

INCH-POUND

A-A-3191A
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SUPERSEDING
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COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

BRUSHES: ARTISTS

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description by all federal agencies.

1.0 SCOPE. This Commercial Item Description covers artists' brushes used for water and oil coloring, lettering, sign writing, and those on lithographic processes.

2.0 CLASSIFICATION.

Type

- I - High viscosity for trowel application
- II - Low viscosity for spray application
- III - Oils, Varnishes, and Lacquers (lettering and sign writing)
- IV - Lithographic processes

Class

- 1 - Squirrel Tail Hair
- 2 - Pure Red Sable Hair
- 3 - Ox Ear Hair
- 4 - Camel Hair
- 5 - Bristle Hog Hair

Styles

- A - Round, Single Taper Point
- B - Flat, Chisel Edge
- C - Flat, Square Edge
- D - Round, Square Edge

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc., and any other data which may improve this document should be sent to: General Services Administration, Federal Supply Service, Heartland Supply Operations Center (QDSKCB), 1500 E Bannister Rd., Kansas City, Missouri, 64131

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3.0 SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Design. The brushes shall consist of a handle with hair held in place by means of a ferrule and setting compound. Brushes shall be similar to Figures 1-5 and shall conform to the dimensional requirements of Tables I through V.

3.2 Materials. The materials used in the manufacturing of the brushes shall be such as to produce brushes conforming to the physical requirements hereinafter described.

3.2.1 Hair. The hair shall be of the best quality commercially available and as specified by the class designation.

3.2.2 Ferrule. Ferrules shall be fabricated of seamless nonferrous metals or of nonferrous metals with a lockseam side overlap. Lengths, widths, shapes and thickness of the ferrules shall be that used in standard manufactured practice. Ferrules shall be fastened to the handle with a snug fit so that there is no play between the handle and the ferrule.

3.2.3 Handle. Handles shall be either a smoothly finished close-grained hardwood, or synthetic material (molded hard plastic) with all spurs and runners removed. Hardwood handles shall be smoothly finished with a minimum of three dipped coats of varnish, lacquer or enamel.

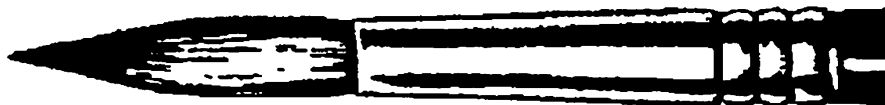
3.2.4 Setting Compound. The setting compound shall be vulcanized rubber, brushmaker's cement or other suitable material which will hold the hair securely. The setting compound shall not injure the hair, shall not become brittle, and shall not extend beyond the edge of the ferrule. The setting compound shall be insoluble in lacquer, paint, varnish, water, thinner, and solvents.

3.2.5 Finished Brushes. The finished brush shall be free of loose hair, properly trimmed, or any other imperfections which may impair their durability and serviceability.

3.3 Type I, Water Colors

3.3.1 Class 1, 2 & 4, Style A. Brushes shall be furnished in the Style A design, in Class 1, 2, or 4. The hair shall be squirrel tail hair for Class 1, red sable hair for Class 2, and camel hair for Class 4, be thoroughly sterilized and set to a single tapered point. The brushes shall be suitable for use with water colors. Type I, Class 1, 2, & 4, and Style A brushes shall be similar to Figure 1 and shall conform to the dimension of Table I.

Figure 1



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Table I. Type I, Class 1, 2, & 4 Style A Brushes

Ferrule Diameter Inside at Brush End - Inch	Class	Length of Hair Outside of Ferrule - Inch	Depth of Ferrule - Inch	Hold of Hair in Ferrule - Inch	Length of Ferrule - Inch
3/128	1	1/2	1-3/16	3/8	5
6/128	1	3/8	1	5/16	5
10/128	1	1/2	1-1/16	3/8	5
15/128	1	11/16	1-1/8	9/16	5
18/128	1	1-1/4	-	-	5
24/128	1	13/16	1-7/16	11/16	5
32/128	1	1-1/16	1-1/16	1-1/2	5
38/128	1	1-1/8	1-1/2	3/4	5
40/128	1	1-3/16	1-1/2	3/4	5
5/8	2	7/8	-	-	5
7/64	4	7/8	-	-	5
5/32	4	3/4	-	-	5
9/64	2	11/16	-	-	5

