

KNOW YOUR SURFACE BOXES

The standard, specification and the difference between the grades

THE STANDARD

BS 5834-2:2011 is a British Standard specifically developed for surface boxes used with utility guards and chambers, such as those for water, gas, and telecom services. It sets out clear requirements for design, materials, dimensions, and performance to ensure that these access covers are safe, durable, and fit for purpose.

The standard focuses on smaller access covers and frames where the clear opening is up to 450 mm × 450 mm, making it ideal for utility installations rather than large manhole covers. By following this standard, we ensure:

- Compliance with UK utility specifications.
- Safety and reliability under real-world conditions.
- Cost efficiency by using the correct grade for the intended application.

GRADE A

For carriageways carrying fast-moving commercial vehicles with loads between 30 to 35 tonnes.

Typical Application: Roads and highways.



Non-rock seating	✓
Dimensional limits for small openings	✓
Integration with guards and chambers	✓
Load Transfer System (LTS)	✓

KNOW YOUR SURFACE BOXES

The standard, specification and the difference between the grades

THE STANDARD

BS 5834-2:2011 is a British Standard specifically developed for surface boxes used with utility guards and chambers, such as those for water, gas, and telecom services. It sets out clear requirements for design, materials, dimensions, and performance to ensure that these access covers are safe, durable, and fit for purpose.

The standard focuses on smaller access covers and frames where the clear opening is up to 450 mm × 450 mm, making it ideal for utility installations rather than large manhole covers. By following this standard, we ensure:

- Compliance with UK utility specifications.
- Safety and reliability under real-world conditions.
- Cost efficiency by using the correct grade for the intended application.

GRADE B

For areas where vehicles have only occasional access, loads between 12.5 to 15 tonnes.



Typical Application: Driveways and verges.



Non-rock seating	✗
Dimensional limits for small openings	✓
Integration with guards and chambers	✓
Load Transfer System (LTS)	✗