MEN'S SHIRT SIZES
(Exclusive of Work Shirts)

COMMERCIAL STANDARD CS135-46

Effective Date for New Production From July 15, 1946

A RECORDED VOLUNTARY STANDARD
OF THE TRADE

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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PROMULGATION
of
COMMERCIAL STANDARD CS135-46
for
MEN'S SHIRT SIZES
(Exclusive of Work Shirts)

On March 2, 1932, a general conference of manufacturers, distributors, and users adopted a recommended commercial standard for men's shirts (exclusive of work shirts). This recommended commercial standard was not officially accepted, but was made available for distribution upon request. The standing committee reviewed subsequent comment, and prepared a revised draft, which was circulated for written acceptance on October 28, 1938. This draft was accepted by a large portion of the trade. After further review and consideration, a sufficient number of signed acceptances were received from manufacturers, distributors, and users to justify promulgation by the United States Department of Commerce, through the National Bureau of Standards.

The standard is effective for new production from July 15, 1946.

Promulgation recommended.

Promulgated.

Promulgation approved.

F. W. Reynolds,
Acting Chief, Division of Trade Standards.

E. U. Condon,
Director, National Bureau of Standards.

Henry A. Wallace,
Secretary of Commerce.
MEN’S SHIRT SIZES  
(Exclusive of Work Shirts)  

COMMERCIAL STANDARD CS135-46

PURPOSE

1. The purpose is to provide standard methods of measuring and standard minimum measurements for the guidance of producers, distributors, and users, in order to eliminate confusion resulting from a diversity of measurements and methods and to provide a uniform basis for guaranteeing full size.

SCOPE

2. The garments covered in this commercial standard are men’s shirts, exclusive of work shirts, whether made of shrunk or unshrunk material. The standard covers methods of measuring and minimum measurements for neckband, chest, front length, back length, armholes, and sleeve width of shirts in sizes 14 to 17, inclusive.

APPLICATION

3. The methods and measurements given herein are applicable to finished shirts as delivered by the manufacturer.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

4. Method of measuring.—The shirt to be measured shall be laid out without tension on a smooth, flat surface so that there will be no creases or wrinkles to affect the measurements.

5. Accuracy.—Measurements shall be taken to the nearest one-eighth of an inch.

METHODS OF MEASURING

6. Neckband—length.—Measured from outside end of one buttonhole inside of bar, to center of other buttonhole, with neckband laid out flat. (A, fig. 1.)

7. Collarband on attached collar shirts—length.—Measured from outside end of buttonhole inside of bar, to center of button, with collar laid out flat. (A, fig. 1.)

8. Chest.—Measured around buttoned-up garment at bottom of the armhole. (B, fig. 2.)

1 It is recognized that many shirts made of unshrunk fabrics normally include little or no allowance for shrinkage. Therefore, in buying unshrunk shirts, the consumer should obtain a larger size or assurance that proper shrinkage allowance has been made.

694738—46 1
9. Front and back—length.—Measured from the highest point of the yoke to the bottom of the shirt. (C and D, fig. 2.)
10. Armholes, around.—Measured along seam around sleeve at shoulder. (E, fig. 2.)
11. Sleeves, around.—Measured around sleeve at a point one-half way between the top of cuff and shoulder seam. (F, fig. 2.)
12. Sleeve, length.—Measured from center of yoke at bottom of neckband to end of the cuff. (G, fig. 2.)

Figure 1.—Neckband and collarband.

Figure 2.—Men’s shirt.

