CALIFORNIA WALNUTS



California shelled walnuts are available in a variety of sizes and colors. Descriptions and size tolerances are based on the USDA Standards for Grades of Shelled Walnuts. These are highlighted in **green** text. Also included are some size categories commonly used in the industry and these are highlighted with **brown** text. Screen sizes are for reference only. *Consult your California walnut supplier for exact specifications.*

Walnut Halves

Description: ⁷/₈ or more of the kernel is intact. 85% or more of lot, by weight, are half kernels with the remainder three-fourths half kernels.

USDA Size Tolerances: No more than 5% smaller than three-fourths halves of which no more than 1% may pass through $^{16}/_{64}$ inch (6.35 mm) round screen hole. (see Table 3) *Refer to Example 1*

Walnut Pieces and Halves (Halves and Pieces)

Description: 20% or more of lot, by weight, are half kernels (7/8 or more of the kernel is intact).

USDA Size Tolerances: No more than 18% shall pass through $^{24}/_{64}$ inch (9.52 mm) round hole of which no more than 3% may pass through $^{16}/_{64}$ inch (6.35 mm) and of 3% no more than 1% may pass through $^{8}/_{64}$ inch (3.18 mm) round screen hole. (see Table 3) *Refer to Examples 2 and 3*

Walnut Pieces

Description: Portions of kernels in lot cannot pass through $^{24}/_{64}$ inch (9.53 mm) round openings. **USDA Size Tolerances**: No more than 25% shall pass through $^{24}/_{64}$ inch (9.53 mm) round hole of which no more than 5% may pass through $^{16}/_{64}$ inch (6.35 mm) and of 5% no more than 1% may pass through $^{8}/_{64}$ inch (3.18 mm) round hole included in the 5%. (see Table 3) *Refer to Examples 4, 5, 6 and 7*

Walnut Medium Pieces

Although not covered in USDA Standards, Medium Pieces are a common size classification used in the California walnut industry. No less than 98% may pass through a $^{32}/_{64}$ inch (12.7 mm) screen. No more than 3% may pass through $^{16}/_{64}$ inch (6.35 mm) screen. No more than 1% may pass through $^{8}/_{64}$ (3.18 mm) screen. Refer to Examples 8, and 9

Walnut Small Pieces

Description: Portions of kernels in lot pass through $^{24}/_{64}$ inch (9.53 mm) round openings but cannot pass through $^{8}/_{64}$ inch (3.18 mm) round openings.

USDA Size Tolerances: 10% will not pass through $^{24}/_{64}$ inch (9.53 mm) round hole and 2% pass through $^{8}/_{64}$ inch (3.18 mm) round hole. (see Table 3) *Refer to Example 11, 12, and 14*

Walnut Meal (double diced)

The smallest form of the California walnut comes in various consistencies ranging from a coarse meal to a fine powder. Use walnut meal to dust cakes, integrate into dough and batter, and for walnut compounds. Finely ground walnuts are incorporated into pastas, added to fillings, and used as a thickening agent in sauces. *Refer to Example 15*

Topping Pieces

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SQUARE HOLE	ROUND HOLE	SQUARE HOLE	ROUND HOLE		
¼ 6.35 mm	²⁰ / ₆₄ 7.94 mm	³ / ₈ 9.53 mm	²⁸ / ₆₄ 11.11 mm		
cal industry screen sizes		Typical industry screen	Typical industry screen sizes		

Refer to Example 13 and 14

Refer to Example 10

Syrupers

Walnut Colors

California walnuts may be color sorted to meet specific product needs. The walnut spectrum chart (for comparison only) illustrates the wide range of color classifications available.

- **A Extra light**: No more than 15% shall be darker than extra light of which only 2% (included in the 15%) may be darker than light.
- **B** Light: No more than 15% shall be darker than light of which only 2% (included in the 15%) may be darker than light amber.
- **C Light amber**: No more than 15% shall be darker than light amber of which
- only 2% (included in the 15%) may be darker than amber. **D** Amber: No more than 10% shall be darker than amber.
- **D** Amber: No more than 10% shall be darker the official color chart is available from:

DFA

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Note: The industry standard of 6/64 is tighter than the USDA standard of 8/64.

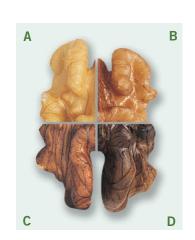


TABLE 3 (USDA STANDARDS)								
	Tolerance for Size							
Size Classification	Smaller than ³ 4 halves	Will not pass through 24/64" round hole	Pass through ²⁴ / ₆₄ " round hole	Pass through ¹⁶ / ₆₄ " round hole	Pass through ⁸ / ₆₄ " round hole			
Halves	5%			1% (included in 5%)				
Pieces and Halves*			18%	3% (included in 18%)	1% (included in 3%)			
Pieces			25%	5% (included in 25%)	1% (included in 5%)			
Small Pieces**		10%			2%			

Source: USDA, United States Standards for Grades of Shelled Walnuts (Juglans regia). Agricultural Marketing Service. Effective September 1, 1968, reprinted January, 1997. http://www.ams.usda.gov/standards/walnuts.pdf (Adobe Acrobat format).

**The tolerance of 10% and 2% for "small pieces" classification shall apply, respectively, to any smaller maximum or any larger minimum sizes specified