

Zipper Size Chart & Buyer Specification Guide

#3 to #10 zipper gauges in mm and inches

Length recommendations by application

RFQ checklist and spec sheet template for garment, bag and outdoor buyers

Use this guide to prepare a quote-ready zipper spec.

For a fast quotation, send: type, size, length, end type, tape color, teeth material/finish, puller style and quantity.

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How to Use This Zipper Size Chart

This PDF is designed for garment, bag, outdoor gear and workwear buyers who need a quick way to choose zipper size, length, type and specifications before asking a factory for a quote.

7 Buyer shortcut

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A complete zipper inquiry needs seven core specs: zipper type, size, length, end type, tape color, teeth color/material and puller style. Add quantity, application and sample photo for faster pricing.

What is inside

1	Quick zipper size chart (#3 to #10)
2	Size availability by zipper type
3	Common lengths by application
4	How to choose between nylon, metal, resin, invisible and waterproof zippers
5	Zipper anatomy and terminology
6	How to measure zipper length correctly
7	End type guide: closed-end, one-way open-end, two-way open-end
8	#5 metal open-end jacket zipper guide
9	Bag and backpack zipper size guide
10	RFQ checklist and buyer spec sheet template



CEO Zipper production line. Use this guide as a reference before sending a quote request.

1. Complete Zipper Size Chart

Zipper size (#3, #5, #8 and so on) refers to the approximate width of the closed chain in millimetres. The size is a practical gauge that helps buyers match zipper strength to application.

Visual gauge comparison: nominal closed chain width



Note: Zipper size number is a practical gauge, not a guaranteed engineering tolerance. Confirm exact chain width for custom specs.

Size	Nominal chain width	Approx. inches	Relative strength	Typical use
#3	About 3 mm	About 0.12 in	Light	Dresses, shirts, linings, small pockets, light pouches
#5	About 5 mm	About 0.20 in	Medium	Jackets, hoodies, mid-weight bags, cushions, uniforms
#7	About 7 mm	About 0.28 in	Medium-heavy	Heavier jackets, backpacks, travel bags
#8	About 8 mm	About 0.31 in	Heavy	Parkas, luggage, technical outerwear, outdoor gear
#10	About 10 mm	About 0.39 in	Very heavy	Heavy-duty bags, tents, covers, industrial gear

Nominal widths vary slightly by zipper type, material and manufacturer. For production approval, confirm the exact chain width, tape width, slider type and puller before bulk order.

2. Size Availability by Zipper Type

Not every zipper type is practical in every size. The table below summarizes the common production-ready ranges used in garment, bag and outdoor products.

Zipper type	#3	#5	#7	#8	#10	Notes
Nylon coil	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Soft, flexible, high-volume apparel and bags
Metal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Premium feel; brass, aluminium, gunmetal and plated finishes
Resin / moulded	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Bold teeth, lightweight, moisture/rust free
Invisible	Yes	-	-	-	-	Fine concealed coil for dresses, skirts and home textiles
Waterproof	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	Reverse coil with TPU-laminated tape
Reflective	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Safety wear, workwear, night visibility

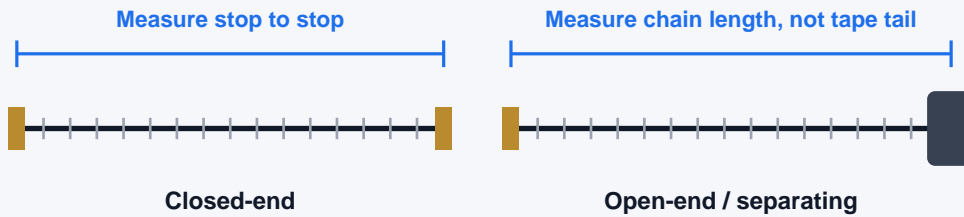
Ordering rule

Always specify both type and size: for example, #5 metal open-end zipper, 75 cm, black tape, shiny silver teeth, long decorative puller, 2,000 pcs.

