

In addition to the nominal size and pitch of a tap, there is another important dimensional factor to be considered when selecting a ground thread tap for a given job. This factor is the pitch diameter tap limit, "H" and "L". "H" represents (high) above basic pitch diameter; "L" (low) is below basic pitch diameter. Tap limits have been established to provide a choice in the selection of the tap size best suited to produce the class of thread desired.

Figure 1 Illustrates the numbering system and the .0005" diameter increment separation between successive limits. Because the starting point is basic pitch diameter, dividing the limit number by two establishes, in thousandths of an inch, the amount the maximum tap pitch diameter is above basic in the "H" series and the amount the minimum tap pitch diameter is under basic in the "L" series.

Figure 2 Illustrates the positioning of the tap limits in relation to the various classes of threads for a 1/4–20 size.

Figure 1

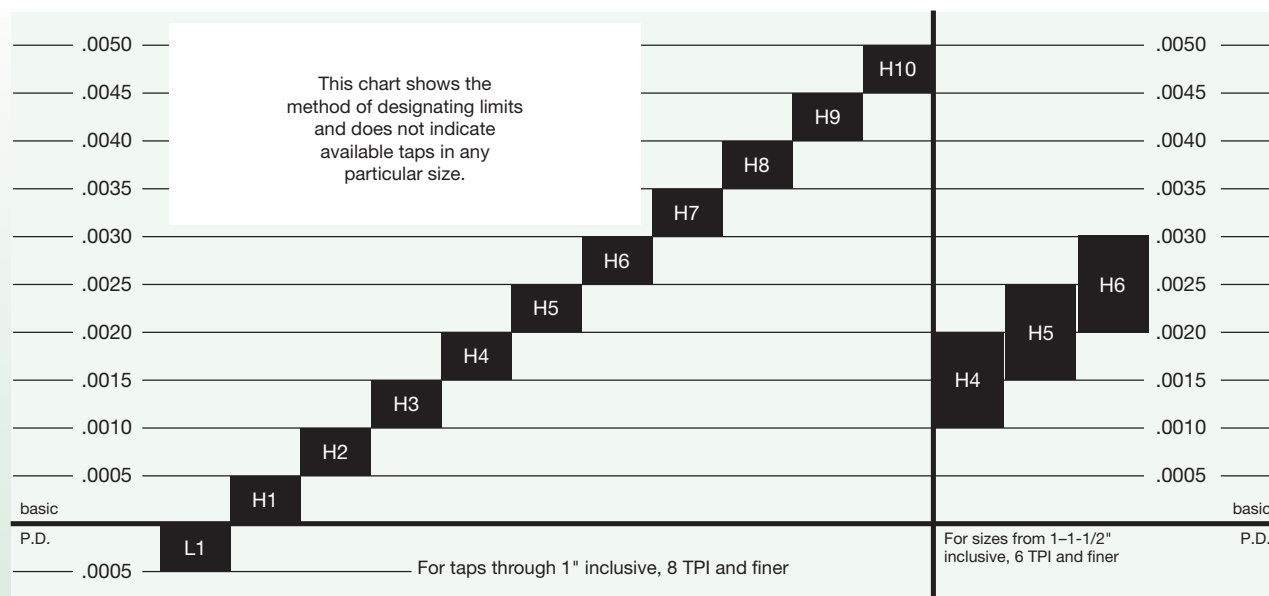


Figure 2

Class of Thread – 1/4–20 UNC and NC

