# **Selecting Flexible Couplings**



# Introduction to couplings

In the simplest of terms a coupling's purpose is to transfer rotational movement from one shaft to another. Reality is somewhat more complicated, though, as flexible shaft couplings have also to compensate for misalignment between two shafts. This ability must be balanced with the need to be pliable in the planes of misalignment while still having the torsional strength to carry out the coupling's main function. This is known as the Compliance mechanism where compliance is the capacity for allowing relative displacement.

Several factors should always be taken into consideration when looking to specify flexible shaft couplings. These are torsional stiffness, backlash, torque, life and attachment system. All of these have bearing on coupling selection.

# Selecting the ideal coupling

The choice of couplings available to today's engineers can be daunting, but follow our guidelines and you will arrive at the optimum coupling for your particular application.

- Does the coupling provide adequate misalignment protection?
- Can it transmit the required torque?
- Do I need axial motion or axial stiffness?
- Can it sustain the required speed of rotation?
- Will it fit within the available space envelope?
- On it operate at the designated ambient temperature?
- Does it provide torsional stiffness required for positional accuracy?
- Does it provide electrical isolation between the shafts?
- Will it have the required life expectancy?



### Service Factors

- Peak torque values quoted in the coupling performance tables apply to uniform load conditions at constant speed where there is no misalignment or axial displacement.
- The torque capacity of flexible couplings will reduce when acceleration is present, for example, in stop/start or reversing conditions.
- The more severe the acceleration, the greater reduction in torque capacity.
- Sliding couplings (Oldham and UniLat) are subject to a wear rate dependent on the number of cycles completed.

#### Peak torque must be greater than application torque x service factor

			Load			Duty (Hours/Day)							
	Steady State	Stop/Start	Reversing	Shock	Shock & Reversing	<1	1 - 2	3 - 5	6 - 12	>12			
Huco Flex B	1.5	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco Flex K	1.5	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco Flex M	1.5	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco Flex Ni	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco Flex P	1.0	1.5	1.5	3.0	4.0	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco Flex G	1.0	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco MultiBeam	1.0	1.5	2.0	(Note 1)	(Note 1)	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco S-Beam	1.0	1.5	2.0	(Note 1)	(Note 1)	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco TorqLink	1.0	1.5	2.0	(Note 1)	(Note 1)	-	-	-	-	-			
Huco Oldham	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	2.0	4.0	6.0	8.0			
Huco Flex - B	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.5	2.0	3.0	4.0			
Uni-Lat	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.5	2.0	3.0	4.0			

Note 1: Not recommended in these conditions



Sliding Disc type	Universal/Lateral type	Double Loop type	Jaw Coupling	Universal Joints & Teleshafts	Friction Clutches	Bevel Gearboxes	
Didham Blind bored Fhru' bored  Material Options: Aluminium Stainless Steel	Uni-Lat	Flex-P	Jaw coupling	Huco-Pol Single joints  Double joints  Teleshafts	Vari-Tork, Polyclutch Basic clutch  Basic clutch + Oldham coupling  Polyclutch	L-Box T-Box	
			General description	•			
General purpose, robust, easy to use 3-part couplings with replaceable wear elements. Generous radial compensation and pull-apart / re-engage facility for blind assemblies.	Unique, general purpose light duty couplings with generous angular and radial misalignment compensation. Resist axial motion, can anchor unrestricted shafts and perform light push/pull duties.	Exceptional flexibility in all three directions, radial, angular and axial	High torque capacity and high speed are available from this naturally balanced coupling	Light duty plastic universal joints and extensible drive shafts (teleshafts). Low mass, corrosion resistant, ideal where conventional steel joints would be under-utilised.	Small, user-adjustable torque limiters for concentric or in-line mounting. Operate by friction using interleaved clutch plates.	Small 90° drives encased in molded housings providing electrical isolation between shafts and mounting surfact The L-Box is rated for intermittent use, the T-box for continuous.  1:1 & 2:1 ratios are availab with the T-Box.	
			Where to use				
Stepper drives for most applications including positioning slides, pumps, actuators, etc.	Encoder, resolver, tacho, potentiometer drives. Small positioning slides, dosing pumps, & light drives generally.	Light power drives, pumps and small generators	Light power drives where misalignment is small	Intermittent applications in business machines, instrumentation, lab equipment, analytical apparatus, etc., where steel joints would be under-utilised.	Friction clutches interrupt rotation when the load being transmitted reaches a predetermined threshold. Used in all kinds of small drives to help protect personnel and equipment.	L-box offers a compact means to route drives thru' 90°. T-box offers 2 & 3 shaft configurations for multiple power offtake.	
			Speeds				
Up to 3000 rpm.	Up to 3000 rpm.	Up to 3000 rpm.	Up to 40,000 rpm.	Up to 1000 rpm	Up to 1000 rpm slipping speed	Up to 1500 rpm for T-box	
		P	eak torque largest size				
44 Nm	12 Nm	18 Nm	133 Nm	10.7 Nm	60 Nm	0.68 Nm	
2 to 30	3 to 22	3 to 16	Standard bores 3 to 16	3 to 20	6 to 32	4 & 5 (shafts)	
2 10 30	3 to 22	3 to 10		3 10 20	0 to 32	4 & J (SIIdILS)	
20 to 160°C	20 to 160°C	-40 to +100°C	Temperature range	20 +0 +6000	-10 to +80°C	20 to 16000	
–20 to +60°C	−20 to +60°C	-40 (0 +100 €	-40 to +80°C	−20 to +60°C	(when operating)	–20 to +60°C	
			Electrically isolating				
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	See General Description abov	
			Connection				
Clamp or Set Screw	Clamp or Set Screw	Set Screw	Clamp or Set Screw	Set Screw, Bonding, or Cross-Pinning	Clamp or Set Screw	N/A	
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# **Selecting Flexible Couplings**