3. Common Zipper Lengths by Application

Length is separate from size. A #5 zipper can be short or long. For custom production, give the exact stop-to-stop length in centimetres or inches.

How to measure zipper length



Always state both size and length, e.g. #5 metal open-end zipper, 75 cm, one-way, black tape, shiny silver teeth.

Application	Common zipper length	Common size/type	Buyer notes
Pockets	12-18 cm / 5-7 in	#3 or #5 nylon, resin or metal	Confirm closed-end and slider lock style.
Dresses and skirts	35-60 cm / 14-24 in	#3 invisible or #3 nylon	Tape color should match the fabric closely.
Hoodies and jackets	60-80 cm / 24-32 in	#5 nylon or #5 metal open-end	Specify one-way or two-way open-end.
Long coats and parkas	70-90 cm / 28-35 in	#5/#8 metal, resin or waterproof	Two-way open-end may be needed for movement.
Cushions and home textiles	40-60 cm / 16-24 in	#3/#5 nylon or invisible	Often closed-end with matching tape.
Bags and backpacks	Varies by panel	#5/#8 nylon, resin or waterproof	Measure each panel and confirm curve/radius if needed.
Tents and covers	Custom	#8/#10 resin or heavy coil	Confirm weather exposure, pull strength and slider material.

4. How to Choose the Right Zipper Type

The best zipper type depends on the product, fabric weight, visual style, environmental exposure and target price. Use this comparison to narrow the choice before sampling.

Type	Main advantage	Best applications	Common cautions
Nylon coil	Soft, flexible, lightweight, self-healing	Apparel, knitwear, light bags, pockets	Less premium look than metal; specify slider quality.
Metal	Premium feel and strong visual finish	Denim, leather jackets, premium bags, boots, fashion garments	Heavier; finish and corrosion resistance should be tested.
Resin / moulded	Bold color, rust-free, cold-weather friendly	Outdoor apparel, backpacks, ski wear, tents	Teeth geometry and color consistency matter.
Invisible	Concealed seam, clean tailored look	Dresses, skirts, formalwear, cushions	Usually #3 only; not for heavy load.
Waterproof	TPU seal resists rain, spray and dust	Rainwear, camera bags, outdoor and medical garments	Not fully waterproof at end stops unless construction is sealed.
Reflective	Adds night visibility and safety detail	Workwear, safety apparel, kidswear, outdoor gear	Confirm wash durability and garment compliance requirements.

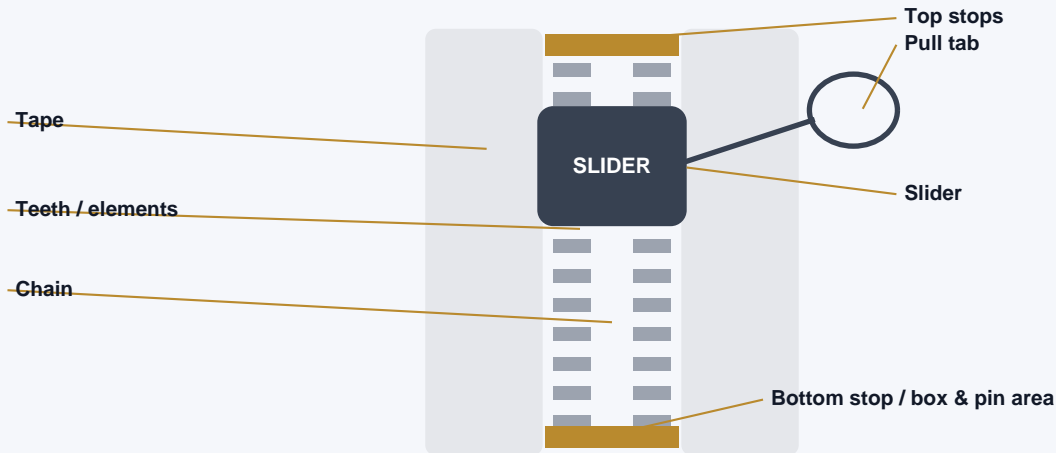


TPU-coated waterproof zipper production process at CEO Zipper.

