

M3 Bolt Size Chart: Hex Head Dimensions s, e and k

M3 · Both standards (GB/T 5783 / 5782) × both grades (A / B) · Nominal (= max) values · Row-level standards

M3 hex bolt: socket size s = 5.5 mm; head diagonal e min = 6.01 mm (grade A) / 5.88 mm (grade B); head height k = 2 mm nominal, 2.2 mm max in grade B; pitch P = 0.5 mm; fine pitch options —. Head values are the standard's nominal (= max) or minimum figures, not measured guarantees.

M3 in both standards and both product grades

One row per thread form and product grade. The head columns repeat because GB/T 5783 and GB/T 5782 share the same head; b is tabulated in GB/T 5782 only, and a dash means the standard does not tabulate that value for the combination.

Thread form	Product grade	Coarse pitch P (mm)	Width across flats s (mm, nominal = max)	s min (mm)	Width across corners e min (mm)	Head height k (mm, nominal)	k max (mm)	b at l ≤ 125 mm	b at 125 < l ≤ 200 mm	b at l > 200 mm
Partially threaded (GB/T 5782)	A	0.5	5.5	5.32	6.01	2	2.125	12	—	—
Partially threaded (GB/T 5782)	B	0.5	5.5	5.2	5.88	2	2.2	12	18	31
Fully threaded (GB/T 5783)	A	0.5	5.5	5.32	6.01	2	2.125	—	—	—
Fully threaded (GB/T 5783)	B	0.5	5.5	5.2	5.88	2	2.2	—	—	—

Thread length b on partially threaded bolts (GB/T 5782)

b = 2d + 6 at l ≤ 125 mm, b ≈ 2d + 12 at 125 < l ≤ 200 mm, b ≈ 2d + 25 at l > 200 mm; the tabulated figure is that value rounded to a whole millimetre. Grade A tables carry the shorter bands only; grade B carries the band that applies to each size.

Thread length b by length band, grade B (mm)

Size	b at l ≤ 125 mm	b at 125 < l ≤ 200 mm	b at l > 200 mm
M3	12	18	31

Thread length b by length band, grade A (mm)

Size	b at l ≤ 125 mm	b at 125 < l ≤ 200 mm	b at l > 200 mm
M3	12	—	—

Quote the diameter and the length together: b follows l, so only "M12×100" pins the thread length down.

M3 beside the next sizes

The sizes either side of M3. Measure the thread diameter d with a caliper and compare the head against the rows below before ordering; the nominal diameter steps by 0.5 mm or 1 mm in this range.

Size	Coarse pitch P (mm)	Width across flats s (mm, nominal = max)	Width across corners e min (mm)	Head height k (mm, nominal)
M2.5 (d = 2.5)	0.45	5	5.31	1.7
M3 (d = 3)	0.5	5.5	5.88	2
M3.5 (d = 3.5)	0.6	6	6.44	2.4

Which number do you need: s, e or k?

"Bolt size" means three different numbers depending on the job, and order codes use a fourth. Buying a tool uses s, checking a head that will not go into a socket uses e, and a counterbore or a flush-head check uses k.

- s — width across flats (nominal = max)** — M3 is s = 5.5 mm. This is the socket, spanner or ring size, and the number stamped on the tool. It is the same in grade A and grade B and the same in GB/T 5783 and GB/T 5782, because the two standards share the hex head.
- e — width across corners (min)** — M3 is e min = 6.01 mm in grade A and 5.88 mm in grade B. This is the diagonal between two opposite corners of the head, the dimension that decides whether a 12-point socket or a ring spanner passes over the head. Most published bolt size charts leave this column out; it is also what you can still measure with a caliper once the flats have been rounded off.
- k — head height (nominal, with a max)** — M3 is k = 2 mm nominal and 2.2 mm max in grade B. It sets how deep a counterbore or recess has to be and how far the head stands above the part. When the head must not protrude, k is the number to check, not s.

- **d — nominal thread diameter** — The number in the callout: M3 is a 3 mm thread, not a 3 mm head. The head is always wider, 5.5 mm across the flats here, which is where ordering by "size" alone goes wrong.
- **r — fillet radius under the head (min)** — r min = 0.1 mm at M3. The washer face has to clear this radius, so it matters when the bolt sits in a corner, against a shoulder or in a slotted hole rather than on a flat face.

References

- GB/T 5783-2025 Hexagon head bolts, fully threaded - width across flats s, s min, width across corners e min, head height k and fillet radius r min, product grades A and B; thread length rule b = l – a — https://openstd.samr.gov.cn/bzgk/gb/std?std_no=GB%2FT%205783-2025
- GB/T 5782-2025 Hexagon head bolts, partially threaded - the same head dimensions, plus the thread length b in three nominal-length bands (l ≤ 125 mm, 125 < l ≤ 200 mm, l > 200 mm) — https://openstd.samr.gov.cn/bzgk/gb/std?std_no=GB%2FT%205782-2025
- GB/T 5785-2025 Hexagon head bolts with fine pitch thread - fine pitch options per nominal diameter and the same hex head (s, e, k unchanged) — https://openstd.samr.gov.cn/bzgk/gb/std?std_no=GB%2FT%205785-2025
- Table values are the nominal (= max) or minimum figures of the standard editions above, checked row by row against the official text. No table values are reproduced from third-party dimension tables, and every row is labelled with the standard it comes from.

Disclaimer: this table is a selection and quotation reference built from the standard editions named on this page, not a design basis or an acceptance standard.

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