

CON-SERV MFG Sieve Mesh Conversion Table

What does mesh size mean? Figuring out mesh sizes is simple. All you do is count the number of openings in one inch of screen (in the United States, anyway.) The number of openings is the mesh size. So a 4 mesh screen means there are four little squares across one linear inch of screen. A 100 mesh screen has 100 openings, and so on. Note, therefore that as the number describing the mesh size increases, the particle size decreases. Higher numbers = finer powder. Mesh size is not a precise measurement of particle size. Screens can be made with different thicknesses of wire, the thicker the wires, the smaller the particle size passing through that screen, and vice versa.

What do the minus (-) and plus (+) plus signs mean when describing mesh sizes? Here's a simple example of how they work. -200 mesh aluminum would mean that all particles would pass through a 200 mesh screen. A +200 mesh aluminum means that all the particles are retained on a 200 mesh screen.

How fine do screens get? That depends on the wire thickness. If you think about it, the finer the weave, the closer the wires get together, eventually leaving no space between them at all. So, beyond 325-400 mesh, we usually describe particle size in "microns."

What is a micron? A micron is another measurement we use for measuring particle size. A micron is one-millionth of a meter or one twenty-five thousandth of an inch.

Screen Equivalents

Sieve No.	U.S. Standard		Meshes per Inch	Tyler Standard		Meshes per Inch	British Standard	
	Opening mm	Opening Inches		Opening mm	Opening Inches		Opening mm	Opening Inches
12	1.68	0.0661	10	1.65	0.065	10	1.68	0.0660
14	1.41	0.0555	12	1.40	0.055	12	1.40	0.0553
16	1.19	0.0469	14	1.17	0.046	14	1.20	0.0474
18	1.00	0.0394	16	0.991	0.039	16	1.00	0.0395
20	0.84	0.0331	20	0.833	0.0328	18	0.853	0.0336
25	0.71	0.0280	24	0.701	0.0276	22	0.699	0.0275
30	0.59	0.0232	28	0.589	0.0232	25	0.599	0.0236
35	0.50	0.0197	32	0.495	0.0195	30	0.500	0.0197
40	0.42	0.0165	35	0.417	0.0164	36	0.422	0.0166
45	0.35	0.0138	42	0.351	0.0138	44	0.353	0.0139
50	0.297	0.0117	48	0.295	0.0116	52	0.295	0.0116
60	0.250	0.0098	60	0.246	0.0097	60	0.251	0.0099
70	0.210	0.0083	65	0.208	0.0082	72	0.211	0.0083
80	0.177	0.0070	80	0.175	0.0069	85	0.178	0.007
100	0.149	0.0059	100	0.147	0.0058	100	0.152	0.006
200	0.074	0.0029	200	0.074	0.0029	200	0.076	0.003
325	0.044	0.0017	325	0.043	0.0017	240	0.066	0.0026