

Acceptable Quality Levels

[Western Quality Services](#) as most international inspection companies use the ISO 2859 tables (also known as AQL tables) to measure acceptable levels of quality. These tables are a US standard with equivalents in all national and international standardization organizations (ANSI/ASQC Z1.4, ISO 2859, NF06-022, BS 6001, DIN 40080).

How do I determine the right sample size and acceptance number?

For a hypothetical inspection of a 4,000-unit lot, with a **sample size (General Inspection Level of II)**, Table B indicates that the **sampling size should be 200** units. For an **AQL of 2.5**, the corresponding **acceptance number is 10 and the reject number is 11**. This means there is 4,000 total items purchased and if out of the 200 units inspected there are 11 defectives then the entire lot is rejected.

Please note that depending on factory history and the product inspected the inspections standards can be "tightened" or "loosened" according to the situation (for example electronics will be inspected "tighter" than a simple plastic key chain).

SAMPLE SIZE CODE LETTERS							
Lot size	General Inspection levels			Special Inspection levels			
	I	II	III	S1	S2	S3	S4
2 to 8	A	A	B	A	A	A	A
9 to 15	A	B	C	A	A	A	A
16 to 25	B	B	D	A	A	B	B
26 to 50	C	D	E	A	B	B	C
51 to 90	C	E	F	B	B	C	C
91 to 150	D	F	G	B	B	C	D
151 to 280	E	G	H	B	C	D	E
281 to 500	F	H	J	B	C	D	E
501 to 1200	G	J	K	C	C	E	F
1201 to 3200	H	K	L	C	D	E	G
3201 to 10000	J	L	M	C	D	F	G
10001 to 35000	K	M	N	C	D	F	H
35001 to 150000	L	N	P	D	E	G	J
150001 to 500000	M	P	Q	D	E	G	J
500000 and over	N	Q	R	D	E	H	K

TABLE A

		SINGLE SAMPLING PLANS FOR NORMAL INSPECTION																						
Sample size code letter	Sample size	Acceptable quality levels (normal inspection)																						
		0,065		0,1		0,15		0,25		0,4		0,65		1,0		1,5		2,5		4		6,5		
		Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	Ac	Re	
A	2																							
B	3																							
C	5																							
D	8																							
E	13																							
F	20																							
G	32																							
H	50																							
J	80																							
K	125																							
L	200	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	2	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	14	15	14	15	15
M	315																							
N	500																							
P	800	1	2	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	14	15	14	15	21	22					
Q	1250	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	14	15	21	22									
R	2000	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	14	15	21	22											

↑ Use first sampling plan below arrow. If sample size equals, or exceeds, lot or batch size, do 100% inspection.
 ↓ Use first sampling plan above arrow.

Ac Acceptance number
 Re Rejection number

TABLE B