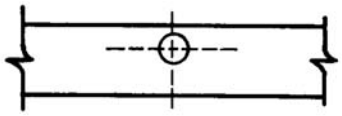
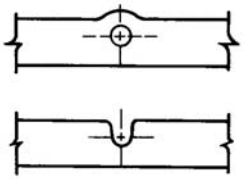
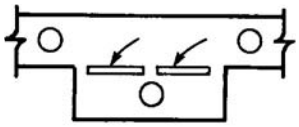
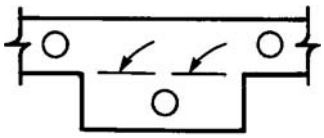
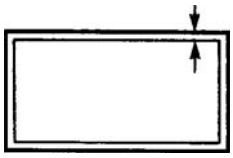
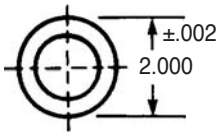
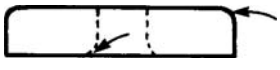
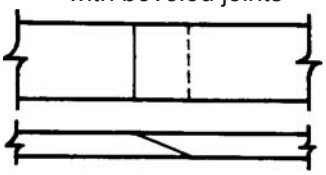
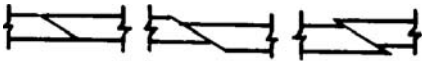
Gasket Design Tips

Problem	Result	Suggested Solutions
Bolt holes close to edge 	Causes breakage in stripping and assembling	Projection or "ear" 
Very small bolt holes or non-circular openings 	Require handpicking… easy to miss	Avoid hole sizes under 3/32" diameter. If small hole is for locating or indexing, change to notch. 
Tear-away parts with open slots at attached edges 	Slots require handpicking, costly dies and die maintenance	Simple perforation 
Thin walls, delicate cross-section in relation to overall size 	High scrap loss; stretching or distortion in shipment or use. Restricts choice to high tensile strength materials	Have the gasket in mind during early design stages
Metalworking tolerances applied to gasket thickness, diameters, length, width, etc. 	Results in perfectly usable parts being rejected at incoming inspection. Requires time and correspondence to reach agreement on practical limits. Increases cost of parts and tooling. Delays delivery.	Most gasket materials are compressible. Many are affected by humidity changes. Try standard or commercial tolerances before concluding that special accuracy is required.
Transference of fillets, radii, etc. from mating metal parts to gasket 	Unless part is molded, such features mean extra operations and higher cost	Most gasket stocks will conform to mating parts without pre-shaping. Be sure radii, chamfers, etc., are functional, not merely copied from metal members.
Large gaskets made in sections with beveled joints 	Extra operations to skive or glue. Difficult to obtain smooth, even joints without steps or transverse grooves. 	Die-cut dovetailed joint