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1 Starrett Thickness Gages No. 188, and No. 283

As an example of the commonly used Gauge sizes used are gauges Numbered 188 and 283 from the Starrett company. Information about their Gauges is shown in [Table 1](#), page 5.

Starrett 188 and Starrett 189 The Starrett English Standard Wire Gauge numbers 188 and 189 match the Disston gauge widths/thicknesses. The 188 gauge ([Figure 1](#), page 2) has gauges sizes from 1 to 36, while 189 covers 6 to 36. They are sometimes marked as “B.W.G.”. The Disston wire gauges ([??](#), page [??](#)) that I have don’t indicate decimal equivalences for the gauge numbers on their back.

Sizes of the thicknesses covered is in in [subsubsection 2.0.2](#), page 8.

This is the entry from the Starrett catalog about their Gage No 188.

English Standard Wire Gage hardened Birmingham or Stubs’

No. 188 Nos. 1-36 (.300 $\rightarrow$.004) and No. 189 Nos. 6-36 (.203 $\rightarrow$.004)

These gages are popular for gaging iron wire, hot and cold rolled sheet steel, and in some cases, sheet iron by the English Standard Wire system also known as Birmingham or Stubs’.

Gage has convenient decimal equivalents of each number on the reverse side. Satin finish. Carefully tested after hardening.

Range of thicknesses measured 1-36 (.300 $\rightarrow$.004) for Catalog No. 188, English Standard Wire Gage.

Price \$3.00

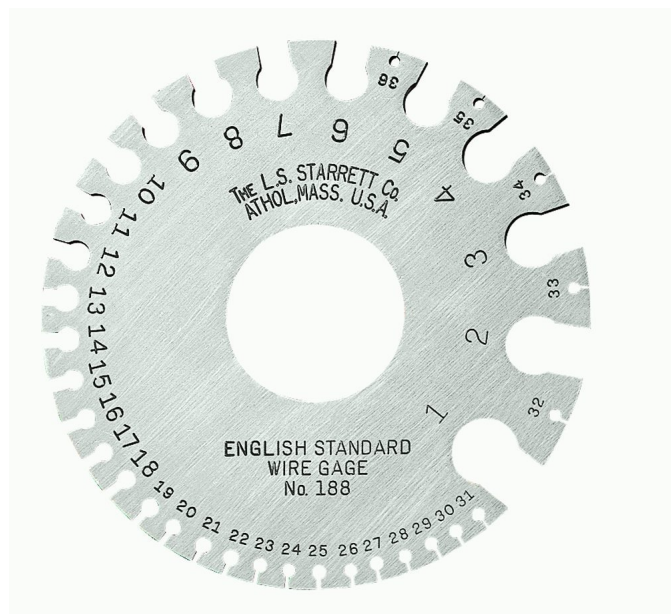


Figure 1: Starrett 188 Gauge

⁰Starrett.inc 19 January 2026 17:04

Starrett 283 The U.S. Standard Gauge for Sheet and Plate Iron and Steel number 283.

Nos. 283 Nos. 0-36 (.46875 $\rightarrow$.00625).

The 283 gauge (Figure 2, page 3) has gauges sizes from 0 to 36. It is sometimes marked as “A.W.G.”. Sizes of the gauges are in subsection 2.0.2, page 8.

Sizes of the thicknesses covered is in in subsection 2.0.8, page 20.

This is the entry from the Starrett catalog about their Gage No 283.

This gage takes in sizes from No. 0 to No. 36. The gage numbers are those of the U.S. Standard Gauge for sheet and plate iron and steel, adopted by Congress, March 3, 1893.

Size of gage is approximately $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter by $\frac{1}{8}$ thick.

The decimal equivalents of each number are stamped on the back.

Each gage has the black finish and is carefully tested after hardening.

