

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF STANDARDS  
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MASTER SPECIFICATION FOR  
SURGICAL OPERATING PADS

FEDERAL SPECIFICATIONS BOARD SPECIFICATION No. 230a

[Revised June 1, 1925]

This specification was officially promulgated by the Federal Specifications Board on November 5, 1924, for the use of the Departments and Independent Establishments of the Government in the purchase of surgical operating pads.

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I. TYPE

Operating pads shall be of the reversible type as described below.

II. MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP

Pads shall be made from single coated rubber sheeting, which shall be smooth and free from pits or other imperfections.

### III. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Pads shall be suitably reinforced at seams and edges, shall be supplied with air valve in inflating bulb, and shall have open-type air cushion rim with plain bottom and drain apron, the design and construction being such as to make the pad reversible. The pad shall be 20 inches in diameter and the air cushion ring shall be approximately 3 inches in diameter when inflated. The bottom and drain apron shall be of one piece and shall be firmly attached to inflating ring. The drain apron shall be at least 25 inches long beyond opening of inflated ring; shall measure not less than 14½ inches at ring end and not less than 13 inches at distal end, and shall have three soft and flexible metal ribs inserted transversely into its length, one at top, one at middle, and one at bottom of apron. The material of metal ribs shall be such as will permit of easy bending of apron into form of trough for drainage purposes.

The thickness of the cloth inserted walls shall be 0.025 inch with a tolerance of  $\pm 0.005$  inch.

### IV. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS

1. FITTINGS.—(a) *Suspension tab*.—Attached to bottom of pad at center of top of ring there shall be provided a cloth inserted rubber tab having a noncorrosive reinforced eye, which shall show no appreciable distortion or displacement when supporting the pad.

(b) *Inflating tube*.—Inserted into outer edge of inflating ring near open end of ring, there shall be supplied an inflating tube securely attached to ring which shall be at least 3 inches long and in outer end of which shall be fitted a valve controlled by a screw joint, and to which inflating bulb may be attached with threaded screw joint.

(c) *Inflating bulb*.—An inflating bulb of best quality rubber with screw tip and washer for connection with inflating tube shall be supplied.

2. RUBBER CONTENT.—The rubber compound shall contain at least 38 per cent by weight of best quality new wild or plantation rubber.

3. FABRIC.—The sheeting shall be a plain weave, evenly woven, and free from imperfections and makeweight. It shall have a thread count of not less than 68 threads to the inch, warp, and 70 filling, and shall weigh not less than 4.3 ounces per square yard. It shall have a tensile strength of not less than 60 pounds, warp and filling, determined by the strip method.

4. FINISHED SHEETING.—The tensile strength of the coated sheeting shall be not less than 65 pounds, warp and filling. Tests shall be made within 30 days from date of delivery, by the strip method on specimens 2 inches wide.

5. **PRESSURE TEST.**—The resistance of air cushion to bursting pressure shall be not less than 10 lbs./in.<sup>2</sup>

#### V. SAMPLING

One pad shall be selected from each 100 or less delivered for test and analysis.

#### VI. PACKING AND MARKING

Packing shall be as called for in the proposal.

Each pad shall have the manufacturer's name or trade name vulcanized in raised letters.

#### VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

No details specified.

#### VIII. GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

General Specifications for Rubber Goods, F. S. B. Specification No. 59a, and for Textiles, in effect on date of issuance of proposal, shall form part of this specification.

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