

ANSI and IEC Color Codes[†] for Thermocouples, Wire and Connectors

Connectors			Connectors								
ANSI Code	ANSI MC 96.1 Color Coding		Alloy Combination		Comments Environment Bare Wire	Maximum T/C Grade Temp. Range	EMF (mV) Over Max. Temp. Range	IEC 584-3 Color Coding		IEC Code	
	Thermocouple Grade	Extension Grade	+ Lead	- Lead				Thermocouple Grade	Intrinsically Safe		
J			IRON Fe (magnetic)	CONSTANTAN COPPER-NICKEL Cu-Ni	Reducing, Vacuum, Inert. Limited Use in Oxidizing at High Temperatures. Not Recommended for Low Temperatures.	-210 to 1200°C -346 to 2193°F	-8.095 to 69.553			J	
K			CHROMEKA [®] NICKEL-CHROMIUM Ni-Cr	ALOMEGA [®] NICKEL-ALUMINUM Ni-Al (magnetic)	Clean Oxidizing and Inert. Limited Use in Vacuum or Reducing. Wide Temperature Range, Most Popular Calibration	-270 to 1372°C -454 to 2501°F	-6.458 to 54.886			K	
T			COPPER Cu	CONSTANTAN COPPER-NICKEL Cu-Ni	Mild Oxidizing, Reducing Vacuum or Inert. Good Where Moisture Is Present. Low Temperature & Cryogenic Applications	-270 to 400°C -454 to 752°F	-6.258 to 20.872			T	
E			CHROMEKA [®] NICKEL-CHROMIUM Ni-Cr	CONSTANTAN COPPER-NICKEL Cu-Ni	Oxidizing or Inert. Limited Use in Vacuum or Reducing. Highest EMF Change Per Degree	-270 to 1000°C -454 to 1832°F	-9.835 to 76.373			E	
N			OMEGA-P [®] NICROSIL Ni-Cr-Si	OMEGA-N [®] NISIL Ni-Si-Mg	Alternative to Type K. More Stable at High Temps	-270 to 1300°C -450 to 2372°F	-4.345 to 47.513			N	
R	NONE ESTABLISHED		PLATINUM-13% RHODIUM Pt-13% Rh	PLATINUM Pt	Oxidizing or Inert. Do Not Insert in Metal Tubes. Beware of Contamination. High Temperature	-50 to 1768°C -58 to 3214°F	-0.226 to 21.101			R	
S	NONE ESTABLISHED		PLATINUM-10% RHODIUM Pt-10% Rh	PLATINUM Pt	Oxidizing or Inert. Do Not Insert in Metal Tubes. Beware of Contamination. High Temperature	-50 to 1768°C -58 to 3214°F	-0.236 to 18.693			S	
U	NONE ESTABLISHED		COPPER Cu	COPPER-LOW NICKEL Cu-Ni	Extension Grade Connecting Wire for R & S Thermocouples, Also Known as RX & SX Extension Wire.					U	
B	NONE ESTABLISHED		PLATINUM-30% RHODIUM Pt-30% Rh	PLATINUM-6% RHODIUM Pt-6% Rh	Oxidizing or Inert. Do Not Insert in Metal Tubes. Beware of Contamination. High Temp. Common Use in Glass Industry	0 to 1820°C 32 to 3308°F	0 to 13.820			B	
G* (W)	NONE ESTABLISHED		TUNGSTEN W	TUNGSTEN-26% RHENIUM W-26% Re	Vacuum, Inert, Hydrogen. Beware of Embrittlement. Not Practical Below 399°C (750°F). Not for Oxidizing Atmosphere	0 to 2320°C 32 to 4208°F	0 to 38.564	NO STANDARD USE ANSI COLOR CODE		G (W)	
C* (W5)	NONE ESTABLISHED		TUNGSTEN-5% RHENIUM W-5% Re	TUNGSTEN-26% RHENIUM W-26% Re	Vacuum, Inert, Hydrogen. Beware of Embrittlement. Not Practical Below 399°C (750°F). Not for Oxidizing Atmosphere	0 to 2320°C 32 to 4208°F	0 to 37.066	NO STANDARD USE ANSI COLOR CODE		C (W5)	
D* (W3)	NONE ESTABLISHED		TUNGSTEN-3% RHENIUM W-3% Re	TUNGSTEN-25% RHENIUM W-25% Re	Vacuum, Inert, Hydrogen. Beware of Embrittlement. Not Practical Below 399°C (750°F)-Not for Oxidizing Atmosphere	0 to 2320°C 32 to 4208°F	0 to 39.506	NO STANDARD USE ANSI COLOR CODE		D (W3)	

* Not official symbol or standard designation

[†] JIS color code also available.