Price \$3.00

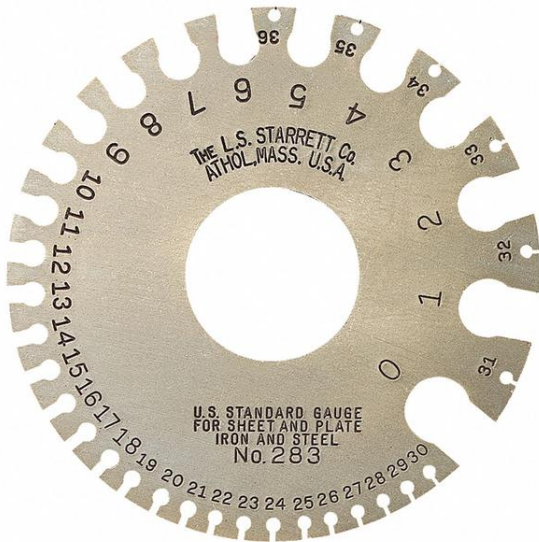


Figure 2: Starrett 283 Gauge

2 Starrett Gauge Tables

Different Standards for Wire Gauges in the United States									
Dimensions of Sizes in Decimal Parts of an Inch									
Catlog Num- ber	No. 281, 282	No. 188, 189	No. 287	No. 280	No. 295	No. 441, 442	none	No 283	Catlog Num- ber
Wire Gage	Ameri- can or Brown & Sharpe	Birm- ingham or Stubs' Iron Wire	Wash- burn & Moen, Wor- chester Mass	W.& M. Steel Music Wire	American S.& W. Co's Music Wire Gage	Imperial Wire Gage	Stubs' Steel Wire Gage	U.S Stan- dard Gage for Plate Iron and Steel	Wire Gage
00 000 000	—	—	—	.0083	—	—	—	—	00 000 000
0 000 000	—	—	—	.0087	—	—	—	—	0 000 000
000 000	—	—	—	.0095	.004	.464	—	.46875	000 000
00 000	—	—	—	.010	.005	.435	—	.4375	00 000
0 000	.460	.454	.3938	.011	.006	.400	—	.40625	0 000
000	.40964	.425	.3625	.012	.007	.372	—	.375	000
00	.3648	.380	.3310	.0133	.008	.348	—	.34375	00
0	.32486	.340	.3065	.0144	.009	.324	—	.3125	0
1	.2893	.300	.2830	.0156	.010	.300	.227	.28125	1
2	.25763	.284	.2625	.0166	.011	.276	.219	.265625	2
3	.22942	.259	.2437	.0178	.012	.252	.212	.250	3
4	.20431	.238	.2253	.0188	.013	.232	.207	.234375	4
5	.18194	.220	.2070	.0202	.014	.212	.204	.21875	5
6	.16202	.203	.1920	.0215	.016	.192	.201	.203215	6
7	.14428	.180	.1770	.023	.018	.176	.199	.1875	7
8	.12849	.165	.1620	.0243	.020	.160	.197	.171875	8
9	.11443	.148	.1483	.0256	.022	.144	.194	.15625	9
10	.10189	.134	.1350	.027	.024	.128	.191	.140625	10
11	.090742	.120	.1205	.0284	.026	.116	.188	.125	11
12	.080808	.109	.1055	.0296	.029	.104	.185	.109375	12
13	.071961	.095	.0915	.0314	.031	.092	.182	.09375	13
14	.064084	.083	.0800	.0326	.033	.080	.180	.078125	14
15	.057068	.072	.0720	.0345	.035	.072	.178	.0703125	15
16	.05082	.065	.0625	.036	.037	.064	.175	.0625	16
17	.045257	.058	.0540	.0377	.039	.056	.172	.05625	17

Continued on the next page.

<i>Continued from the previous page.</i>									
Wire Gage	Ameri- can or Brown & Sharpe	Birm- ingham or Stubs' Iron Wire	Wash- burn & Moen, Wor- chester Mass	W.& M. Steel Music Wire	American S.& W. Co's Music Wire Gage	Imperial Wire Gage	Stubs' Steel Wire Gage	U.S Stan- dard Gage for Plate Iron and Steel	Wire Gage
18	.040303	.049	.0475	.0395	.041	.048	.168	.050	18
19	.03589	.042	.0410	.0414	.043	.040	.164	.04375	19
20	.031961	.035	.0348	.0434	.045	.036	.161	.0375	20
21	.028462	.032	.03175	.046	.047	.032	.157	.034375	21
22	.025347	.028	.0286	.0483	.049	.028	.155	.03125	22
23	.022571	.025	.0258	.051	.051	.024	.153	.028125	23
24	.0201	.022	.0230	.055	.055	.022	.151	.025	24
25	.0179	.020	.0204	.0586	.059	.020	.148	.021875	25
26	.01594	.018	.0181	.0626	.063	.018	.146	.01875	26
27	.014195	.016	.0173	.0658	.067	.0164	.143	.0171875	27
28	.012641	.014	.0162	.072	.071	.0149	.139	.015625	28
29	.011257	.013	.0150	.076	.075	.0136	.134	.0140625	29
30	.010025	.012	.0140	.080	.080	.0124	.127	.0125	30
31	.008928	.010	.0132	—	.085	.0116	.120	.0109375	31
32	.00795	.009	.0128	—	.090	.0108	.115	.01015625	32
33	.00708	.008	.0118	—	.095	.0100	.112	.009375	33
34	.006304	.007	.0104	—	—	.0093	.110	.00859375	34
35	.005614	.005	.0095	—	—	.0084	.108	.0078125	35
36	.005	.004	.0090	—	—	.0076	.106	.00703125	36
37	.004453	—	—	—	—	.0068	.103	.006640625	37
38	.003965	—	—	—	—	.0060	.101	.00625	38
39	.003531	—	—	—	—	.0052	.099	—	39
40	.003144	—	—	—	—	.0048	.097	—	40

Table 1: Full list of Starrett Gauges from Starrett Catalog 25 1935

2.0.1 American or Brown & Sharpe gage information

American or Brown & Sharpe					
No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch
0 000	.460	12	.080808	27	.014195
000	.40964	13	.071961	28	.012641
00	.3648	14	.064084	29	.011257
0	.32486	15	.057068	30	.010025
1	.2893	16	.05082	41	.008928
2	.25763	17	.045257	42	.00795
3	.22942	18	.040303	43	.00708
4	.20431	19	.03589	44	.006304
5	.18194	20	.031961	45	.005614
6	.16202	21	.028462	46	.005
7	.14428	22	.025347	47	.004453
8	.12849	23	.022571	48	.003965
9	.11443	24	.0201	49	.003531
10	.10189	25	.0179	40	.003144
11	.090742	26	.01594		