## Round & Keywayed Bore Details & Codes

Metric	Inch	Inch	Round	Metric	keys	Inch k	Keywayed	
mm	fraction	decimal	bore code	Key size w x h	K	Key size w x h	K	bore code
1 1.588 2	1/16 -	0.0394 0.0625 0.0787	08 10 11	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
2.286 3	- -	0.0900 0.1181	12 14	- -	-	- -	- -	- -
3.048 3.175 *3.969	- 1/8 5/32	0.1200 0.1250 0.1563	15 16 –	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
4 4.763 5	3/16 -	0.1575 0.1875 0.1969	18 19 20	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
6 6.350	_ 1/4	0.2362 0.2500	22 24	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
7 7.938	_ 5/16	0.2756 0.3125	25 27	2 x 2 -	8.00	- 1/8 x 1/8	_ 0.3755	P25 R27
8	-	0.3150	28	2 x 2	9.00	-	-	P28
9 9.525	3/8	0.3543 0.3750	30 31	3 x 3 -	10.40 –	- 1/8 x 1/8	0.4380	P30 R31
10	-	0.3937	32	3 x 3	11.40	-	-	P32
11	-	0.4331	33	4 x 4	12.80	-	-	P33
12 12.700	_ 1/2	0.4724 0.5000	35 36	4 x 4 -	13.80	- 1/8 x 1/8	0.5630	P35 R36
13	-	0.5118	37	5 x 5	15.30	-	-	P37
14	-	0.5512	38	5 x 5	16.30	-	-	P38
15 15.875	_ 5/8	0.5906 0.6250	40 41	5 x 5 -	17.30 –	3/16 x 3/16	0.7160	P40 R41
16	-	0.6299	42	5 x 5	18.30	-	-	P42
17	-	0.6693	43	5 x 5	19.30	-	-	P43
18	-	0.7087	45	6 x 6	20.80	-	-	P45
19 19.050	3/4	0.7480 0.7500	46 47	6 x 6 -	21.80	3/16 x 3/16	0.8410	P46 R47
20	-	0.7874	48	6 x 6	22.80	-	-	P48
22 22.225 24 25 25.400	- 7/8 - - 1	0.8661 0.8750 0.9449 0.9843 1.0000	49 50 51 52 53	6 x 6 - 8 x 7 8 x 7 -	24.80 - 27.30 28.30 -	1/4 x 1/4 - - 1/4 x 1/4	0.9930 - - 1.1180	P49 R50 P51 P52 R53
28 28.575	_ 1-1/8	1.1024 1.1250	54 55	8 x 7 -	31.30 -	- 5/16 x 1/4	_ 1.2400	P54 R55
30 31.750 32 34.925	- 1-1/4 - 1-3/8	1.1811 1.2500 1.2598 1.3750	56 57 58 59	8 x 7 - 10 x 8 -	33.30 - 35.30 -	5/16 x 1/4 - 3/8 x 1/4	1.3580 - 1.4830	P56 R57 P58 R59
35 38	_	1.3780 1.4961	60 61	10 x 8 10 x 8	38.30 41.30	- -	_	P60 P61
40	-	1.575	63	12 x 8	43.30	-	-	P63
50 50.800 55	-	1.969 2.000 2.165	70 71 73	14 x 9 - 16 x 10	53.8 - 59.3	1/2 x 1/2	2.224	P70 R71 P73
60 63.500 65	2-1/2 -	2.362 2.500 2.559	75 77 78	18 x 11 - 18 x 11	64.4 - 69.4	5/8 x 5/8 -	2.778 –	P75 R77 P78

All shaft mounted products in this catalogue can be specified with inch and/or metric bore diameters. A standard range of sizes is listed for each product. Where physical dimensions permit, keyways may be specified at extra cost.

For the sake of uniformity and avoidance of errors when ordering, bore diameters are designated with a 2-digit number which forms part of the order code.

Please note that only the bore diameters listed for each product in the product pages are standard.

To specify a **keywayed** bore, prefix the 2-digit number with a 'P' for metric keyways or an 'R' for an inch keyway.