5. Zipper Anatomy and Buyer Terminology

Most sourcing mistakes happen when the buyer and supplier use different words for the same part. A clear spec sheet names each component.

Zipper anatomy: terms buyers should specify



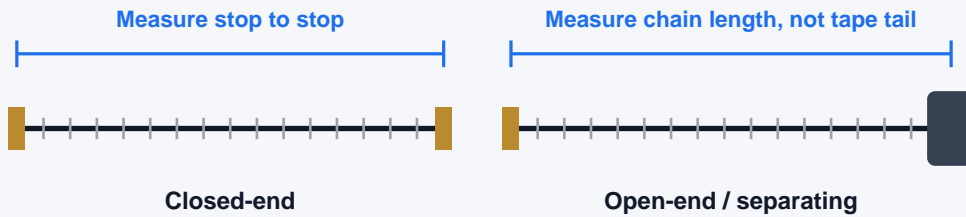
Open-end zippers add an insertion pin, retainer box and reinforcement film at the bottom. Closed-end zippers use a bottom stop.

Part	What it means	What to specify
Tape	Woven fabric strip sewn into garment or bag	Material, width, color, TPU film or reflective strip if needed
Teeth / elements	Interlocking parts: coil, moulded resin or metal	Type, material, color/finish, gauge
Chain	Two rows of teeth meshed together	Chain width / zipper size and strength requirement
Slider	Moving body that opens/closes the chain	Lock style, finish, size, smoothness
Pull tab	Handle attached to slider	Standard, long decorative, rubber, logo or branded puller
Stops	Parts that stop the slider leaving the chain	Top stop, bottom stop, box and pin for open-end zippers
Reinforcement film	Patch near box/pin on open-end zippers	Needed for separating zippers and repeated engagement

6. Measurement and End Type Rules

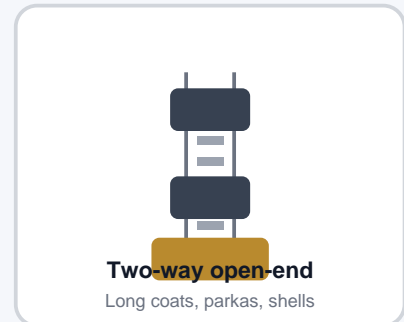
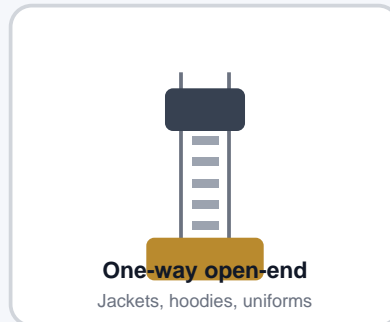
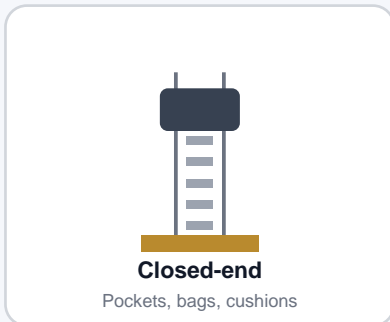
A quote-ready length should not include fabric tape tails unless you need a special sewing allowance. Measure along the teeth or chain from functional stop to functional stop.

How to measure zipper length



Always state both size and length, e.g. #5 metal open-end zipper, 75 cm, one-way, black tape, shiny silver teeth.

End type guide



Common quote format

Example: #5 metal zipper, 75 cm, one-way open-end, black tape, shiny silver nickel-plated brass teeth, long decorative puller, 2,000 pcs, for abayas and jackets.

7. #5 Metal Open-End Jacket Zipper Guide

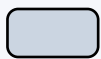
For jackets, abayas, uniforms, coats and hoodies, #5 metal open-end zippers are one of the most common specifications. They balance strength, appearance and cost.