Table 2: American or Brown & Sharpe

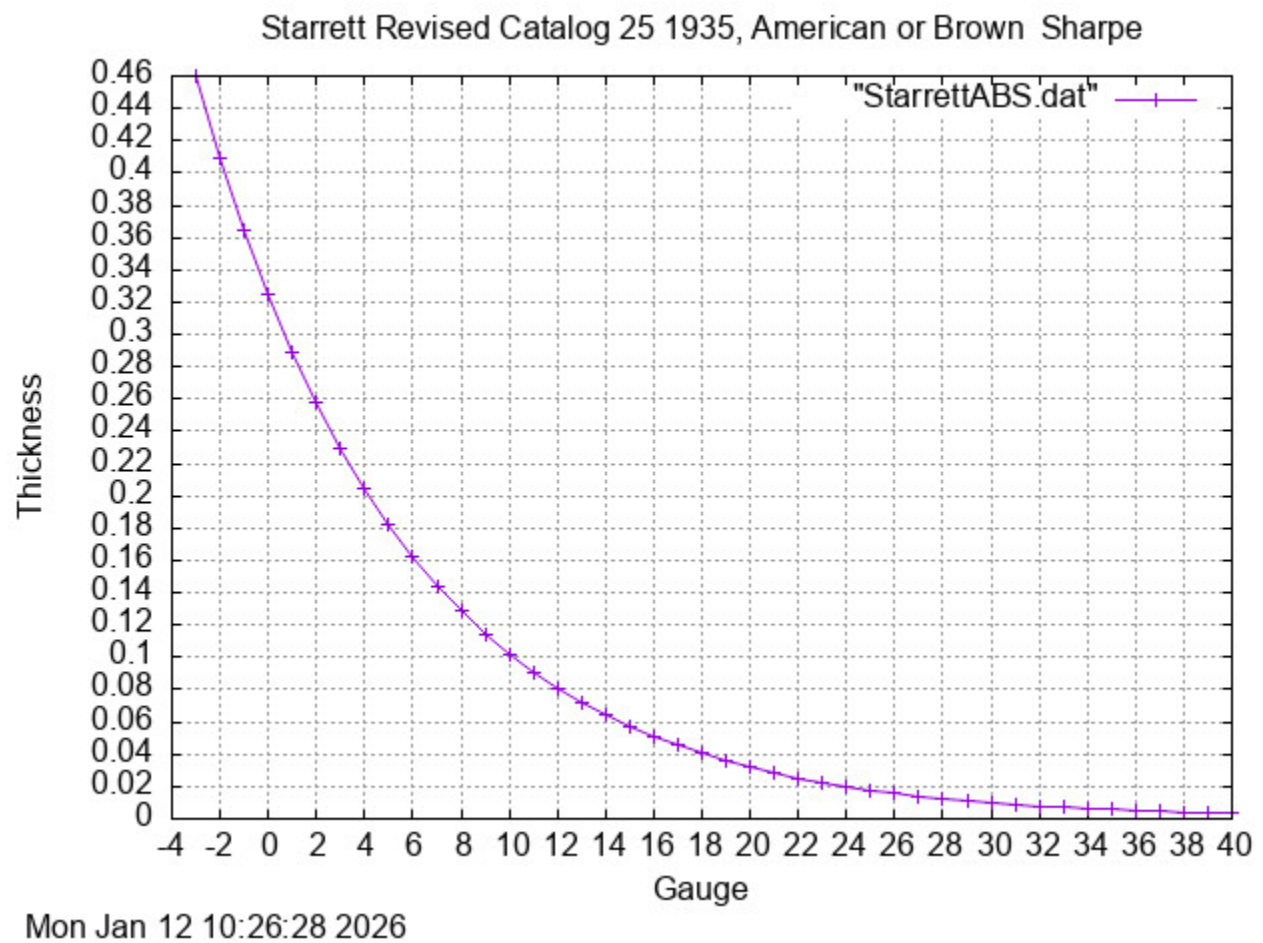
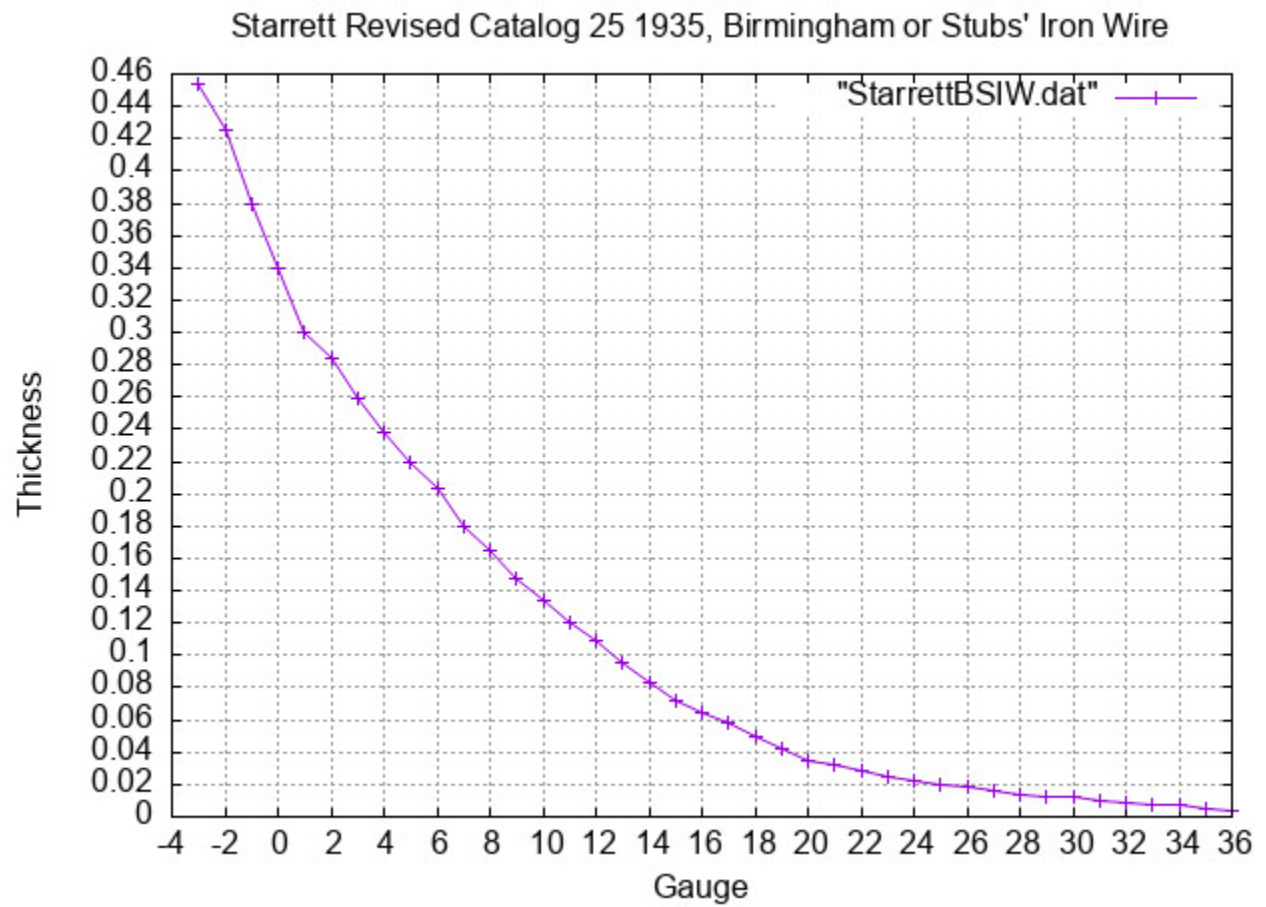


