

# The Difference Between Disc Springs and Belleville Washers

by Nicholas Bunt, Product Specialist  
SPIROL International Corporation

Disc Springs and Belleville Washers are both conically shaped spring washers typically made from spring steels and designed to be loaded axially. Both can provide a higher degree of force in a relatively compact area as compared to coil springs or wave springs. While the terms “Disc Springs” and “Belleville Washers” are often used interchangeably, there are some technical, design, and application differences between the two products:



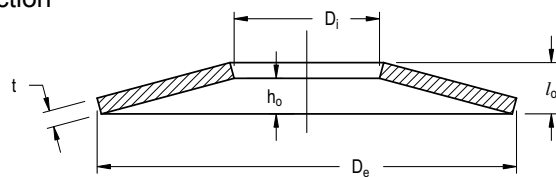
TECHNICAL DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN DISC SPRINGS AND BELLEVILLE WASHERS		
	Disc Springs	Belleville Washers
<b>Typical Applications</b>	Preloading, dynamic loading / cycling, predictable fatigue life important	Static Applications (Bolt fastening primarily)
<b>Typical Materials</b>	High carbon steel < 1.25mm, Alloy steel >= 1.25mm	High carbon steel
<b>Thickness</b>	0.2mm - 14mm	Tend to be thicker for a given OD
<b>Standard Units</b>	Metric	Imperial / Metric
<b>Force Requirements</b>	Force / deflection curves specified and calculated	Static force / torque can be specified or no force specification
<b>Governed by International Standards</b>	DIN EN 16983 & 16984 (previously DIN 2093 & 2092)	DIN 6796



Belleville Washers are primarily used in heavy duty applications fastened together with a bolt where the load is considered static. Disc Springs can be statically loaded either continuously or intermittently, or dynamically subjected to continuous load cycling. Unlike Belleville Washers, Disc Springs are designed specifically to provide a repeatable force-travel relationship, and have a long and predictable fatigue life in dynamic or cycling applications. Disc Springs are commonly found in a variety of applications including pressure controls and regulators, vehicle braking systems, valves, shock absorbers, clutches, friction assemblies, and joints where thermal / weight cycling occurs. Disc Springs can be used as a single piece, or combined together into different configurations in stacks to achieve the desired force-deflection performance.

A defined list of standard Disc Spring sizes and associated load and deflection characteristics is available in DIN EN 16983 (formerly DIN 2093).

Selecting the most appropriate Disc Spring or Disc Stack configuration can be challenging. It is recommended that designers partner with experts in [Disc Spring Application Engineering](#) to determine the optimum Disc Spring for a particular application.



For information about fatigue life of Disc Springs, read the SPIROL White Paper:  
**How to Calculate the Estimated Fatigue Life of Disc Springs**





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Lower assembly costs.**



Please refer to [www.SPIROL.com](http://www.SPIROL.com) for current specifications and standard product offerings.

**SPIROL** Application Engineers will review your application needs and work with you to recommend the optimum solution. One way to start the process is to visit our **Optimal Application Engineering** portal at **SPIROL.com**.

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## Technical Centers

### Americas

**SPIROL International Corporation**  
30 Rock Avenue  
Danielson, Connecticut 06239 U.S.A.  
Tel. +1 860 774 8571  
Fax. +1 860 774 2048

**SPIROL Shim Division**  
321 Remington Road  
Stow, Ohio 44224 U.S.A.  
Tel. +1 330 920 3655  
Fax. +1 330 920 3659

**SPIROL Canada**  
3103 St. Etienne Boulevard  
Windsor, Ontario N8W 5B1 Canada  
Tel. +1 519 974 3334  
Fax. +1 519 974 6550

**SPIROL Mexico**  
Avenida Avante #250  
Parque Industrial Avante Apodaca  
Apodaca, N.L. 66607 Mexico  
Tel. +52 81 8385 4390  
Fax. +52 81 8385 4391

**SPIROL Brazil**  
Rua Mafalda Barnabé Soliane, 134  
Comercial Vitória Martini, Distrito Industrial  
CEP 13347-610, Indaiatuba, SP, Brazil  
Tel. +55 19 3936 2701  
Fax. +55 19 3936 7121

### Europe

**SPIROL France**  
Cité de l'Automobile ZAC Croix Blandin  
18 Rue Léna Bernstein  
51100 Reims, France  
Tel. +33 3 26 36 31 42  
Fax. +33 3 26 09 19 76

**SPIROL United Kingdom**  
17 Princewood Road  
Corby, Northants  
NN17 4ET United Kingdom  
Tel. +44 1536 444800  
Fax. +44 1536 203415

**SPIROL Germany**  
Ottostr. 4  
80333 Munich, Germany  
Tel. +49 89 4 111 905 71  
Fax. +49 89 4 111 905 72

**SPIROL Spain**  
08940 Cornellà de Llobregat  
Barcelona, Spain  
Tel. +34 93 669 31 78  
Fax. +34 93 193 25 43

**SPIROL Czech Republic**  
Sokola Tümy 743/16  
Ostrava-Mariánské Hory 70900  
Czech Republic  
Tel/Fax. +420 417 537 979

**SPIROL Poland**  
ul. Solec 38 lok. 10  
00-394, Warszawa, Poland  
Tel. +48 510 039 345

### Asia Pacific

**SPIROL Asia Headquarters**  
1st Floor, Building 22, Plot D9, District D  
No. 122 HeDan Road  
Wai Gao Qiao Free Trade Zone  
Shanghai, China 200131  
Tel. +86 21 5046 1451  
Fax. +86 21 5046 1540

**SPIROL Korea**  
160-5 Seokchon-Dong  
Songpa-gu, Seoul, 138-844, Korea  
Tel. +86 (0) 21 5046-1451  
Fax. +86 (0) 21 5046-1540

e-mail: [info@spirol.com](mailto:info@spirol.com)

**SPIROL.com**