

Manufacturing Techniques

Parker Extruded fittings

Hexagon, round and shaped bars are extruded in the configuration required, drawn to size, cut to length and straightened. First a solid round billet (8 to 12 inches in diameter) is heated to the pliable state and forced by pressure of approximately 80,000 pounds per square inch through a die. The resulting continuous length of bar is cooled and then drawn through dies to the desired external size. (The drawing process also controls the temper.) After straightening, the bar is ready for machining.

The process produces a dense, nonporous material somewhat stronger in the longitudinal direction due to an orientated flow of the grain.

Material used for Parker Brass Fittings

(Reference SAE J461)

Straight bodies:	barstock CA 360 or CA 345
Shape bodies:	extruded barstock CA 360
Shape bodies:	forged CA 377
Nuts:	barstock CA 360
Nuts:	forged CA 377

Parker Forged Fittings

Material for forgings is extruded in round bars, cut to length and straightened. (At this point in the process, forging rod differs from round extruded machinable bars only in temper and chemical properties.) After straightening, the bars are cut again into slugs (short lengths), reheated to the pliable state and pressed under a pressure of approximately 25,000 pounds per square inch between upper and lower die cavities. After cooling the flash is trimmed away and the forging blank is ready for machining.

This process of forming under extreme pressure produces a uniformly dense material of exceptional strength. Because grain flow follows the contour, the fitting has high impact strength and is more resistant to mechanical shock and vibration.

Of the major brass fittings producers, only Parker offers elbows and tees machined from both extruded and forged shapes.

