

C260 Brass - C26000 (Cartridge Brass)

Overview

C260 Brass, commonly referred to as Cartridge Brass or 70/30 Brass, is an alloy composed of 70% copper and 30% zinc. It is the most ductile of the brasses and is used in greater quantity than any other copper-zinc alloy. Known for its rich golden-yellow color, excellent formability, and corrosion resistance, it is a non-leaded brass ideal for deep drawing and forming operations.

Chemical Composition

Element	Content (%)
Copper (Cu)	68.5 - 71.5
Zinc (Zn)	Balance (~30)
Lead (Pb)	≤ 0.07
Iron (Fe)	≤ 0.05

Key Properties

- Highest ductility among brass alloys
- Excellent formability and cold workability
- Good corrosion resistance in most environments
- Good electrical conductivity
- Non-leaded (environmentally friendly)
- Higher elongation percentage than C360
- Can be readily plated with other metals

Limitations

- Not suitable for acetic acid, ammonia compounds
- Not suitable for hydrochloric or nitric acid
- Lower machinability compared to leaded brasses

Applications

- Ammunition cartridge cases (hence the name)
- Radiator cores and tanks
- Musical instruments
- Electrical connectors and fasteners
- Plumbing hardware and fittings
- Decorative hardware and jewelry
- Flashlight shells, lamp fixtures

- Automotive electrical connectors

Standards

- UNS: C26000
- ASTM: B36