3.4 Type II, Oil and Water Colors

3.4.1 Class 2 & 3, Style A. Type II brushes shall be furnished in the Style A design in Class 2. The hair shall be pure red sable for Class 2, and ox ear hair for Class 3, thoroughly sterilized and set to a single tapered point. The brushes shall be suitable for use with oils or with water colors and shall be similar to Figure 2, and shall conform to the dimensions of Table II.

Figure 2



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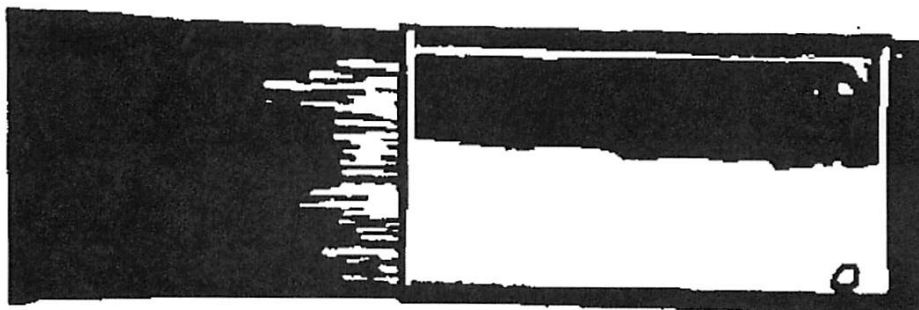
Table II. Type II, Class 2 & 3, Style A Brushes

Ferrule Diameter Inside at Brush End – Inch	Class	Length of Hair Outside of Ferrule – Inch	Depth of Ferrule – Inch	Hold of Hair in Ferrule – Inch	Length of Handle – Inch
6/128	2	5/16	1	5/16	9
8/128	2	7/16	1	5/16	9
10/128	2	½	1-1/16	½	9
13/128	2	9/16	1-1/8	5/8	9
15/128	2 & 3	5/8	1-1/8	5/8	9
18/128	2	11/16	1-1/4	5/8	9
26/128	2	13/16	1-7/16	5/8	9
30/128	2	7/8	1-1/2	5/8	9
34/128	2	1	1-1/2	5/8	9

3.5 Type III, Oils, Varnishes and Lacquers (Lettering and Sign Writing)

3.5.1 Class 3, Style B. The hair in Type III, Class 3, and Style B brushes shall be good quality, natural color, ox hair with natural points preserved and reversed hair removed. Hair shall be thoroughly sterilized and set to a flat, chisel edge. The brushes shall be suitable for use with oils, varnishes and lacquers. The brushes shall be similar to Figure 3, and shall conform to the dimensions of Table III.

Figure 3



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Table III. Type III, Class 3, Style B Brushes

Brush Width	Length of Hair Outside of Ferrule (minimum)	Length of Hair Inside Ferrule (minimum)
1/8	11/16	1/2
1/4	3/4	1/2
3/8	13/16	1/2
1/2	15/16	1/2
5/8	1	1/2
3/4	1-1/16	1/2
7/8	1-3/16	1/2
1	1-1/4	1/2
1-1/4	1-5/16	1/2
1-1/2	1-3/8	1/2

3.5.2 Class 1 & 2, Style C. The hair in Type III, Class 1, and Style C brushes shall be squirrel tail hair with natural point preserved and reversed hair removed. The hair in Type III, Class 2, and Style C shall be red sable hair. Hair shall be thoroughly baked and set to a flat, square edge. The brushes shall be suitable for use with oils, varnishes, and lacquers. The brushes shall conform to the dimensions of Table IIIA.

