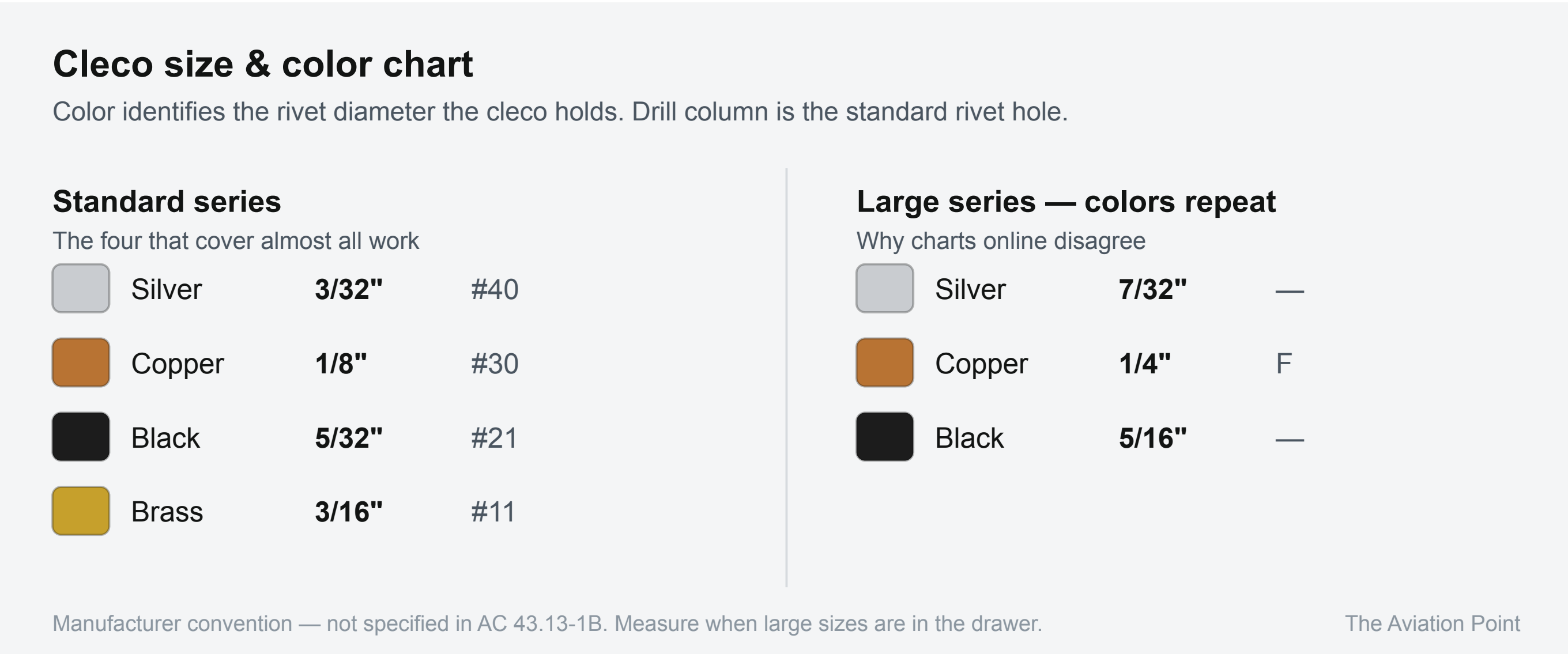
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Cleco Size & Color Chart

Silver holds 3/32 in rivets, copper 1/8 in, black 5/32 in and brass 3/16 in: a cleco's color marks the rivet size it is made for, not the hole it fits.

1 Identification



Both series on one image. Save or print it; the tables below carry the same data with the decimals and the clearances.

Standard series — the four you will actually use

Color	Rivet size	Decimal	Rivet drill	Drill decimal	Also sold as
Silver	3/32"	0.094"	#40	0.0980"	Cadmium, zinc
Copper	1/8"	0.125"	#30	0.1285"	Bronze
Black	5/32"	0.156"	#21	0.1590"	—
Brass	3/16"	0.188"	#11	0.1910"	Gold, yellow

Large series — where the colors repeat

Color	Rivet size	Decimal	Repeats
Silver	7/32"	0.219"	same color as 3/32"
Copper	1/4"	0.250"	same color as 1/8"
Black	5/16"	0.313"	same color as 5/32"

Where the sources agree, and where they do not

Point	First source	Second source	Where they differ, and what governs
Rivet drill, 5/32 in	Handbook p. 4-44, Fig. 4-90: #21 (0.1590 in)	MIL-R-47196A Table I: #20 (0.1610 in)	They differ by one number; the tighter #21 gives 0.0027 in clearance. The repair data's callout governs; where it gives none, use the smaller.
Other three sizes	Handbook Fig. 4-90: 3/32 in #40, 1/8 in #30, 3/16 in #11	MIL-R-47196A Table I: the same #40, #30 and #11	Agree.
Cleco size and color	Handbook pp. 4-29 to 4-30: Cleco construction, six sizes, color coding	AC 43.13-1B par. 4-57 and 4-58: no temporary fastener named in the text read; hole round, straight, free of cracks	The color code is the Handbook's and the maker's. The AC only fixes the hole the Cleco sits in.

2 Allowable damage

—

3 Repair

—

Key points

- **Non-aviation suppliers use different schemes.** Automotive, chassis and trailer suppliers publish their own color maps. This chart describes the aviation convention used by Wedgelock, Monogram, ATS and the aviation tool distributors.

 Educational reference only, not approved data. Always consult the applicable SRM, AMM, or AC 43.13-1B and your certifying authority.

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- **Color repeats above 3/16".** Covered above — measure once large sizes are involved.
- **A cleco is a temporary fastener.** It holds for drilling, fitting and riveting. It is not a structural fastener and it does not fly.
- **Anodized and coated variants exist** whose finish reads as a different color under shop lighting. Measure if in doubt.
- **Hole size, not cleco size, is what matters structurally.** The rivet drill column here is the standard hole for that rivet — confirm against the drawing or SRM for the job in front of you.

MAIN SOURCES · Manufacturer catalogs · FAA-H-8083-31, AMT Handbook — Airframe, Volume 1 · FAA AC 43.13-1B CHG 1, Acceptable Methods, Techniques, and Practices: Aircraft Inspection and Repair · MIL-R-47196A, Rivets, Buck Type, Preparation for and Installation · FAA-H-8083-31B, Aviation Maintenance Technician Handbook: Airframe, Chapter 4

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