MINIMUM MEASUREMENTS

13. Standard minimum measurements for men’s shirts (exclusive of work shirts) are shown in table 1.

Table 1.—Standard minimum measurements in inches for men’s shirts (exclusive of work shirts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>14⅝</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>15½</th>
<th>16</th>
<th>16½</th>
<th>17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chest, total circumference</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front, length of</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back, length of</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armholes, around</td>
<td>16¼</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20¼</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21½</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleeves, around</td>
<td>14½</td>
<td>15¼</td>
<td>15¼</td>
<td>16¼</td>
<td>16¾</td>
<td>17¼</td>
<td>17½</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LABELING

14. In order to assure the consumer that he is receiving garments that comply with standard measurements, it is recommended that men's shirts manufactured to conform to such standards be identified by a sticker, tag, or other label attached to the garment and carrying the following statement:

The manufacturer guarantees this garment to have been made to measurements which are in accordance with Commercial Standard CS135-46, as issued by the National Bureau of Standards of the United States Department of Commerce.

Or more briefly,

Conforms to CS135-46.

EFFECTIVE DATE

15. The standard is effective for new production from July 15, 1946.

STANDING COMMITTEE

16. The following individuals comprise the membership of the standing committee, which is to review, prior to circulation for acceptance, revisions proposed to keep the standard abreast of progress. Each organization nominated its own representative. Comment concerning the standard and suggestions for revision may be addressed to any member of the committee or to the Division of Trade Standards, National Bureau of Standards, which acts as secretary for the committee.

M. E. Rowan, (chairman), Elder Manufacturing Co., Thirteenth and Lucas Streets, St. Louis, Mo.

Seymour J. Phillips, Phillips-Jones Corporation, 1225 Broadway at Thirtieth Street, New York, N. Y.


Max J. Lovell, National Association of Shirt and Pajama Mfrs., 276 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

John C. Turrell, Chuett, Peabody & Co., 40 Worth Street, New York, N. Y.

Henry Matter, Wholesale Dry Goods Institute, 40 Worth Street, New York, N. Y.

Louis Rothschild, National Association of Retail Clothiers and Furnishers, Washington Loan & Trust Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Louis Gutterman, Knickerbocker Haberdasher, Inc., 12 East Forty-Second Street, New York, N. Y.

T. L. Blanke, National Retail Dry Goods Association, 100 West Thirty-first Street, New York, N. Y.

Grover Yeager, W. T. Grant Co., 1441 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y. (Representing Limited Price Variety Stores Association.)


Mrs. Ernest H. Daniel, Broad Branch and Grant Roads, N. W., Washington, D. C. (Representing General Federation of Women's Clubs.)

Mrs. Charlotte Payne, National Council of Women of the United States, 501 Madison Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

17. On December 7, 1931, the National Association of Shirt Manufacturers requested the cooperation of the National Bureau of Standards looking to the adoption of standard minimum measurements for men's shirts (exclusive of work shirts).

18. On January 27, 1932, a preliminary conference of manufacturers was held in New York to consider the tentative draft of a specification for these garments. Following adoption of the revised draft, the meeting voted to hold a general conference on March 2, 1932.

19. Accordingly, on that date a general conference of manufacturers, distributors, and users was held in Chicago to consider the draft approved by the preliminary conference. Following a review of the specification, the conference recommended that it be circulated to the trade for written acceptance, which was done on March 17, 1932.

Although a sufficient number of acceptances were not received to justify its promulgation as a commercial standard, it was made available for distribution upon request.

20. In the meantime, the standing committee selected by the general conference reviewed all subsequent comment and suggestions with a view to making the recommended standard generally acceptable to all concerned. Accordingly, on October 28, 1938, a revised draft of the Recommended Commercial Standard was circulated for written acceptance. Manufacturers representing a large percentage of the production volume of the industry signed acceptances at that time. Further review and consideration was indicated, however, with the result that in due course, the industry submitted a sufficient number of additional acceptances to justify its promulgation by the United States Department of Commerce, through the National Bureau of Standards.

21. An announcement was issued on May 15, 1946 that the standard would become effective for new production from July 15, 1946.
ACCEPTANCE OF COMMERCIAL STANDARD

If acceptance has not previously been filed, this sheet properly filled in, signed, and returned will provide for the recording of your organization as an acceptor of this commercial standard.