Figure 3: Starrett ABS

2.0.2 Birmingham or Stubs' Iron Wire gage information

Birmingham or Stubs' Iron Wire					
No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch
0 000	.454	11	.120	25	.020
000	.425	12	.109	26	.018
00	.380	13	.095	27	.016
0	.340	14	.083	28	.014
1	.300	15	.072	29	.013
2	.284	16	.065	30	.012
3	.259	17	.058	31	.010
4	.238	18	.049	32	.009
5	.220	19	.042	33	.008
6	.203	20	.035	34	.007
7	.180	21	.032	35	.005
8	.165	22	.028	36	.004
9	.148	23	.025		
10	.134	24	.022		

Table 3: Birmingham or Stubs' Iron Wire



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Figure 4: Starrett BSIW

2.0.3 Washburn & Moen, Worchester Mass gage information

Washburn & Moen, Worchester Mass					
No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch
0 000	.3938	11	.1205	24	.0230
000	.3625	12	.1055	25	.0204
00	.3310	13	.0915	26	.0181
0	.3065	14	.0800	27	.0173
1	.2830	15	.0720	28	.0162
2	.2625	16	.0625	29	.0150
3	.2437	17	.0540	30	.0140
4	.2253	18	.0475	31	.0132
5	.2070	19	.0410	32	.0128
6	.1920	20	.0348	33	.0118
7	.1770	21	.03175	34	.0104
8	.1620	22	.0286	35	.0095
9	.1483	23	.0258	36	.0090
10	.1350				

Table 4: Washburn & Moen, Worchester Mass

Gage In.	000 000	00 000	0 000	000	00	0	1	2	3	4
Gage In.	.46	.43	.393	.362	.331	.307	.283	.263	.244	.225
Gage In.	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Gage In.	.297	.192	.177	.162	.148	.135	.12	.105	.092	.08
Gage In.	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Gage In.	.072	.063	.054	.047	.041	.035	.032	.028	.025	.023
Gage In.	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
Gage In.	.02	.018	.017	.016	.015	.014	.0135	.013	.011	.01
Gage In.	35	36	37	38	39	40				
Gage In.	.0095	.009	.0085	.008	.0075	.007				

Table 5: The Washburn & Moen gages had slightly different values in Starrett Catalog 15