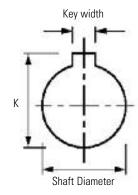
Standard keyways are machined to 2 specifications:

Bore codes prefixed 'P' denote a metric keyway conforming to ISO 773/774 (BS 4235 Pt. 1).

Bore codes prefixed 'R' denote an inch keyway conforming to BS 46 Pt. 1.

In most cases, keyways prefixed 'R' are compatible with AGMA 9002–A86 but can differ in the depth of the key seat.

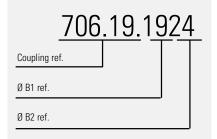
All Huco couplings are RoHS compliant.



Note that our tooling produces a key seat classified as 'nominal' being a nominal clearance on standard keys

# Order Codes

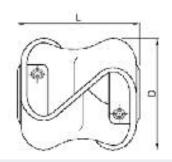
Combine the COUPLING REF in Main Product Tables with BORE REFS in Standard Bores Table. Please identify both bores e.g.



<sup>\*</sup>Not manufactured. Nearest alternative 4mm. Intermediate size available on request









#### **DIMENSIONS & ORDER CODES**

	steel zinc	stainless steel			Dimensions	Fasteners					
Size	plated hubs	plated hubs hubs		Length L	Bore length	Max Bores	Mass kg x 10-3	Size	Torque (Nm)	A/F	
	Order	Code		+/- 1.0			Jan J		. 1	(mm)	
10	047.10	-	27	27	7.9	9.53	25	M3	0.94	1.5	
10	-	049.10	LI	LI	7.3	3.33	23	IVIO	0.32	1.0	
20	047.20	-	40	48	12.7	12.7	92	M4	2.27	2.0	
20	-	049.20	48	48	12.7	12.7	92	IVI4	2.0	Z.U	
20	047.30	-	54	55	16.0	16.0	124	M5	4.62	2.5	
30	30	049.30	04	33	10.0	10.0	124	CIVI	2.1	2.3	
40	047.40	-	56	56	16.0	16.0	136	M6	7.61	3.0	
40	-	049.40	30	30	10.0	10.0	130	IVIO	3.75	3.0	
40*	-	050.40	56	56	16.0	16.0	136	M6	7.61	3.0	

#### PERFORMANCE

	M. T 1	M. T 0	max misalignment/displacement							
Size	Max Torque 1 (Nm)	Max Torque 2 (Nm)	Angular deg	Radial mm	Axial +/- mm					
10	0.5	0.8	10	2.6	4.5					
20	1.8	3	15	3.2	7.5					
30	5	8	15	3.2	8.5					
40	10	18	15	3.2	11					
40*	2.5	4.5	15	3.2	11					

Torque 1 = torque at maximum displacement

Torque 2 = torque at 1 deg. angular, 2mm axial and 0.5mm radial displacement

### Materials & Finishes

**Hubs:** Steel 230M07 pb Zn plated + clear passivate

or

Stainless Steel 303 S31 natural finish

Flexing Element: Hytre

Fastener: Steel Hub: Alloy steel, black oiled

Stainless Steel Hub: stainless steel

### Temperature Range

-40°C to +100°C

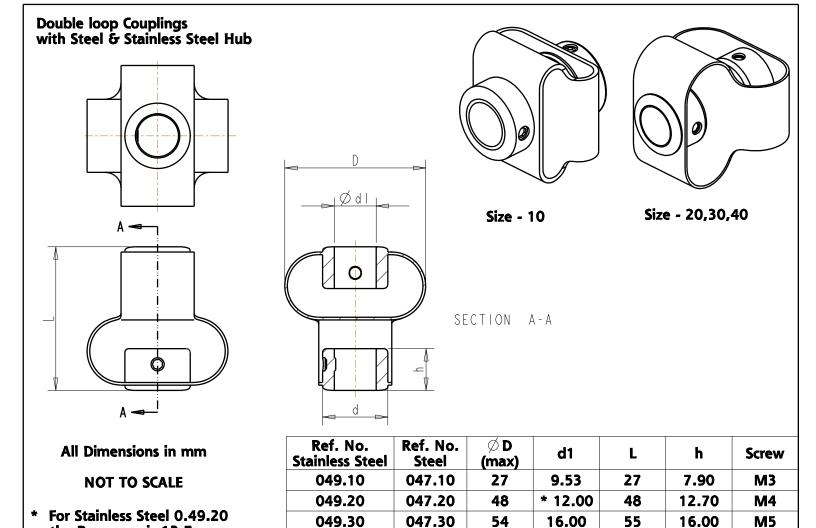
## Maximum Rotational Speed

3000 rev/min

### STANDARD BORES\*

Size	+0.05/-0mm																
	3	3.175	4	4.763	5	6	6.350	7.938	8	9.525	10	12	12.700	14	15	15.875	16
10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•							
20						•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
30										•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
40										•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bore Ref	14	16	18	19	20	22	24	27	28	31	32	35	36	38	40	41	42

<sup>\*</sup> Couplings with dissimilar bores are non-standard



047.40

16.00

56

56

16.0

**M6** 

049.40

the Bore max is 12.7