

Damax™

Strip steel

Datasheet

Damax™ by Alleima is the next generation of Damascus knife steel. It features the same quality as handcrafted steel and is produced with an innovative industrialized technique with up to 135 layers of martensitic stainless steel. The large scale production offers a more cost efficient material with repeatable quality.

Damax™ is a stainless Damascus steel. After heat treatment, the grade is characterized by:

- Layered structure with aesthetic design possibilities
- Very high hardness
- Good corrosion resistance

Damax™ Damascus steel is a multilayered steel, built up by two different steel grades that will give a different appearance after chemical etching. The steel grades in Damax™ are Alleima® 7C27Mo2 and Alleima® 19C27.

Chemical composition

Damax™ is a mixture of the two grades Alleima® 7C27Mo2 and Alleima® 19C27.

Chemical composition (average), weight%

	C	Si	Mn	P	S	Cr	Mo
Alleima® 7C27Mo2	0.38	0.4	0.6	≤0.025	≤0.010	13.5	1.0
Alleima® 19C27	0.95	0.4	0.7	≤0.025	≤0.010	13.5	
Damax™	0,67	0,4	0,6	≤0.025	≤0.010	13,5	0,5

Applications

Applications of Damax™ Damascus steel are knives, such as kitchen or outdoor knives, but can also be used for jewelry or other decorative applications.

Forms of supply

Strip can be supplied either in coils or as straightened lengths of 0.5 - 3.0 meters (1.6 - 13.1 feet / 20- 118 inches). The coil weight is max. 4.3 kg/mm (241 lbs/in.) of strip width.

Dimensions

Thickness		Width	
mm (in.)		mm (in.)	
Min.	Max	Min.	Max.
2.5 (0.098)	4.0 (0.157)	30 (1.18)	270 (10.63)
Other sizes might be supplied to meet specific requirements.			

Tolerances

The thickness and width tolerances are +/- tolerances to the nominal size. The following tolerances are valid for cold rolled material with slit edges.

Width: ± 0.60 mm

Thickness: ± 0.065 mm

Tighter tolerances, as well as other tolerance limits can be offered upon request.

Mechanical properties

As-delivered	Tensile strength	Hardness *	
	MPa (ksi)	HV	HRB
Soft annealed	nominal 700 (102)	nominal 215	nominal 95
Annealed	750 \pm 100 (109 \pm 14)	235 \pm 35	97.5 \pm 6
Cold rolled	800-1000 (116-145)	250-315	99.5-108.5

* Hardness data is for guidance only.

Hardening and tempering of the strip steel is needed to achieve the correct condition and to meet the properties required by the end user.

Physical properties

The physical properties of a steel are related to a number of factors, including alloying elements, heat treatment and manufacturing route, but the data presented below can generally be used for rough calculations.

Density

g/cm ³	7.7
lb/in. ³	0.28

Heat treatment

Hardening data

The exact hardening parameters need to be adjusted in every individual furnace. A general recommendation is given below:

Austenitizing:

Piece hardening

To room temperature: Recommended temperature: 1060°C (1940°F)

Deep freezing to -70°C: Recommended temperature: 1090°C (1994°F)

Time in furnace according to table

Thickness (mm)	Thickness (in.)	Time (minutes)
2.5	0.100	5
3.0	0.118	6
3.25	0.128	7
3.5	0.138	8
3.75	0.148	10
4	0.157	12

Batch hardening

To room temperature: Recommended temperature: 1050°C (1922°F)

Deep freezing to -70°C: Recommended temperature: 1080°C (1976°F)

Soaking time 30 minutes in furnace. The temperature should first be equalized at 850°C (1560°F) for 30 minutes to avoid necessary temperature variations.

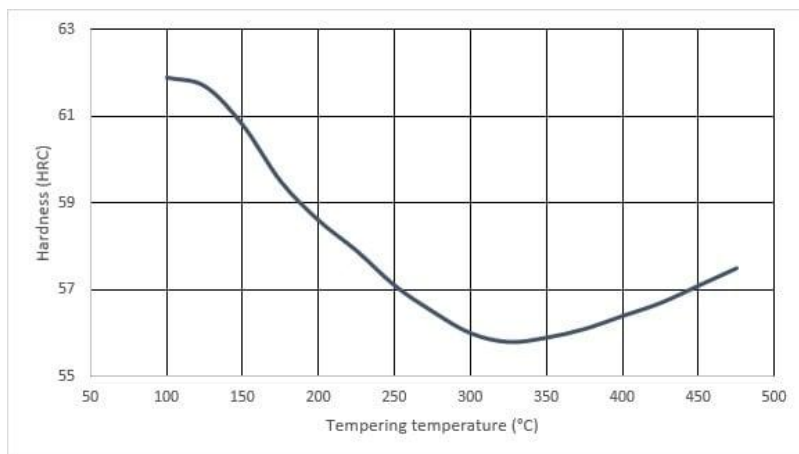
Quenching

Quench to room temperature as rapid as possible. For optimum results 600°C (1110°F) should be reached within 2 minutes or less.

Tempering

It is recommended that tempering is performed between 175-350°C (345-660°F) for 0,5-2 hours. Brittleness occurs with tempering above 450°C (840°F).

Typical tempering curve after austenitizing at 1060°C and quenching to room temperature.



Below is an estimation of the hardness levels that can be expected with different tempering temperatures.

After quenching to room temperature:

Hardness	Temperature
59 HRC	175°C (345°F)
58 HRC	225°C (435°F)
56 HRC	350°C (660°F)

After deep-freezing:

Hardness	Temperature
62 HRC	175°C (345°F)
60 HRC	225°C (435°F)
58 HRC	350°C (660°F)

Read more about the importance of using the right hardening parameters, and find additional recommendations regarding hardening in Alleima's hardening guide.

Damascus pattern

The Damax steel is normally manufactured with up to 135 layered Damascus billet. Other number of layers can be an option upon request. After grinding the material will have a striped appearance.



To give it some other pattern of the customer's own design, a cold or hot embossing followed by grinding needs to be performed.

Etching

To reveal the pattern an etching of the finished product has to be performed.

Before etching the surface must have a smooth finish and be degreased to remove all oils residuals.

Various acids and procedures can be used for the etching. In the table below some recommendations are given.

Chemicals	Mixture	Tempature	Time
Sulphuric acid, H_2SO_4 (conc. ~ 96%)	15% acid + 85% distilled water	50°C (122°F)	20 min
Hydrochloric acid, HCl	Use concentrated	50°C (122°F)	2 min
Citric acid and Iron chloride ($FeCl_3$)	50% citric acid + 50% distilled water. Heat until the citric acid is dissolved. Add ca 5% of $FeCl_3$ to the mixture.	80°C (176°F)	30 min

Immerse the product in the acid for the suggested time, or until the pattern appear to a desired level. The heating has an accelerating effect, and it should be performed in a water bath. Normal safety precautions for handling acids must be taken.

After etching all traces of the acid must be removed. Rinse thoroughly in water. It can also be neutralized in a mixture of water and baking soda (sodium bicarbonate).

The contrast of the layers will be even further enhanced by a superficial fine grit grinding or polishing of the surface after etching, so that the protruding layers will become bright.

Disclaimer:

Recommendations are for guidance only, and the suitability of a material for a specific application can be confirmed only when we know the actual service conditions. Continuous development may necessitate changes in technical data without notice. This datasheet is only valid for Alleima materials.