

## **Material Grade Guide**

Aluminum Cans – Containers for beverages made up of a (3000) series aluminum. Excludes vegetable cans, pet food cans, aluminum foil, & potted meat cans. The tabs are NOT worth more separate and take away from the overall weight of the cans if removed.

Aluminum Auto Wheels – Made of 356 Cast Aluminum. Free of lead wheel weights, and valve stems. Applications include Automobiles, Race cars, etc.

Aluminum Chrome Wheels - 356 Cast wheels with a coating of chrome finish on them. Free of lead wheel weights and valve stems.

Aluminum Cast – Includes 5000 and 6000 series aluminum. Applications include engine blocks and parts, such as engine heads, piston heads, etc. Free of any iron.

Aluminum Clip(MLC) – Aluminum pieces that may include 3000,5000, and 6000 series. Any type of aluminum that has been stamped, folded, or cut to make a shape. MLC cannot have any paint or decals on the surface.

Aluminum Extrusion – Aluminum that has been pushed/extruded through a machine to form its shape. Includes 5000 and 6000 series. Applications include aluminum pipe, aluminum angle, etc. Free of any iron.

Aluminum Die Casts – Model car and matchbox car bodies, Cooking Pots, and some engine parts. Free of any iron.

Aluminum Old Sheet – Any type of aluminum that contains a small content of iron(>10%). May be painted, contain decals or graphics, have screws attached, caulk and weather stripping, etc. Clean types of aluminum listed above may be downgraded to Old Sheet due to one of the items listed above.

Aluminum Radiators – Any type of radiator that is made up of aluminum fins. Applications may be from automobiles, yard equipment, machinery, etc. (PRI buys as Old Sheet).

Heavy Irony Aluminum – Aluminum containing more than 10% iron. Includes small engines such as weed eaters, lawnmowers, leaf blowers, assembled automobile motors with aluminum blocks, water pumps, etc. Any plastic needs to be removed from parts.

Aluminum Turnings – Shavings of aluminum as such from Machine Shops. May be different grades such as 6061.

Aluminum Copper Radiator(ACR) – Found most commonly in A/C units from houses and buildings. Part of a HVAC system. A coil made of aluminum fins running horizontally and

copper tubes running vertically. Chop the metal ends off to receive clean price. (Must have heating and air license or a receipt from a recent install of a new unit).

ACR Ends – The steel ends that are cut off a heating and air coil. Each plate will have exposed copper on it from the internal tubing on the coil. The copper must be attached to the plate or else it just bought as a mixed steel item.

Electric Motors – Any type of copper or aluminum wound motor that generates electricity. Found on machinery, ceiling fans, blower fans, well pumps, etc.

Bare Bright Copper – The most valuable form of copper. Must be solid and each strand no smaller than the thickness of a No.2 Pencil lead. It can have no paint, no zinc coating, no solder, no brass, or insulation on it. Must be bright and shiny or new in appearance. No oxidation.

#1 Copper – Can be tubing, solids, ornamental pieces, roofing material, plumbing pieces, etc. Must be free of paint, solder, brass, insulation, or any other type of material. If stranded it has to be at least the thickness of a No.2 Pencil lead.

#2 Copper – Tubing, solids, ornamental pieces etc. that may contain solder, or paint. No size limit on thickness. Must be free of any other material other than copper.

#1 Insulated Copper – Insulated Copper is based off the recovery of copper once separated from the insulation. This wire must be at least 65% recovery of copper and be no smaller than a 16 gauge. Wire types include romex/house wire, MCM cable, etc. The copper itself cannot have the zinc coating on it.

#2 Insulated Copper – Wire with at least a 50% recovery on copper. Wire types include welding wire, communication cable such as CAT 4/5, drop cords, any wire with zinc coating on copper, etc. Plastic ends, plug-ins, or any other attachments must be removed.

#3 Insulated Wire – Wire that contains a copper recovery of approximately 35%. Will usually have multiple layers of insulation and a low amount of copper. Wire types include Co-Ax cable, some types of communication wire, insulated copper with a steel shield around it, etc. Christmas lights are not included and are a separate item(No Bulbs!).

Copper Heater Cores - A heater core is a radiator-like device made of copper used in heating the cabin of a vehicle. Small in size and usually no bigger than a sheet of printer paper. They are primarily made of copper and brass.

Copper Auto Radiators - Types of radiators that have brass and copper fins with a fill tank located on one end made also of brass. Applications can be automobiles, machinery, etc. To receive full price the steel brackets must be removed.