Date________________________

Division of Trade Standards, National Bureau of Standards, Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:
We believe that the Commercial Standard CS135-46 constitutes a useful standard of practice, and we individually plan to utilize it as far as practicable in the production
distribution purchase testing
of men's shirts (exclusive of work shirts).

We reserve the right to depart from it as we deem advisable.

We understand, of course, that only those articles which actually comply with the standard in all respects can be identified or labeled as conforming thereto.

Signature of authorized officer________________________ (In ink)

(Kindly typewrite or print the following lines)

Name and title of above officer________________________

Organization________________________ (Fill in exactly as it should be listed)

Street address________________________

City, Zone, and State________________________

1 Underscore which one. Please see that separate acceptances are filed for all subsidiary companies and affiliates which should be listed separately as acceptors. In the case of related interests, trade associations, trade papers, etc., desiring to record their general support, the words "General Support" should be added after the signature.

5
TO THE ACCEPTOR

The following statements answer the usual questions arising in connection with the acceptance and its significance:

1. **Enforcement.**—Commercial standards are commodity specifications voluntarily established by mutual consent of those concerned. They present a common basis of understanding between the producer, distributor, and consumer and should not be confused with any plan of governmental regulation or control. The United States Department of Commerce has no regulatory power in the enforcement of their provisions, but since they represent the will of the interested groups as a whole, their provisions through usage soon become established as trade customs, and are made effective through incorporation into sales contracts by means of labels, invoices and the like.

2. **The acceptor's responsibility.**—The purpose of commercial standards is to establish for specific commodities, nationally recognized grades or consumer criteria and the benefits therefrom will be measurable in direct proportion to their general recognition and actual use. Instances will occur when it may be necessary to deviate from the standard and the signing of an acceptance does not preclude such departures. However, such signature indicates an intention to follow the commercial standard, where practicable, in the production, distribution, or consumption of the article in question.

3. **The Department's responsibility.**—The major function performed by the Department of Commerce in the voluntary establishment of commercial standards on a Nation-wide basis is fourfold: first, to act as an unbiased coordinator to bring all interested parties together for the mutually satisfactory adjustment of trade standards; second, to supply such assistance and advice as past experience with similar programs may suggest; third, to canvass and record the extent of acceptance and adherence to the standard on the part of producers, distributors, and users; and fourth, after acceptance, to publish and promulgate the standard for the information and guidance of buyers and sellers of the commodity.

4. **Announcement and promulgation.**—When the standard has been endorsed by a satisfactory majority of production or consumption in the absence of active, valid opposition, the success of the project is announced. If, however, in the opinion of the standing committee or the Department of Commerce, the support of any standard is inadequate, the right is reserved to withhold promulgation and publication.
ACCEPTEES

22. The organizations listed below have individually accepted this standard for use as far as practicable in the production, distribution, testing or purchase of men's shirts (exclusive of work shirts). In accepting the standard they reserved the right to depart therefrom as they individually deem advisable. It is expected that articles actually complying with the requirements of this standard in all respects will be regularly identified or labeled as conforming thereto, and that purchasers will require such specific evidence of conformity.

ASSOCIATIONS
(GENERAL SUPPORT)
American Home Economics Association, Washington, D. C.
Intermountain Consumers' Service, Inc., Denver, Colo.
National Association of College Stores, Chicago, Ill.
National Association of Retail Clothing and Furnishers, Washington, D. C.
National Council of Women of the United States, New York, N. Y.
National Industrial Stores Association, Washington, D. C.
National Retail Dry Goods Association, New York, N. Y.
North Dakota Retail Merchants Association, Bis- mack, N. Dak.
Pacific Coast Garment Manufacturers, San Francisco, Calif., and Los Angeles, Calif.
Sacramento, City of, Retail Merchants Association, Sacramento, Calif.

