ENGINEERING DESIGN STANDARDS & DRAWING SPECIFICATIONS DOSSIER

How to Properly Call Out Silicone Material Specifications on 2D Engineering Drawings

Document Ref: WP-2026-DR136-27 | Drafting Framework: ASTM D2000 Standard Line Callouts | Reemane Engineering Standards Lab

1. Executive Summary: The Risk of Vague Blueprint Specs

In global B2B manufacturing and custom hardware engineering, a 2D mechanical blueprint functions as a binding contract defining physical part parameters. However, hardware design teams frequently use incomplete descriptions in drawing notes, such as "Silicone, 60 Shore A, Black." Vague terminology leaves critical physical traits—such as compression set tolerances, fluid swelling thresholds, and thermal degradation baselines—entirely undefined.

Substandard rubber compounding factories exploit vague annotations by cutting fresh siloxane batches with cheap calcium carbonate fillers. This meets base hardness goals but ruins tear resistance and elastic recovery. This whitepaper explains how to implement standardized engineering callouts to protect component performance and simplify supplier audits.

> ***Drawing Directive: Vague text prompts generic materials; using structured standard line callouts like ASTM D2000 binds your production partner to certified physical performance metrics.***

2. Decoding the ASTM D2000 System for Silicone Rubber

ASTM D2000 is the internationally accepted standard code for defining elastomeric materials in a single alphanumeric string. A standard line callout consists of three distinct segments: the prefix, the base material classification, and specific property suffix parameters. Below is a breakdown of an advanced silicone line callout: **ASTM D2000 M3GE605 A19 B37 F19**.

- **Metric Indicator (M):** The letter "M" indicates that all dimensional evaluations, testing pressures, and tensile units are measured in metric units (MPa or Celsius). Omitting the "M" defaults the entire specification to Imperial values (PSI or Fahrenheit).
- **Grade Designation (3):** The number following the prefix dictates the required material Grade. Grade 1 defines basic polymer requirements, while advanced Grades (such as 2, 3, or 5) mandate rigorous laboratory validation trials for precision seals.
- **Type and Class Identification (GE):** The first letter ("G") defines the continuous thermal aging threshold baseline (up to 225°C). The second letter ("E") establishes the fluid swelling boundary limits when exposed to standard reference oils. The combination "GE" is the industry standard designation for high-performance polysiloxanes.

- **Durometer Hardness & Tensile Strength (605):** The first digit ("6") specifies the material durometer hardness on the Shore A scale (60 ± 5 Shore A). The remaining two digits ("05") define the required minimum tensile strength baseline—in this example, 5 Megapascals (MPa).

3. Critical Material Performance Suffixes for Custom Formulations

The core utility of an ASTM D2000 callout relies on appending specific property suffixes to lock in performance traits for specialized field environments. Design teams should utilize three key suffix categories:

- **Heat Aging Resistance (A19):** Mandates rigorous laboratory thermal testing cycles at 225°C for 70 consecutive hours. Post-test physical changes must remain within narrow boundaries: maximum hardness shift of $+10$ Shore A, maximum tensile loss of -25%, and maximum elongation reduction of -30%. This ensures long-term seal reliability in high-heat industrial components.
- **Compression Set Performance (B37):** Specifies compression testing metrics under ASTM D395 Method B. A "B37" callout restricts permanent deformation to a maximum of 25% after holding the material at 175°C for 22 consecutive hours under a fixed deflection load. This prevents seals from flattening permanently in critical environmental housings.
- **Low-Temperature Resilience (F19):** Requires low-temperature brittleness validation under ASTM D2137 Method A. The compound must pass a 3-minute exposure test at $-55°C$ without experiencing structural cracking, ensuring reliability in aerospace or polar environments.

4. Standardized Drawing Callout Performance Matrix

ASTM D2000 Code Segment	Testing Protocol	Reemane Certified Compound	Required Spec Target
Durometer Hardness Baseline	ASTM D2240	62 Shore A	60 ± 5 Shore A
Ultimate Tensile Strength	ASTM D412	**7.4 MPa**	≥ 5.0 MPa
Ultimate Elongation Limit	ASTM D412	420%	≥ 200%
Heat Aging Shift (A19)	ASTM D573 (70h @ 225°C)	**+3 Shore A / -12% Tensile**	≤ +10 Shore / ≤ -25% Tensile
Compression Set (B37)	ASTM D395 Method B	**14% Deformation**	≤ 25% Max Change
Low Temp Resilience (F19)	ASTM D2137 Method A	**Pass (No Cracking)**	**Non-Brittle @ -55°C**

5. DFM Best Practices for 2D Drafting Notes

To ensure smooth manufacturing and accurate production runs, 2D engineering notes should provide precise manufacturing instructions. Design notes should include the following core parameters:

- **Specify parting line parameters:** Always define permissible合模线 (parting line flash projection heights) based on application context (e.g., "Maximum flash height along critical sealing faces to not exceed 0.10mm per RMA A2 standard"). This stops low-tier suppliers from skipping flash-trimming operations.
- **Clearly define post-curing mandates:** Specify post-curing requirements directly on the drawing when processing food-contact or low-outgassing assemblies (e.g., "Material requires post-vulcanization bake-out at 200°C for 4 hours to eliminate volatile organic cyclosiloxanes").

Secure True Engineering Design Integrity

Eliminate compound specification ambiguity, standardize your 2D drafting block assets, and secure certified ASTM validation metrics across your custom elastomer programs. To request complete raw material data sheet rosters or coordinate a formal DFM review of your active CAD model configurations, contact our project engineering department directly at **sales@siliconefactories.com** or explore our global digital resource center at **www.siliconefactories.com**.