Yellow Brass – Brass is an alloy made up of copper and zinc. Yellow brass has a lower content of copper than red brass and a golden yellow appearance when grinded. There are many forms

including ornamental pieces, plumbing applications, etc. Copper content is usually between 30 and 70%.

Red Brass – This brass has at least an 85% recovery on copper. It cannot be zinc coated. It must be free of any plastic, steel, or other material. When it is grinded it will have a pink tint from having a significant amount of copper content.

Un-Plated Brass Shells – All brass shells must be spent or not loaded with a projectile! These types of shells are made without any type of coating on them and are yellow in appearance. Size/caliber does not matter. These must be kept separate from aluminum and copper shells.

Plated Brass Shells – Spent shells which have a zinc coating giving them a chrome finish. Size and caliber do not matter. These must be kept separate from aluminum and copper shells.

Copper Sealed Units – Also known as “compressors”, this are the black tanks that hold Freon for a HVAC system. They have copper lines attached and also some copper inside of them. The outer shell is made up of steel. The Freon needs to be drained from these before selling.

Tungsten Carbide – Made up of 99% W(Tungsten). Tungsten carbide is a material used for a number of industrial applications and it is characterized by its high strength, toughness and hardness. Items may include drill bits and machinery tips.

Circuit Boards – There are many forms of circuit boards. Most are made of a plastic board containing gold, solder, plastic pieces, silver, and come in many colors. The most common can be found inside a computer tower.

Power Supply's – These are the boxes found inside computer towers that contain a fan and a series of copper insulated wires running into it. This is what generates power to your computer from the wall outlet. Remove the copper wires because they are more valuable.

Hard Drives - A hard drive is what stores all your data from your computer. They are found inside the tower and are about the size of a man's wallet. Do not confuse these with the floppy drives since they are about the same size. These are worth more if they have the boards still attached to them.

CPU's(Central Processing Units) - These are the small square chips found on the inside of a computer tower located on the circuit board. There is usually one per computer or laptop. There are several different types including slot cpu's, no pin, and ceramic just to name a few.

304 Stainless Steel – This stainless is the most commonly used because of its excellent forming and welding characteristics. Applications include sinks, pans, tanks, etc. It contains chromium, nickel, iron, manganese and silicon to name a few elements with the nickel content being the deciding factor for grade. 304 contains around 10-12% nickel.

316 Stainless Steel - Grade 316 is the standard molybdenum-bearing grade, second in importance to 304 amongst the austenitic stainless steels. The molybdenum gives 316 better overall corrosion resistant properties than Grade 304, particularly higher resistance to pitting and crevice corrosion in chloride environments. It contains around 14% Nickel.

Mix/Shredder Steel - This is a miscellaneous collection of steel scrap ranging from tin roofing to backyard swing sets and lawnmowers. This may be any item that is primarily made up of iron and free of any waste or trash. Currently we are mixing cast iron, & long steel among this grade.

Short Steel - Our short steel must be at least 1/8" in thickness and no larger than 3 feet in width/length. Some items included are steel auto rims, angle iron, steel plating, nuts and bolts, nails, coil over springs, etc.

White Goods - Household appliances that include refrigerators, washing machines, dryers, dish washers, etc. Less valuable than other steel grades due to heavy amounts of plastic and insulation. These must be free of any trash, waste and water.

Bulk Steel - Large items of steel that include machinery, large tanks, thick pieces of metal, etc. These must be kept separate because they will require torch work. Anything over 20 feet long, more than 6 inches thick or larger are bulk.

Alternators- An alternator is the softball sized tool that keeps your vehicles battery charged while running. It is made up of an aluminum shell with a pulley on the front and copper wound motor within it. It is usually located on the front of the motor with a belt attached to it.

A/C Compressors - An air conditioning (AC) compressor is a mechanical pump that is powered by a belt attached to a car's engine. This compressor separates high and low pressure from the air conditioning system. It is one of the many components that help pump out cool air through the vents in a car. It is made up of an aluminum housing, and misc. steel pieces.

Batteries - There are many forms and types of batteries. We buy lead-acid and Lithium types. You can normally find what type of battery you have by reading the label on it. Lithium types will have "Li", and Lead Acid will say so as well. Common applications include automobile batteries, power tools, machinery, etc. We do not buy the Nickel Cadmium or (Ni-Cd).

\*Not all scrap yards grade along the same guidelines and can vary from business to business. These are our guidelines and if you cannot find something you have on this list please do not hesitate to call. Guideline is subject to change at any time. Thanks for visiting our site!

-PRI Staff

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