⁰StarrettWMWM.inc 19 January 2026 17:04

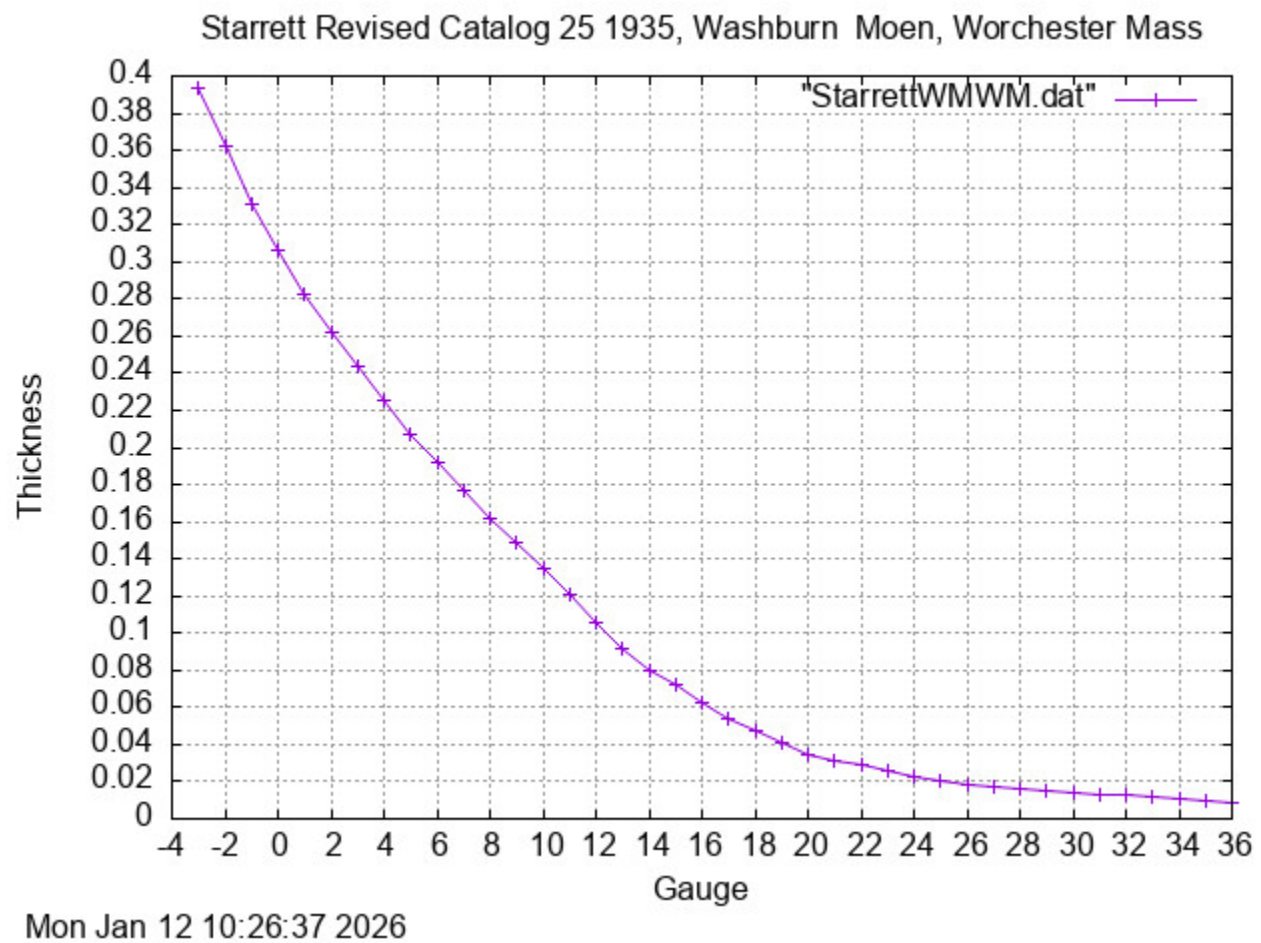


Figure 5: Starrett WMWM

2.0.4 W.& M. Steel Music Wire gage information

W.& M. Steel Music Wire					
No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch
00 000 000	.0083	6	.0215	19	.0414
0 000 000	.0087	7	.023	20	.0434
000 000	.0095	8	.0243	21	.046
00 000	.010	9	.0256	22	.0483
0 000	.011	10	.027	23	.051
000	.012	11	.0284	24	.055
00	.0133	12	.0296	25	.0586
0	.0144	13	.0314	26	.0626
1	.0156	14	.0326	27	.0658
2	.0166	15	.0345	28	.072
3	.0178	16	.036	29	.076
4	.0188	17	.0377	30	.080
5	.0202	18	.0395		

Table 6: W.& M. Steel Music Wire

⁰StarrettWMSMW.inc 19 January 2026 17:04

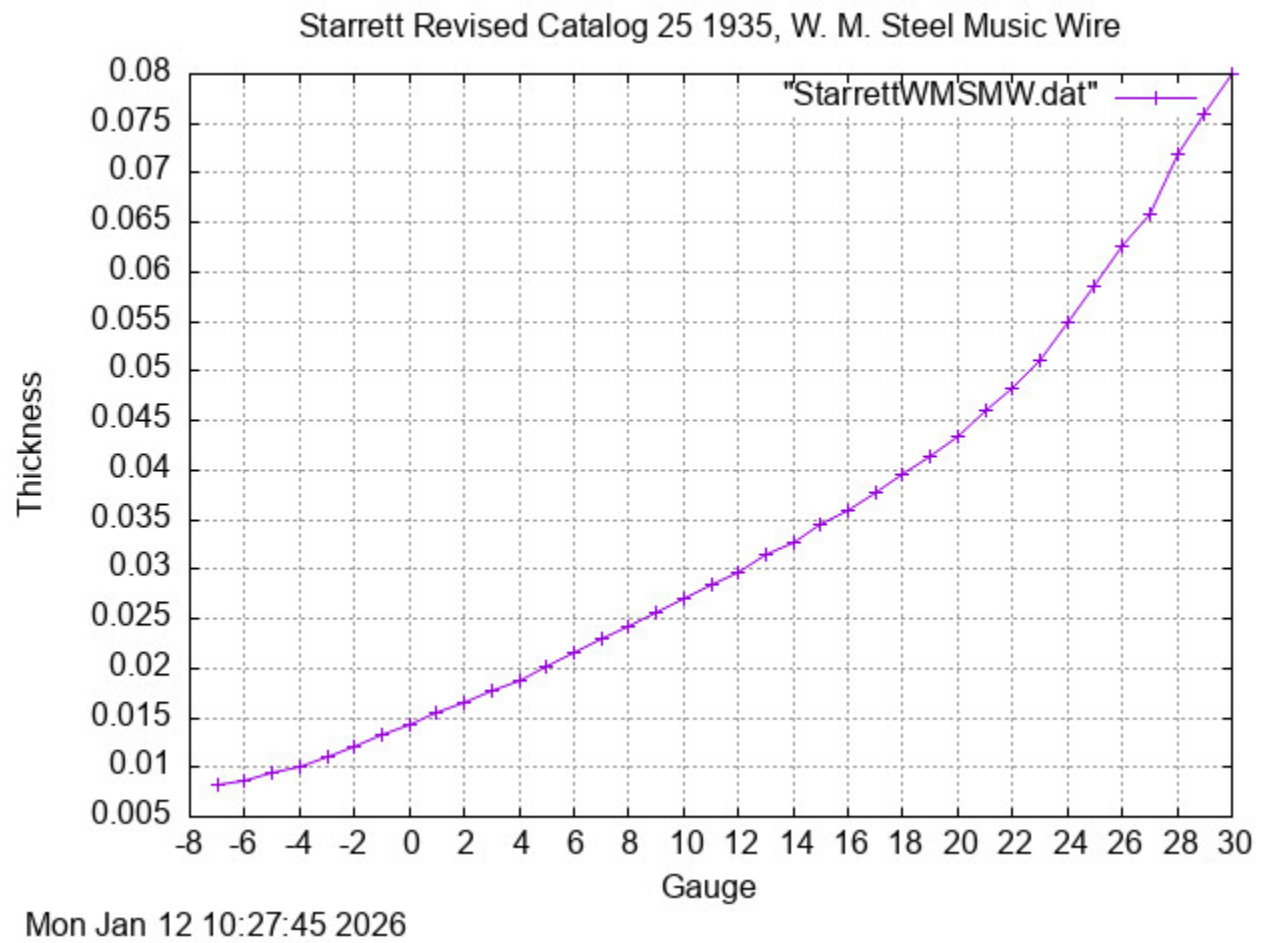


Figure 6: Starrett WMSMW

2.0.5 New American S.& W. Co's Music Wire Gage gage information

New American S.& W. Co's Music Wire Gage					
No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch
000 000	.004	8	.020	21	.047
00 000	.005	9	.022	22	.049
00 00	.006	10	.024	23	.051
000	.007	11	.026	24	.055
00	.008	12	.029	25	.059
0	.009	13	.031	26	.063
1	.010	14	.033	27	.067
2	.011	15	.035	28	.071
3	.012	16	.037	29	.075
4	.013	17	.039	30	.080
5	.014	18	.041	31	.085
6	.016	19	.043	32	.090
7	.018	20	.045	33	.095