FRMS
Abraham & Straus, Inc., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Aldens, Inc., Chicago, Ill.
Alvey & Reib, Wappingers Falls, N. Y.
Artwright Merchandise Corporation, New York, N. Y.
Arts & Crafts, Inc., Lewiston, Me.
Associated Dry Goods Corporation, New York, N. Y.
Associated Merchandising Corporation, New York, N. Y.
Atwood Co., J. J., Upland, Calif.
Ball & Giles, Inc., Troy, N. Y.
Ball Stores, Inc., Muncie, Ind.
Baskind & Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.
Bedford Shirt Corporation, New York, N. Y.
Belmont Co., Ltd., New York, N. Y.
Belmont Shirt Co., New York, N. Y.
Berne Overall & Shirt Co., Berne, Ind. (General support).
Berniestla & Sons Shirt Corporation, New York, N. Y.
Black Dry Goods Co., The James, Waterloo, Iowa.
Black Manufacturing Co., The, Seattle, Wash.
Blietz, M. E., Atlantic City, N. J.
Blue Bird Co., L. S., Indianapolis, Ind.
Bon Marche, The, Seattle, Wash.
Boston Store (Hersfeld-Phillips Co.), Milwaukee, Wis.
Bower & Co., C. O., Pomona, Calif.
Brandes Co., T. L., Omaha, Nebr.
Braun & Co., D., Milwaukee, Wis.
Broadway Shirt Corporation, New York, N. Y.
Broader Department Store, Inc., Los Angeles, Calif.
Broderick Custom Shirt Maker, Albany, N. Y.
Brohard-Rainer Shirt Corporation, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Brook & Newman, New York, N. Y.
Brown Co., John A., Oklahoma City, Okla.
Brownstein-Louis Co., Los Angeles, Calif.
## COMMERCIAL STANDARDS

**CS No.** | **ITEM**
---|---
0-40 | Commercial standards and their value to business (third edition).
1-42 | Clinical thermometers (third edition).
2-30 | Mopsticks.
3-40 | Stoddard solvent (third edition).
4-29 | Staple porcelain (all-clay) plumbing fixtures.
5-46 | Pipe nipples; brass, copper, steel and wrought-iron (second edition).
7-29 | Standard weight malleable iron or steel screwed unjoint library bindings (second edition).
8-41 | Gate blanks (third edition).
9-33 | Builders' template hardware (second edition).
10-29 | Brass pipe nipples. Superseded by CS 5-46.
14-43 | Brass button-on waists, shirts and sport shirts (made from woven fabrics) (third edition).
16-29 | Wall paper.
17-42 | Diamond core drill fittings (third edition).
18-29 | Brass valley-fitting and valley-iron shafts.
22-40 | Builders' hardware (nonmetal) (second edition).
24-35 | Special screw threads and tap-drill sizes.
25-30 | Special screw threads. Superseded by CS 21-43.
26-30 | Aromatic red cedar closet lining.
29-31 | Staple seats for water-closet bowls.
30-31 | Colors for sanitary ware.
31-38 | Wood shingles (fourth edition).
32-31 | Cotton cloth for rubber and pyroxaline coating.
33-43 | Knit underwear (exclusive of rayon) (second edition).
34-31 | Bar, case, and strap leather.
36-33 | Four-drawer wire cloth (second edition).
37-31 | Steel plate and other metals.
38-32 | Hospital rubber s. eating.
40-32 | Surgeons' rubber gloves.
41-32 | Surgeons' latex gloves.
43-32 | Combustion of sulfonated oils.
44-32 | Apple wraps.
45-45 | Douglas fir plywood (sixth edition).
46-40 | Honed kitchen and dining (third edition).
47-34 | Marking of gold-filled and rolled-gold-plate articles other than watchcases.
48-40 | Domestic burners for Pennsylvania anthracite (underfired type) (second edition).
49-34 | Chip board, laminated chip board and miscellaneous boards for bookbinding purposes.
50-34 | Binders board for bookbinding and other purposes.

