

# PLAQUE ATTRIBUTES - PHYSICAL FEATURES



When we produce a plaque at Phoenix Foundry, our aim is to make sure the plaque is exactly what the customer wants. There are some 16 different features or attributes of an individual plaque. If any one of these is wrong, the final plaque will be less than perfect.

While the selection of many of these is straight forward, understanding them will ensure that the required information is communicated and the best possible plaque is delivered.

**The attributes are explained in two broad categories:**

>The *Physical Features* that determine the general appearance of the plaque

>The *Design Features* and options that provide the meaning and unique nature of the memorial

## Physical Features

<b>Attribute</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<i>Metal Composition</i>	The vast majority of plaques are cast in Bronze, an alloy of copper and tin. Other possible options are Brass and Aluminium
<i>Shape</i>	Almost any shape is possible but the most common shapes are: Rectangular and Oval. Special shapes such as a Star, or a Teddy Bear can also be made.
<i>Size and Dimensions</i>	<i>Width and height</i> Most plaques are between 75mm x 50mm and 600mm x 400mm. However dimensions from 30mm to 2 meters are possible. <i>Thickness</i> This is dependent on overall size but ranges from 3mm for small plaques to 10mm for very large plaques
<i>Edge</i>	A variety of edge designs are available to add interest to the plaque. The most common types are the Raised Edge and Bevelled Edge. The Sculptured Edge design is selected to facilitate a large range of sculpture design borders
<i>Fixing System</i>	All bronze plaques are normally mounted on a wall, base or other structure. Many systems are available to ensure a practical safe and permanent fixing is achieved.
<i>Background Surface Texture</i>	The surface texture is achieved when the plaque is cast. There are two options available; Stipple and Flat No Stipple.
<i>Background Colour</i>	The background surface of the plaque can be painted in enamel paint of any colour. Alternatively it can be treated with chemicals to achieve a patina of more natural bronze appearance.
<i>Raised Surface Finish</i>	The raised elements of the face of the plaque are either Linished or Polished to highlight the metallic bronze. Linishing is carried out with an abrasive belt giving a flat metallic surface. Polishing with a variety of tools achieves a more rounded and shiny surface.
<i>Protective Coating</i>	The final step in the manufacture of a bronze plaque is to apply a protective coating. This is necessary to ensure that optimum durability of the plaque's appearance is achieved.

**See separate information sheets for more detail on each attribute**