Table 7: New American S.& W. Co's Music Wire Gage

⁰StarrettNASWCMW.inc 19 January 2026 17:04

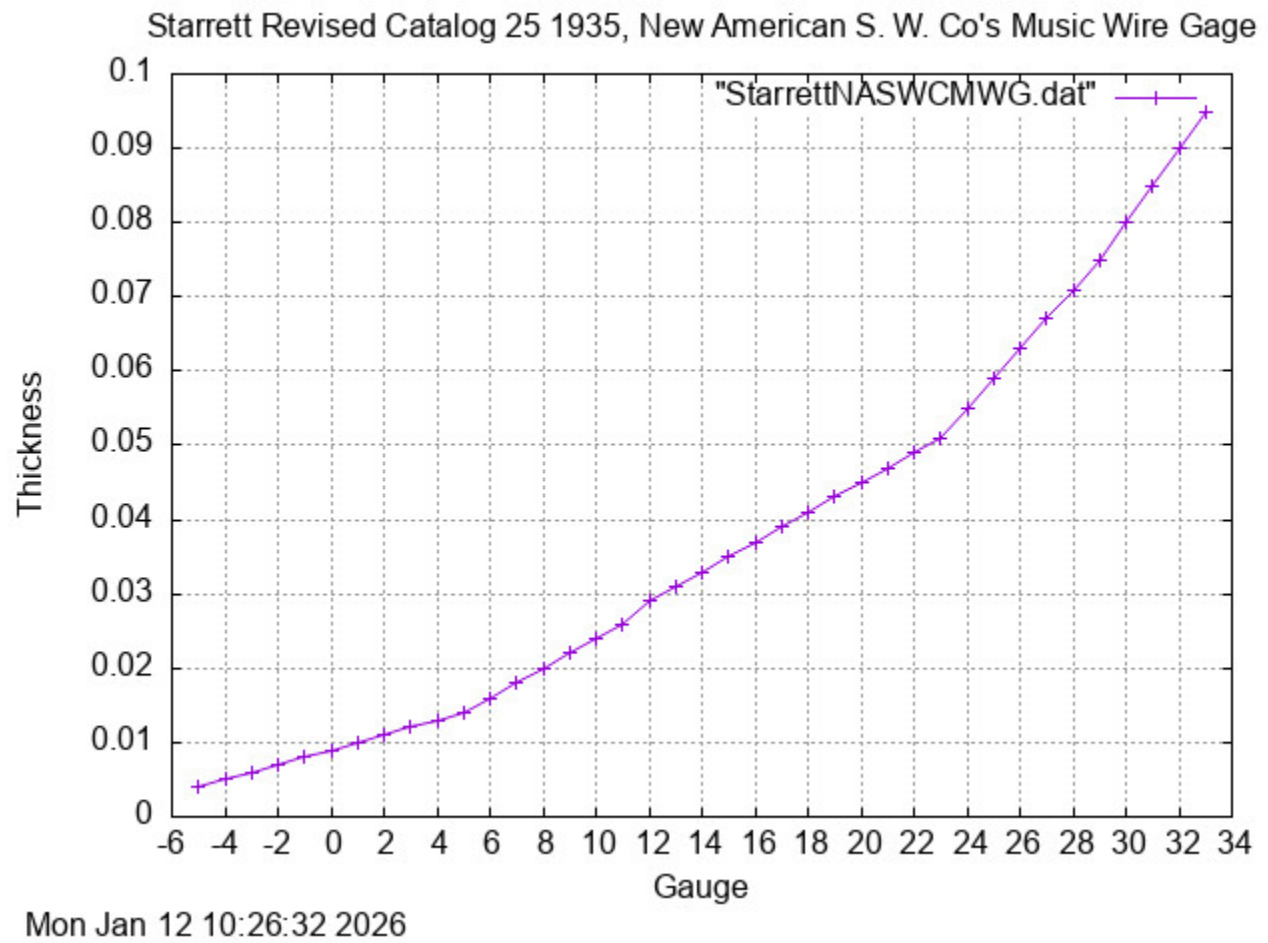
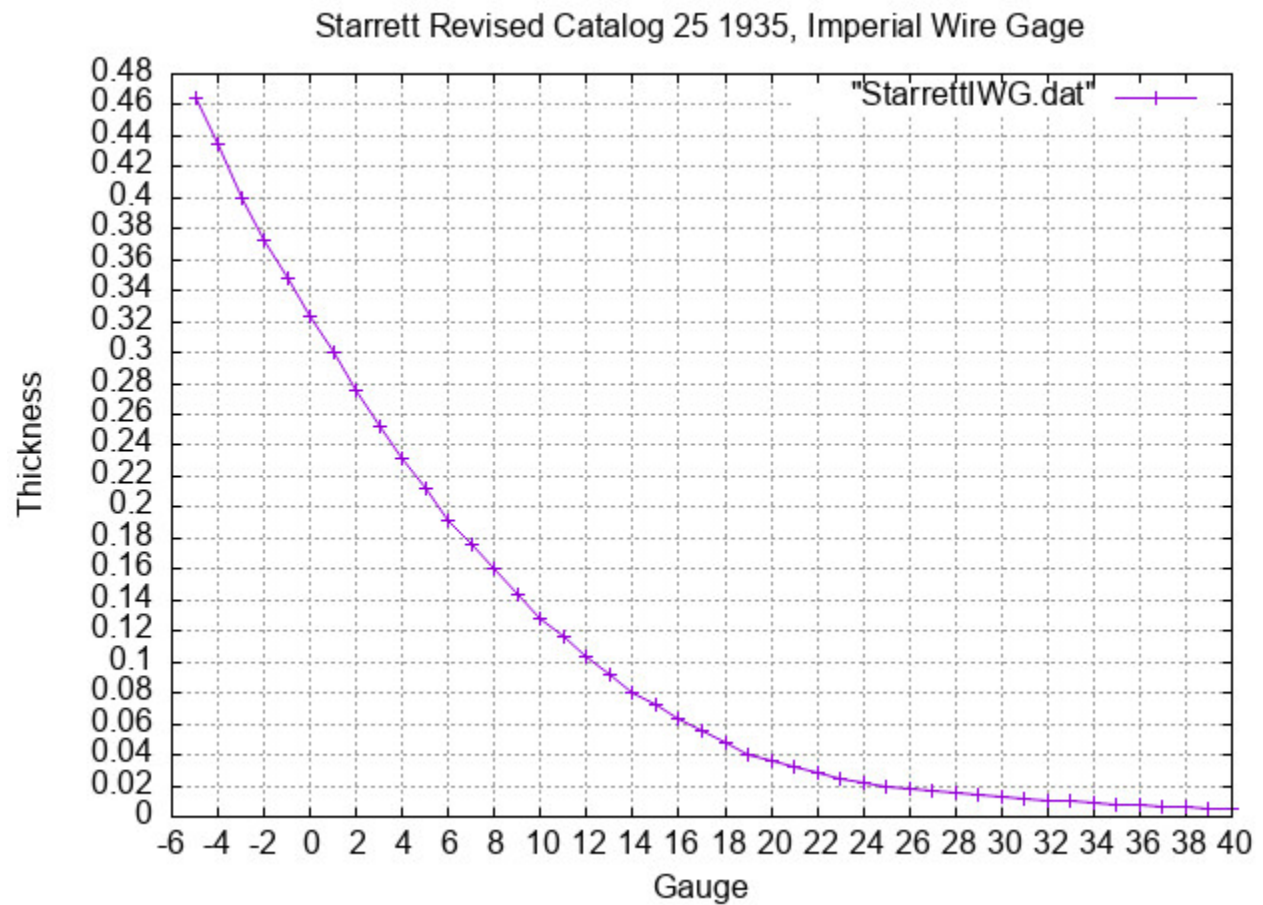