Metal zipper workshop - useful for buyers evaluating direct factory capability.

Spec item	Recommended options for #5 open-end metal zippers
Length	60 cm, 65 cm, 70 cm, 75 cm, 80 cm are common jacket/abaya lengths
End type	One-way open-end for standard jackets; two-way open-end for long coats and parkas
Tape color	Black, white, beige or custom Pantone
Teeth material	Aluminium, brass, nickel-plated brass; confirm if shiny silver means aluminium silver or plated brass silver
Teeth finish	Shiny silver, antique brass, gunmetal, gold, black nickel
Puller	Standard puller, long decorative puller, logo puller
MOQ guidance	Regular MOQ often 3,000 pcs/color; trial orders from 2,000 pcs may be accepted for standard items
Sample approval	Confirm hand feel, slider smoothness, color finish and box/pin engagement before bulk production

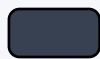
Common metal finishes and tape colors



Shiny silver



Antique brass



Gunmetal



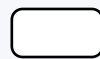
Gold



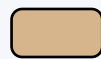
Black nickel



Black tape



White tape



Beige tape

8. Bag and Backpack Zipper Size Guide

Bags and backpacks need higher resistance to repeated pulls, curved sewing lines and load stress. Size and slider choice often matter more than the material alone.

Application	Suggested size	Common zipper type	Notes
Small pouch / inner pocket	#3 or #5	Nylon coil or resin	Closed-end, light slider, color matched tape
Handbag opening	#5	Nylon, metal or resin	Choose metal for premium look; nylon for softer sewing
Backpack main opening	#5 or #8	Nylon coil, resin or waterproof	Auto-lock slider recommended for load-bearing closures
Outdoor backpack	#8	Waterproof reverse coil or resin	Consider TPU film, larger puller, glove-friendly hardware
Luggage / duffel	#8 or #10	Heavy coil or resin	Two sliders, stronger tape, reinforced ends
Tactical / industrial bag	#8 or #10	Heavy coil, resin or metal	Specify tensile testing, corrosion exposure and slider material

Backpack buyer note

If the zipper curves around a panel, send a pattern drawing or sample photo. Straight length alone may not be enough to quote accurately.

9. Materials, Finishes and Quality Signals

The same zipper size can feel very different depending on teeth material, slider type, puller weight and finishing process. Use this page to avoid ambiguous material requests.

Component	Common options	How it affects price and performance
Tape	Polyester, TPU-laminated, reflective-coated	Determines sewing behavior, color match and special functions such as water resistance or visibility
Coil teeth	Nylon or polyester monofilament	Soft, flexible, cost-effective, good for apparel and bags
Moulded teeth	POM/acetal resin	Bold tooth shape, rust-free, suitable for outdoor and sport products
Metal teeth	Brass, aluminium, nickel-plated brass, gunmetal	Premium look and touch; finish and corrosion testing are important
Slider and pull	Zinc alloy, aluminium, resin, rubber puller	Influences perceived quality, weight, locking and branding
Stops / box and pin	Metal or moulded plastic	Critical for pull-off strength and open-end function



QC tensile testing equipment used to check zipper pull force and assembled strength.

10. Quality Checks Before Bulk Production

A good zipper sample must be evaluated as an assembled closure, not only as separate components. Ask for a sample and confirm appearance, feel and performance before bulk production.

Check	What to inspect	Why it matters
Chain width	Measure closed chain width against size spec	Confirms gauge and slider compatibility
Slider smoothness	Open/close repeatedly by hand	Affects user feel and perceived quality
Pull strength	Test lateral pull and puller attachment	Prevents zipper burst or puller failure
Box and pin engagement	Insert and separate open-end zippers repeatedly	Critical for jacket fronts and abayas
Color consistency	Compare tape, teeth, slider and puller to sample/Pantone	Avoids shade mismatch in garment production
Corrosion resistance	Salt-spray or finish durability check for metal parts	Important for metal zippers and humid climates
Cycle life	Repeated open-close testing	Shows long-term durability for bags and outerwear
Packaging and labels	Check polybag, carton mark and sku separation	Prevents warehouse mistakes and mixed specs



Metal zipper production area. Quality begins with controlled materials, tooling and assembly.

