Torque Specifications for Aluminum Fittings

One of the most frequently asked questions is how tight should the connection between the fitting and the adapter be?

The correct answer is to follow the specification guidelines listed below. This will give the proper tightness to allow for a good seal, but prevents damage to the fitting by over torque.

Torque Specification Guidelines				
Nut Size	Minimum Torque ¹	Maximum Torque ¹		
-02	50	80		
-03	70	105		
-04	100	140		
-05	130	180		
-06	150	195		
-08	270	350		
-10	360	430		
-12	460	550		
-16	700	840		
-20	850	1020		
-24	900	1080		
-32	1800	2000		
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¹Torque values are shown in inch pounds for aluminum fittings.

There may be times when the correct torque wrench may not be available. In these cases you can follow one of the alternate tightening methods listed at right. **Please note that these methods are for aluminum performance fittings and adapters.** See Bulletin JA14A for steel fittings.

Remember, overtightening will result in possible damage to the fitting, resulting in possible leaks.

Conversion Tables

Inch and Millimeter Equivalents				
Inches		Millimeters		
Fractions	Decimals	Decimals		
1/64	.016	.397		
1/32	.031	.794		
3/64	.047	1.191		
1/16	.063	1.588		
5/64	.078	1.984		
3/32	.094	2.381		
7/64	.109	2.778		
1/8	.125	3.175		
9/64	.141	3.572		
5/32	.156	3.969		
11/64	.172	4.366		
3/16	.188	4.763		
13/64	.203	5.159		
7/32	.219	5.556		
15/64	.234	5.953		
1/4	.250	6.350		
17/64	.266	6.747		
9/32	.281	7.144		
19/64	.297	7.541		
15/16	.313	7.938		
21/64	.328	8.334		
11/32	.344	8.731		
23/64	.359	9.128		
3/8	.375	9.525		
25/64	.391	9.922		
13/32	.406	10.319		

Alternate Tightening Method One

Flats Method

Here are the steps for an excellent method of tightening. Anyone can tell if the joint was tightened and how much.

- 1. Tighten the nut by hand until it bottoms the seats.
- 2. Using a marker, draw a line lengthwise on the nut and extend it onto the adapter.

Size	Number of Hex Flats Rotations
-04	1½ to 1¾
-06	1 to 11/2
-08	1¼ to 1¾
-10	1¼ to 1¾
-12	1to 11/2
-16	3⁄4 to 1
-20	½ to ¾
-24	1/2 to 3/4

3. Using a wrench, rotate the nut to tighten. Turn the nut the amount shown on the chart.





Misalignment of the mark shows the

amount which the nut was tightened.

Mark a line on the nut and adapter before torquing.

Alternate Tightening Method Two

The second alternate method of tightening is very simple and easy to remember. Bring the nut to hand tight and then rotate a quarter of a turn. This applies to all sizes. Mark the fitting as indicated in the flat method to confirm the quarter turn.

Converting Units of Measure				
Multiply	Ву	To Obtain		
Atmospheres	14.70	Pounds/square inch		
Atmospheres	1.013	Bars		
Bars	0.9869	Atmospheres		
Bars	14.50	Pounds/square inch		
Centimeters	0.3937	Inches		
Feet	0.3048	Meters		
Gallons	231	Cubic inches		
Gallons	3.785	Liters		
Gallons (Imperial)	1.20095	U.S. gallons		
Gallons (U.S.)	0.83267	Imperial gallons		
Gallons (water)	8.3453	Pounds of water		
Gallons/minute	8.0208	Cubic feet/hour		
Horsepower	745.7	Watts		
Inches of mercury	1.133	Feet of water		
Kilometers	0.6214	Miles		
Liters	0.03531	Cubic feet		
Liters	61.02	Cubic inches		
Liters	0.2642	Gallons		
Meters	3.281	Feet		
Meters	39.37	Inches		
Microns	10-6	Meters		
Miles	5280	Feet		
Miles	1.609	Kilometers		
Miles/hour	1.609	Kilometers/hour		
Miles/hour	0.8684	Knots		
Ounces	0.0625	Pounds		
Ounces	28.349527	Grams		
Ounces (fluid)	1.805	Cubic inches		
Ounces (fluid)	0.02957	Liters		
Pounds	453.5924	Grams		
Pounds of water	0.1198	Gallons		
Pounds/square inch	0.06804	Atmospheres		
Temperature (°C)	1.8	+32 Temperature (°F)		
Temperature (°F) -32	5/9	Temperature (°C)		



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