	200	0.010
	0.250	65	0.0040	200	0.020
	0.500	60	0.0035	175	0.025
Forming	½ wide	65	0.0012	120	0.002
	1 wide	65	0.0010	120	0.002
	1.5 wide	60	0.0008	120	0.002
	2 wide	60	0.0008	120	0.001
Cutoff	1/16 wide	60	0.0010	120	0.002
	1/8 wide	60	0.0010	120	0.002
	3/16 wide	65	0.0012	120	0.002
	¼ wide	65	0.0015	120	0.003
Drilling	1/16 dia.	40	0.0010		
	1/8 dia.	40	0.0020		
	¼ dia.	45	0.0025		
	½ dia.	45	0.0030		
	¾ dia.	45	0.0035		
	1 dia.	45	0.0040		

*Use the higher speeds for the finer threads.

Specifications

440C has found wide industry acceptance and meets the following specifications

QQ-S-763d	AMS 5630C	ASTN A-276-67	ASTM A-580-67
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