11. Zipper RFQ Checklist

Before asking for price, collect the details below. A complete RFQ reduces back-and-forth and helps the supplier quote the right product from the first reply.

Field	Example	Your value
Zipper type	Metal / nylon coil / resin / invisible / waterproof	
Size	#3 / #5 / #7 / #8 / #10	
Length	75 cm / 29.5 in	
End type	Closed-end / one-way open-end / two-way open-end	
Tape color	Black / Pantone code / fabric match	
Teeth material	Aluminium / brass / nickel-plated brass / resin / coil	
Teeth color or finish	Shiny silver / antique brass / gunmetal / black	
Slider lock	Auto-lock / non-lock / pin-lock	
Puller style	Standard / long decorative / logo puller	
Quantity	2,000 pcs / 3,000 pcs / 10,000 pcs	
Application	Jacket / abaya / backpack / rainwear / cushion	
Sample photo	Attached or link	
Target market	Kuwait / USA / Germany / etc.	
Packaging	Bulk / individual polybag / custom carton mark	

12. Buyer Spec Sheet Template

Copy this template into your tech pack or email. Attach front, back and close-up photos when replacing an existing zipper.

Project / SKU	
Buyer / Brand	
Product application	
Zipper type	
Size / gauge	
Finished length	
End type	
Tape color / Pantone	
Teeth material and finish	
Slider type and finish	
Puller style / logo requirement	
Top stop / bottom stop / box and pin	
Special function	Waterproof / reflective / reverse coil / two sliders / other
Quantity by color	
Sample approval requirement	
Target lead time	
Shipping country	
Notes / sample photo link	

Tip for email capture

Offer this PDF as a downloadable lead magnet. After users submit email, send the PDF and ask them to reply with the completed spec sheet for a quotation.

13. Frequently Asked Questions

What does zipper size mean?

The size number is the approximate closed chain width in millimetres. A #5 zipper is about 5 mm wide; a #8 zipper is about 8 mm wide.

What is the most common zipper size?

#5 is the most common all-round size for jackets, hoodies, mid-weight bags and uniforms. #3 is common for light apparel; #8 and #10 are common for heavy-duty products.

Should I order by inch width or size number?

Order by the size number, such as #5, and include exact finished length. Inch values are useful for reference, but the size number is the clearer production term.

Can the same product use different zipper types?

Yes. A jacket may use a #5 metal open-end zipper at the front and #3 nylon or invisible zippers in pockets. Each location should have its own spec.

What should I send for a fast quotation?

Send zipper type, size, length, end type, tape color, teeth material/finish, puller style, quantity, application and sample photo if available.

How do I choose between aluminium silver and nickel-plated brass silver?

Aluminium is lighter and often more cost-effective. Nickel-plated brass has a heavier, more premium feel. The best choice depends on garment positioning, weight target and finish requirement.

What is the difference between one-way and two-way open-end?

One-way open-end uses one slider and separates at the bottom. Two-way open-end uses two sliders so the closure can open from the bottom as well, useful for long coats and parkas.

Can I use this chart for exact engineering tolerances?

Use it as a buyer reference. For final production, confirm the exact chain width, tape width, slider dimensions and tolerances on the approved sample.

Ready to Quote Your Zipper?

Send your completed zipper specs and sample photo for quotation. For #5 metal open-end zippers, remember to confirm one-way or two-way open-end, length, tape color, teeth material/finish and puller style.



CEO Zipper

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Suggested email subject:

Zipper RFQ - [type] [size] [length] [quantity]



This guide is based on CEO Zipper product and technical content. Use approved samples as the final production reference.