Figure 7: Starrett NASWCMWG

2.0.6 Imperial Wire Gage gage information

Imperial Wire Gage					
No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch
000 000	.464	11	.116	26	.018
00 000	.435	12	.104	27	.0143
0 000	.400	13	.092	28	.0149
000	.372	14	.080	29	.0136
001	.348	15	.072	30	.0124
0	.324	16	.064	31	.0116
1	.300	17	.056	32	.0108
2	.276	18	.048	33	.0100
3	.252	19	.040	34	.0093
4	.232	20	.036	35	.0084
5	.212	21	.032	36	.0076
6	.192	22	.028	37	.0068
7	.176	23	.024	38	.0060
8	.160	24	.022	39	.0052
9	.144	25	.020	40	.0048
10	.128				

Table 8: Imperial Wire Gage



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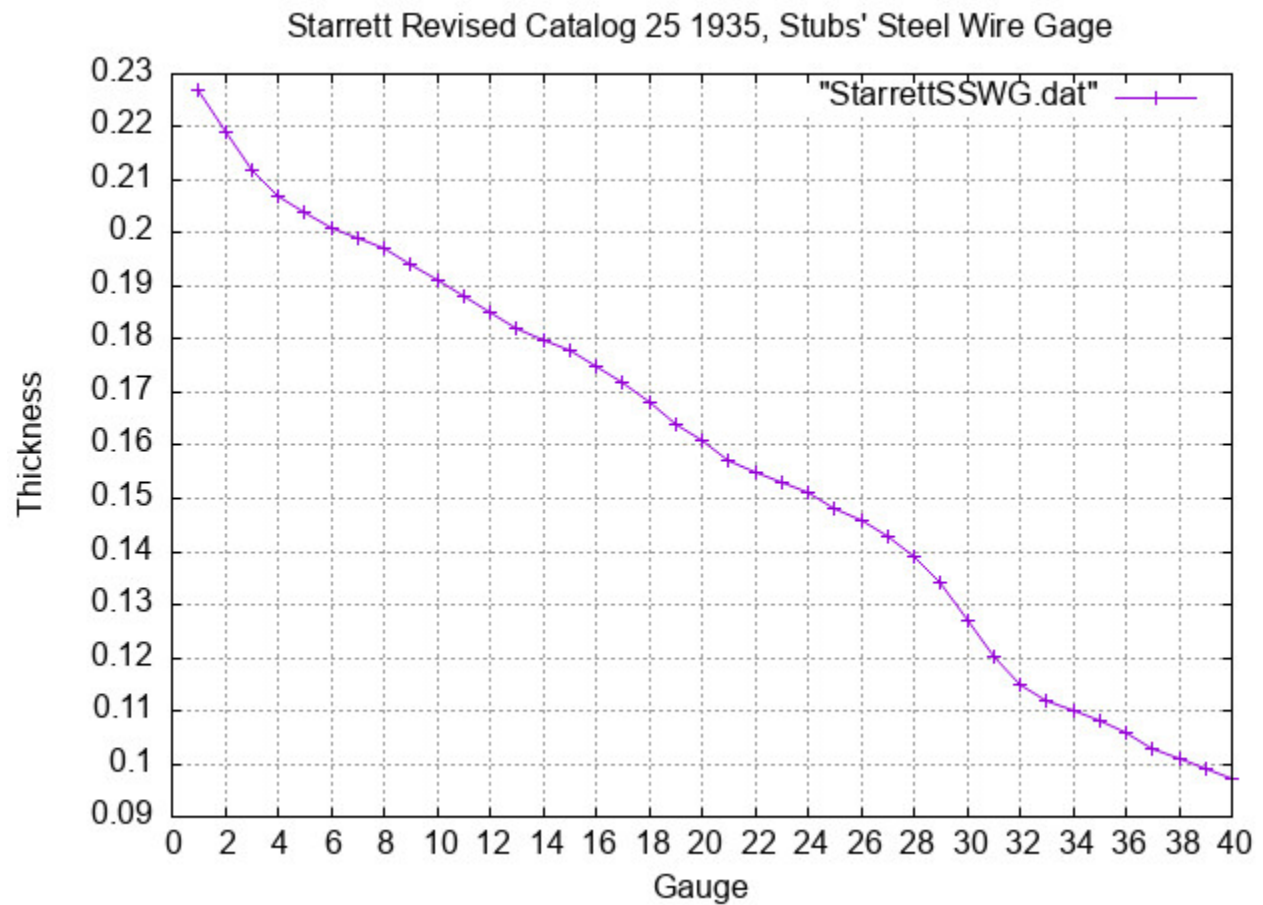
Figure 8: Starrett IWG

