SPUR GEARS
INVOLUTE FORM

Gear teeth could be manufactured with a wide variety of shapes and profiles. The involute profile is the most commonly used system for gearing today, and all Boston spur and helical gears are of involute form.

An involute is a curve that is traced by a point on a taut cord unwinding from a circle, which is called a BASE CIRCLE. The involute is a form of spiral, the curvature of which becomes straighter as it is drawn from a base circle and eventually would become a straight line if drawn far enough.

An involute drawn from a larger base circle will be less curved (straighter) than one drawn from a smaller base circle. Similarly, the involute tooth profile of smaller gears is considerably curved, on larger gears is less curved (straighter), and is straight on a rack, which is essentially an infinitely large gear.

Involute gear tooth forms and standard tooth proportions are specified in terms of a basic rack which has straight-sided teeth, for involute systems.

20 TEETH 48 TEETH RACK