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## 3GPP Specifications - Numbering scheme

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All 3G and GSM specifications have a 3GPP specification number consisting of 4 or 5 digits. (e.g. 09.02 or 29.002). The first two digits define the series as listed in the table below. They are followed by 2 further digits for the 01 to 13 series or 3 further digits for the 21 to 55 series. The term "3G" means a 3GPP system using a UTRAN radio access network; the term "GSM" means a 3GPP system using a GERAN radio access network. (Thus "GSM" includes GPRS and EDGE features.)

The full title, specification number and latest version number for every specification can be found in the [current status list](#) [warning: large file!] (see also [main specs page](#) for status lists pertaining to each TSG SA meeting) and more information about terms such as R99 and Rel-4 can be found on the [Releases and phases](#) page.

A specification in the 21 to 35 series may apply either to 3G only or to GSM and 3G. A clue lies in the third digit, where a "0" indicates that it applies to both systems. For example, 29.002 applies to 3G and GSM systems whereas 25.101 and 25.201 apply only to 3G. Most specs in all other series apply only to GSM systems. However, as the spec numbering space has been used up, this guide is more frequently broken, and it is necessary to examine the information page for each spec (see the table below) or to check the lists in 01.01 / 41.101 (GSM) and 21.101 (3G) for the definitive specification sets for each system and each Release.

Subject of specification series (5)	3G/GSM R99 and later	GSM only (Rel-4 and later)	GSM only (before Rel-4)
General information ( <i>long defunct</i> )			00 series
Requirements	21 series	41 series	01 series
Service aspects ("stage 1")	22 series	42 series	02 series
Technical realization ("stage 2")	23 series	43 series	03 series
Signalling protocols ("stage 3") - user equipment to network	24 series	44 series	04 series
Radio aspects	25 series	45 series	05 series
CODECs	26 series	46 series	06 series
Data	27 series	47 series (none exists)	07 series
Signalling protocols ("stage 3") - (RSS-CN)	28 series	48 series	08 series
Signalling protocols ("stage 3") - intra-fixed-network	29 series	49 series	09 series
Programme management	30 series	50 series	10 series
User Identity Module (SIM / USIM)	31 series	51 series	11 series
O&M	32 series	52 series	12 series
Access requirements and test specifications		13 series (1)	13 series (1)
Security aspects	33 series	(2)	(2)
SIM and test specifications	34 series	(2)	11 series
Security algorithms (3)	35 series	55 series	(4)
<p>Note (1): The 13 series GSM specifications relate to European-Union-specific regulatory standards. On the closure of ETSI TC SMG, responsibility for these specifications was transferred to <a href="#">ETSI TC MSG</a>, (Mobile Specification Group) and they do not appear on the 3GPP file server.</p> <p>Note (2): The specification of these aspects are spread throughout several series.</p> <p>Note (3): Algorithms may be subject to export licencing conditions. See the <a href="#">relevant 3GPP page</a>. See also the <a href="#">relevant ETSI pages</a>.</p> <p>Note (4): The original GSM algorithms are not published and are controlled by the <a href="#">GSM Association</a>.</p> <p>Note (5): Spec numbers follow a <a href="#">numbering system</a>.</p>			

The 3GPP Specifications are stored on the file server as zipped MS-Word files. The filenames have the following structure:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20031003215125/http://www.3gpp.org/specs/numbering.htm>

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where the character fields have the following significance ...

S = series number - 2 characters (see the table above)

M = mantissa (the part of the spec number after the series number) - 2 or 3 characters (see above)

P = optional part number - 1 or 2 digits if present

Q = optional sub-part number - 1 or 2 digits if present

V = version number, without separating dots - 3 digits

So for example:

21900-320.zip is 3GPP TR 21.900 version 3.2.0

0408-6g0.zip is 3GPP TS 04.08 version 6.16.0

32111-4-410 is 3GPP TS 32.111 part 4 version 4.1.0

29998-04-1-100 is 3GPP TS 29.998 part 4 sub-part 1 version 1.0.0

**Related Information.** Further information about the Specification numbering scheme, 3GPP releases, phases, file naming conventions, and other related information can be found in [3GPP TR 21.900](#) "*Technical Specification Group working methods*".

last updated

2003-09-10: links to current status list and to spec numbering system added

2003-07-10: minor editorial clarifications

2003-06-27: 00.-series added to table; URLs to spec lists made relative rather than absolute (to aid site mirroring)

2003-09-26: minor corrections and clarifications

2003-04-24: links to specs series indexes added

2002-10-10: mention of 55 series specs added, plus notes 3 & 4.