

Bright Bar Tolerance Comparison: A Global Guide by Steelmet Industries

#### **Description**

#### ? Introduction:

Bars, Alloy When precision matters, tolerances make all the difference. In applications where bright bars are used — from gears to shafts, fasteners to hydraulic spindles — even a few microns of variation can affect performance, fitment, or cost.

This guide from Steelmet Industries helps you understand bright bar tolerances in leading international systems - ISO, IS, JIS, ANSI, and more - and how to select the right tolerance grade for your application.

## ? What is Bright Bar Tolerance?

Bright bar tolerance refers to the **allowable dimensional deviation** from the nominal (target) size of a bright bar. This deviation is tightly controlled based on the intended application and manufacturing standard. The tolerance band becomes critical in automated machining, fitting, and high-load assemblies.

## ? Tolerance Comparison Table

Section Type	Size Range (mm)	Size Range (inches)	Standard	Grade / Notation	Tolerance Band (mm)	Total Variation	Notes
Rounds	3 – 6	0.12 – 0.24?	ISO 286-2 h	19	-0.025 to - 0.052	0.027 mm	Precision fit, high-speed machining

Section Type	Size Range (mm)	Size Range (inches)	Standard	Grade / Notation	Tolerance Band (mm)	Total Variation	Notes
Rounds	6 - 30	0.24 – 1.18?	ISO 286-2	h11	-0.060 to - 0.150	0.090 mm	General machining use
Squares	10 – 40	0.39 – 1.57?	IS 9550	h11	~ -0.08 to - 0.18	0.10 – 0.20 mm	Used in frames, bushes, couplings
Hexagons	5 – 50	0.20 – 2.00?	IS 9550	h11	~ -0.07 to - 0.18	~0.10 mm	Common in fastener industry
Flats	10×3 – 100×20	_	ISO / IS	h11 (width), K13 (thickness)	-0.20 to - 0.80	Varies by dimension	Different tolerances on width vs thickness
Custom Bars	5 – 100	_	As agreed	Customer Spec	Project- specific	Custom tolerance	Round S corners, tapered edges, D- shapes etc.
Note: Inch conversions are approximate. Please verify before procurement.							

# ? Mini Glossary: Tolerance Terms

#### Meaning

Tolerance Grade Classification of how much deviation is allowed from nominal				
h9 / h11	ISO standard tolerance classes. h9 is tighter than h11			
<b>Total Variation</b>	The full range between maximum and minimum acceptable size			
Cold Drawn	Bars drawn through dies to achieve accurate sizes			
Peeled Bars	Bars peeled on machines for precise finish and tolerances			

## ? FAQ – Bright Bar Tolerances

#### Q1. What is the most common bright bar tolerance grade?

A: h11 is the most commonly used tolerance grade. It balances precision and cost-effectiveness.

#### Q2. Are tolerances uniform across shapes?

A: No. Tolerances vary between rounds, hex, squares, and flats. Flats typically have different tolerances on width and thickness.

#### Q3. Can Steelmet supply inch-tolerance bright bars?

A: Yes. Steelmet Industries manufactures bars per ANSI and ASME inch tolerances on demand.

#### Q4. Do tolerance bands increase with size?

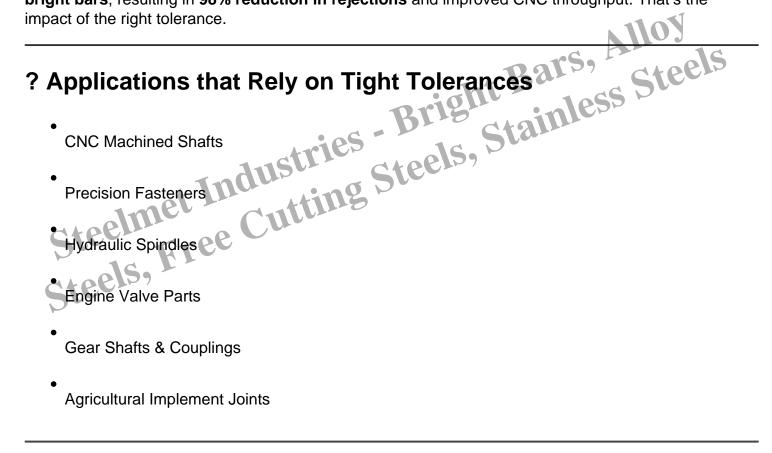
A: Yes. Larger sections generally allow wider tolerance bands.

#### Q5. Can special profiles have specific tolerances?

**A:** Absolutely. Steelmet supplies custom bars with specified tolerances per drawing or client specification.

### ? A Real-World Scenario:

One automotive component manufacturer faced excessive rejections during fitment due to inconsistent bar dimensions from local suppliers. Steelmet Industries replaced them with certified **h9 and h11 bright bars**, resulting in **98% reduction in rejections** and improved CNC throughput. That's the impact of the right tolerance.



## ? Call-to-Action

Looking for bright bars with verified tolerances, mill test reports, and dimensional certification?

? Contact **Steelmet Industries** — where **accuracy, consistency, and service** are not just promises, but processes.

Visit us at ? www.steelmet.in or get in touch for your specification.

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#### Date

17/07/2025

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