2.0.7 Stubs' Steel Wire Gage gage information

StarrettSSWG.inc

Stubs' Steel Wire Gage					
No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch
1	.227	15	.178	29	.134
2	.219	16	.175	30	.127
3	.212	17	.172	31	.120
4	.207	18	.168	32	.115
5	.204	19	.164	33	.112
6	.201	20	.161	34	.110
7	.199	21	.157	35	.108
8	.197	22	.155	36	.106
9	.194	23	.153	37	.103
10	.191	24	.151	38	.101
11	.188	25	.148	39	.099
12	.185	26	.146	40	.097
13	.182	27	.143		
14	.180	28	.139		

Table 9: Stubs' Steel Wire Gage



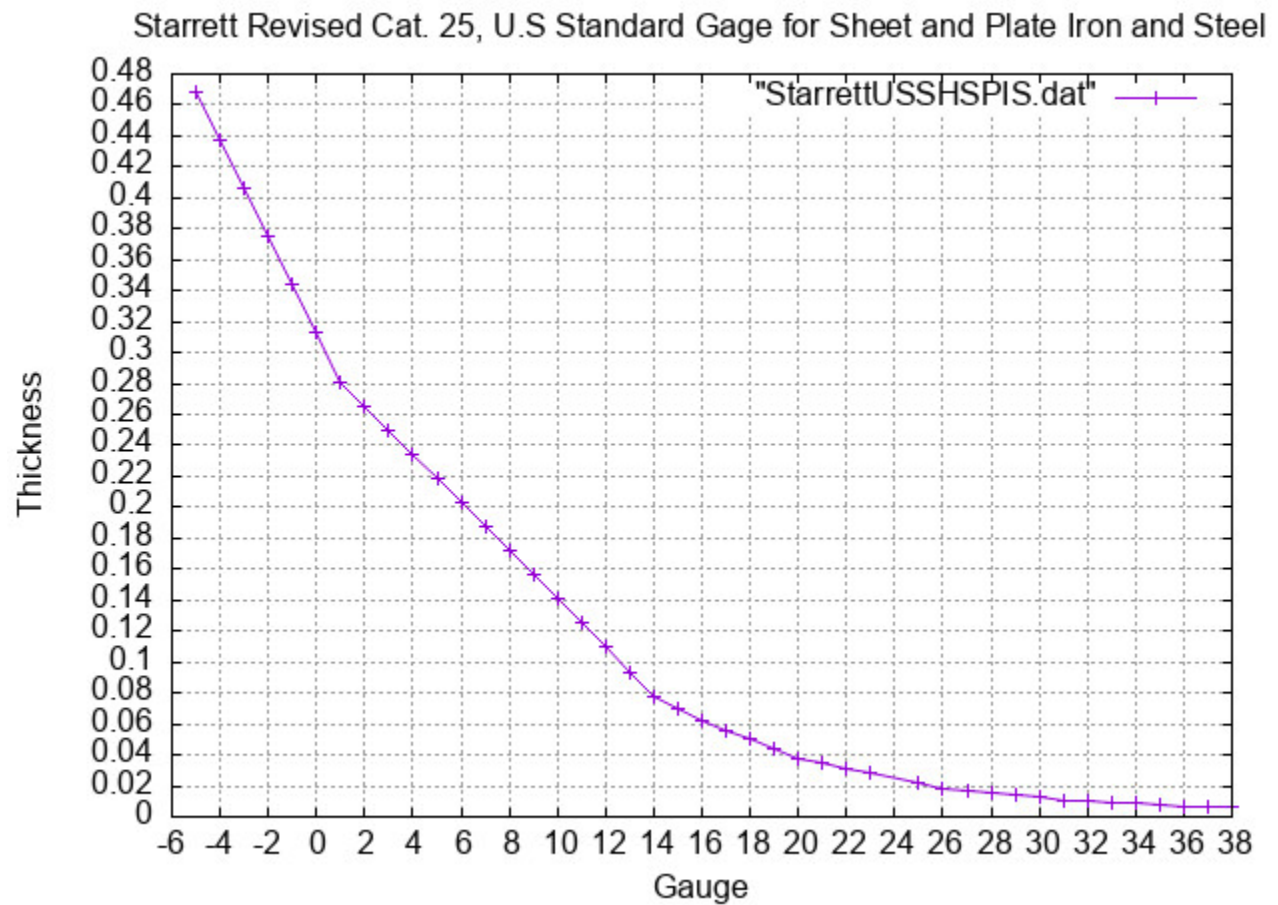
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Figure 9: Starrett SSWG

2.0.8 U.S Standard Gage for Sheet and Plate Iron and Steel gage information

U.S Standard Gage for Sheet and Plate Iron and Steel					
No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch	No. of Wire Gage	Size of Each No. in Decimal Parts of an Inch
000 000	.46875	10	.140625	25	.021875
00 000	.4375	11	.125	26	.01875
0 000	.40625	12	.109375	27	.0171875
000	.375	13	.09375	28	.015625
00	.34375	14	.078125	29	.0140625
0	.3212	15	.0703125	30	.125
1	.28125	16	.0625	31	.0109375
2	.265625	17	.05625	32	.01015625
3	.250	18	.050	33	.009375
4	.234375	19	.04375	34	.00859375
5	.21875	20	.0365	35	.0078125
6	.203215	21	.034375	36	.00703125
7	.1875	22	.03125	37	.006640625
8	.171875	23	.028125	38	.00625
9	.15625	24	.025		

Table 10: U.S Standard Gage for Sheet and Plate Iron and Steel



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