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**CS No.** | **ITEM**
---|---
51-38 | Marking articles made of silver in combination with gold.
52-35 | Multiple pile fabrics (100-percent mohair plain velvet, 100-percent mohair plain frieze, and 50-percent mohair plain frieze).
53-35 | Colors and finishes for cast stone.
54-35 | Mattresses for hospitals.
55-35 | Mattresses for institutions.
56-41 | Oak flooring (second edition).
57-40 | Book cloths, buckram, and impressed fabrics for bookbinding purposes except library bindings (second edition).
58-36 | Woven elastic fabrics for use in overalls (after market), webbing.
59-44 | Textiles—testing and reporting (fourth edition).
60-36 | Redwood dimension lumber.
61-37 | Wood slat Venetian blinds.
62-35 | Colors for kitchen accessories.
63-35 | Colors for bathroom accessories.
64-37 | Walnut veneers.
66-38 | Marking of articles made wholly or in part of platinum.
67-38 | Marking articles made of karat gold.
68-38 | Lithography hypo chloride disinfectant, deodorant, and germicide.
69-38 | Pine oil disinfectant.
70-41 | Phenolic disinfectant (emulsifying type) (second edition) (published with CS71-41).
71-41 | Phenol disinfectant (soluble type) (second edition) (published with CS70-41).
72-38 | Household insecticide (liquid spray type).
74-39 | Solid hardwood wall paneling.
75-42 | Automatic mechanical draft oil burners designed for domestic installations (second edition).
76-39 | Hardwood interior trim and molding.
77-40 | Sanitary cast-iron enamelled ware.
80-41 | Electric direction signal systems other than semaphore type for commercial and other vehicles subject to special motor vehicle laws (after market).
81-41 | Adverse-weather lamps for vehicles (after market).
82-41 | Inner-controlled spotlights for vehicles (after market).
83-41 | Clearance, marker, and identification lamps for vehicles (after market).
84-41 | Electric signal lamps for vehicles (after market).
85-41 | Electric license-plate lamps. For vehicles (after market).
86-41 | Electric stop lamps for vehicles (after market).
87-41 | Red electric warning lanterns.
88-41 | Liquid-burning flares.
89-40 | Hardwood stair treads and risers.
90-40 | Radiator for power shovels and cranes.
91-41 | Factory-fitted Douglas fir entrance doors.
92-41 | Cedar, cypress and redwood tank stock lumber.
93-41 | Portable electric drills (exclusive of high frequency).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CS No.</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-41.</td>
<td>Calking lead.</td>
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<tr>
<td>95-41.</td>
<td>Lead pipe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96-41.</td>
<td>Lead traps and bends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97-42.</td>
<td>Electric supplementary driving and passing lamps for vehicles (after market).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98-42.</td>
<td>Artists’ oil paints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99-42.</td>
<td>Gas floor furnaces—gravity circulating type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-44.</td>
<td>Porcelain-enamed steel utensils (second edition).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-43.</td>
<td>Flue-connected oil-burning space heaters equipped with vaporizing pot-type burners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102- . (Reserved for Diesel and fuel-oil engines).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103-42.</td>
<td>Cotton and rayon velour (jacquard and plain).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104-46.</td>
<td>Warm-air furnaces equipped with vaporizing pot-type oil burners (second edition).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105-43.</td>
<td>Mineral wool; loose granulated, or felted form, in low-temperature installations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108-43.</td>
<td>Treading automobile and truck tires.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109-44.</td>
<td>Solid-fuel-burning forced-air furnaces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110-43.</td>
<td>Tire repairs—vulcanized (passenger, truck, and bus tires).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111-43.</td>
<td>Earthenware (vitreous-glazed) plumbing fixtures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112-43.</td>
<td>Homogeneous fiber wallboard.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notice.**—Those interested in commercial standards with a view toward accepting them as a basis of everyday practice may secure copies of the above standards, while the supply lasts, by addressing the Division of Trade Standards, National Bureau of Standards, Washington 25, D. C.

1 Where “(E)” precedes the CS number, it indicates an emergency commercial standard, drafted under war conditions with a view toward early revision.