Thermocouple Tolerances

(Reference Junction at 0°C)

American Limits of Error ASTM E230-ANSI MC 96.1

ANSI Code		Standard Limits†		Special Limits†	
J	Temp Range	>0 to 750°C	>32 to 1382°F	0 to 750°C	32 to 1382°F
	Tolerance Value	2.2°C or 0.75%	4.0°F or 0.75%	1.1°C or 0.4%	2.0°F or 0.4%
K	Temp Range	>0 to 1250°C	>32 to 2282°F	0 to 1250°C	32 to 2282°F
	Tolerance Value	2.2°C or 0.75%	4.0°F or 0.75%	1.1°C or 0.4%	2.0°F or 0.4%
	Temp. Range*	-200 to 0°C	-328 to 32°F		
	Tolerance Value	2.2°C or 2.0%	4.0°F or 2.0%		
T	Temp Range	>0 to 350°C	>32 to 662°F	0 to 350°C	32 to 662°F
	Tolerance Value	1.0°C or 0.75%	1.8°F or 0.75%	0.5°C or 0.4%	1°F or 0.4%
	Temp. Range*	-200 to 0°C	-328 to 32°F		
	Tolerance Value	1.0°C or 1.5%	1.8°F or 1.5%		
E	Temp Range	>0 to 900°C	>32 to 1652	0 to 900°C	32 to 1652°F
	Tolerance Value	1.7°C or 0.5%	3°F or 0.5%	1.0°C or 0.4%	1.8°F or 0.4%
	Temp. Range*	-200 to 0°C	-328 to 32°F		
	Tolerance Value	1.7°C or 1.0%	3°F or 1.0%		
N	Temp Range	>0 to 1300°C	>32 to 2372°F	0 to 1300°C	32 to 2372°F
	Tolerance Value	2.2°C or 0.75%	4.0°F or 0.75%	1.1°C or 0.4%	2.0°F or 0.4%
	Temp. Range*	-270 to 0°C	-454 to 32°F		
	Tolerance Value	2.2°C or 2.0%	4.0°F or 2.0%		
R S	Temp Range	0 to 1450°C	32 to 2642°F	0 to 1450°C	32 to 2642°F
	Tolerance Value	1.5°C or 0.25%	2.7°F or 0.25%	0.6°C or 0.1%	1°F or 0.1%
B	Temp Range	800 to 1700°C	1472 to 3092°F		Not Established
	Tolerance Value	0.5%	0.5%		
G*C*D*	Temp Range	0 to 2320°C	32 to 4208°F		Not Established
	Tolerance Value	4.5°C or 1.0%	9°F or 1.0%		

* Not official symbol or standard designation

† Whichever value is greater.

Note: Material is normally selected to meet tolerances above 0°C. If thermocouples are needed to meet tolerances below 0°C, the purchaser shall state this as selection of material is usually required.

IEC Tolerance Class EN 60584-2; JIS C 1602

IEC Code		Class 1	Class 2	Class 3††
J	Temp Range	-40 to 375°C	-40 to 333°C	Not Established
	Tolerance Value	±1.5°C	±2.5°C	
	Temp. Range	375 to 750°C	333 to 750°C	
	Tolerance Value	±0.4% Reading	±0.75% Reading	
K N	Temp Range	-40 to 375°C	-40 to 333°C	-167 to 40°C
	Tolerance Value	±1.5°C	±2.5°C	±2.5°C
	Temp. Range	375 to 1000°C	333 to 1200°C	-200 to -167°C
	Tolerance Value	±0.4%	±0.75% Reading	±1.5% Reading
T	Temp Range	-40 to 125°C	-40 to 133°C	-67 to 40°C
	Tolerance Value	±0.5°C	±1°C	±1°C
	Temp. Range	125 to 350°C	133 to 350°C	-200 to -67°C
	Tolerance Value	±0.4% Reading	±0.75% Reading	±1.5% Reading
E	Temp Range	-40 to 375°C	-40 to 333°C	-167 to 40°C
	Tolerance Value	±1.5°C	±2.5°C	±2.5°C
	Temp. Range	375 to 800°C	333 to 900°C	-200 to -167°C
	Tolerance Value	±0.4% Reading	±0.75% Reading	±1.5% Reading
R S	Temp Range	0 to 1100°C	0 to 600°C	Not Established
	Tolerance Value	±1°C	±1.5°C	
	Temp. Range	1100 to 1600°C	600 to 1600°C	
	Tolerance Value	±[1 + 0.3% x (Rdg-1100)]°C	±0.25% Reading	
B	Temp Range	Not Established	600 to 1700°C	600 to 800°C
	Tolerance Value			+4°C
	Temp. Range			800 to 1700°C
	Tolerance Value		±0.25% Reading	±0.5% Reading

†† Material is normally selected to meet tolerances above -40°C. If thermocouples are needed to meet limits of Class 3, as well as those of Class 1 or 2, the purchaser shall state this, as selection of material is usually required.