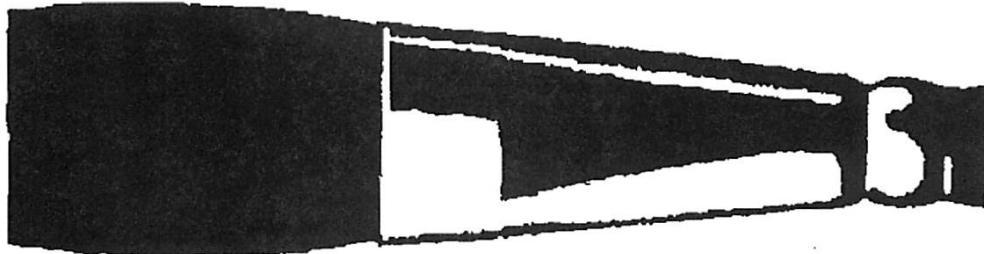
Table IIIA. Type III, Class 1 & 2, Style C Brushes

Brush Width – Inch	Class	Length of Hair Outside of Ferrule (minimum) – Inch	Length of Hair Inside of Ferrule (minimum) - Inch
1/4	1	3/4	1/2
3/8	1 & 2	5/8	1/2
1/2	1	15/16	1/2
19/32	1	7/8	1/2
5/8	1	1	1/2
3/4	1	1-1/16	1/2
7/8	1	1	1/2
1	1	1-1/4	1/2
1-1/2	1	1-3/8	1/2

3.5.3 Class 3, Style D. The hair in Type III, Class 3, and Style D brushes shall be of the best quality ox ear hair having good life and spring and thoroughly cleaned and washed. The hair stock shall have good points, be free from turned hairs, and shall be set to a round, square edge. The brush shall be suitable for use with oils, varnishes, and lacquers. Type III, Class 3, and Style D brushes shall be similar to Figure 4 and shall conform to dimensions of Table IV.

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Figure 4

**Table IV. Type III, Class 3, Style D Brushes**

Outside Diameter of Ferrule at Same End – Inch	Length of Hair Outside of Ferrule – Inch	Depth of Ferrule – Inch	Length of Handle, Including Ferrule – Inch
1/16	3/4	1	7
3/32	7/8	1-1/16	7
1/8	1	1-1/16	7
5/32	1-3/8	1-1/8	7

3.6 Type IV, Lithographic Processes

3.6.1 Class 1, Style C. The hair in Type IV, and Style C brushes shall be squirrel tail hair for Class 1, thoroughly baked and set to a flat, square edge. The brushes shall be suitable for use in lithographic processes. The brushes shall be similar to Figure 5 and conform to dimensions of Table V.

Figure 5



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Table V. Type IV, Class 1, Style C Brushes

Ferrule Diameter Inside at Brush End - Inch	Length of Hair Outside of Ferrule - Inch	Length of Hair Outside Ferrule – Inch	Depth of Ferrule – Inch	Hold of Hair in Ferrule – Inch	Length of Handle - Inch
½	5/32	7/8	1-1/2	½	5-3/4
1	7/32	1	1-3/4	½	5-3/4

4. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

4.1 The offeror/ contractor is encouraged to use recovered materials to the maximum extent practicable, in accordance with paragraph 23.403 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR).

5. PRODUCT CONFORMANCE

5.1 Product Conformance. The product provided shall meet the salient characteristics of this Commercial Item Description, conform to the producer's own drawing, specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices, and be the same product offered for sale in the commercial market. The government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance.

5.2 Responsibility for Inspection. Unless otherwise specified, the contractor is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements and may use any commercial facilities (including the contractor's own facilities) suitable for performance of the inspection requirements, unless disapproved by the Government. The Government reserves the right to perform any of the inspections deemed necessary to assure the item conforms to the specified requirements.

6. PACKAGING.

Preservation, packaging and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

7. NOTES**7.1 Source of Documents.**

7.1.1 Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Washington DC 20401-9371, <https://www.acquisition.gov/far/>

7.2 Ordering data. The contract or order should specify the following:

- a. CID Document Number
- b. National Stock Number (NSN)
- c. Type, Class, Style
- d. Packaging requirements.

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7.3 Key words. Lettering, Lithographic, Sign Writing, Ferrule

MILITARY INTEREST:

None: DoD has no registered interest
in revisions and amendments to this
Commercial Item Description until further notice

Preparing Activity
GSA - FAS