

How To Read V-Belt Numbers

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Automotive belts start with either **4L** (12.5mm wide) or **3L** (9.5mm). The number following it is the *outside* length of the belt in tenths of inches. The inside length of the belt is typically 2" less for a 4L belt, and 1-1/2" less for a 3L belt. An example would be *4L460*, which would be 46" long outside, 44" inside.

"Classic" v-belt numbers start with a letter identifying the cross section, "A" through "E" - see V-Belt Dimensions below.

"A" series belts are the most common. The number following it is the *inside* length in inches. The outside length is typically 2 inches more. An example would be *A44*, 44" long on the inside, 46" outside; the equivalent of the 4L460 above.

"4L" belts measure the **outside** of the belt.

"A" belts measure the **inside** of the belt. (add 2" to come up with the equivalent 4L size.)

Outside Circumference per section:

- A= Add 2" to belt number (Example A88 = 90" Outside Circumference)
- B= Add 3" to belt number (Example B88 = 91" Outside Circumference)
- C= Add 4" to belt number (Example C88 = 92" Outside Circumference)
- D= Add 5" to belt number (Example D105 = 110" Outside Circumference)
- E= Add 6" to belt number (Example E144 = 150" Outside Circumference)
- AX= Add 2" to belt number (Example AX60 = 62" Outside Circumference)
- BX= Add 3" to belt number (Example BX50 = 53" Outside Circumference)

Widths:

- A Section = 1/2" Wide
- B Section = 5/8" Wide
- C Section = 7/8" Wide
- D Section = 1-1/4" Wide
- E Section = 1-1/2" Wide
- AX Section = 1/2" Wide
- BX Section = 5/8" Wide

Type	Section	Topwidth, a (Inches)	Height, b (Inches)	Angle, O ()	Belt Range Inches
	3L	3/8"	7/32"	40	170-1350
	4L	1/2"	5/16"	40	170-4000
FHP	5L	5/8"	13/32"	40	230-2680
Classical	A	1/2"	5/16"	40	15-400
	B	5/8"	13/32"	40	20-800
V-Belts	C	7/8"	17/32"	40	32-800
	D	1-1/4"	3/4"	40	80-800
	E	1-1/2"	29/32"	40	105-800

