

# Cigar Vitolas

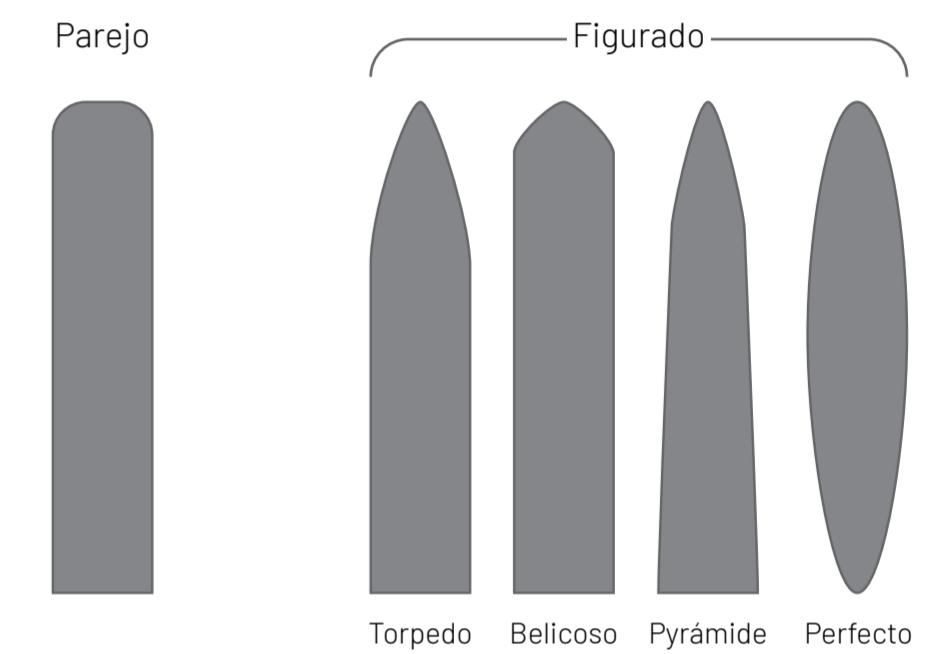
Vitola is a word with many meanings. Translating literally to “band” or “ring”, in the context of cigars, it refers to the size and shape of the cigar. Cigars come in many shapes and sizes, which change the smoking experience when it comes to flavor and burn time.

## Cigar Shapes

There are two primary cigar shapes: parejos and figurados.

A parejo is the classic shape, with parallel sides, a rounded and capped head, and an open foot. Parejos come in many different sizes.

A figurado, simply, is any shape that’s not a parejo. Characterized primarily by curved sides, figurados alter in thickness at some point. Figurados come in a variety of sub-types with specific shapes.

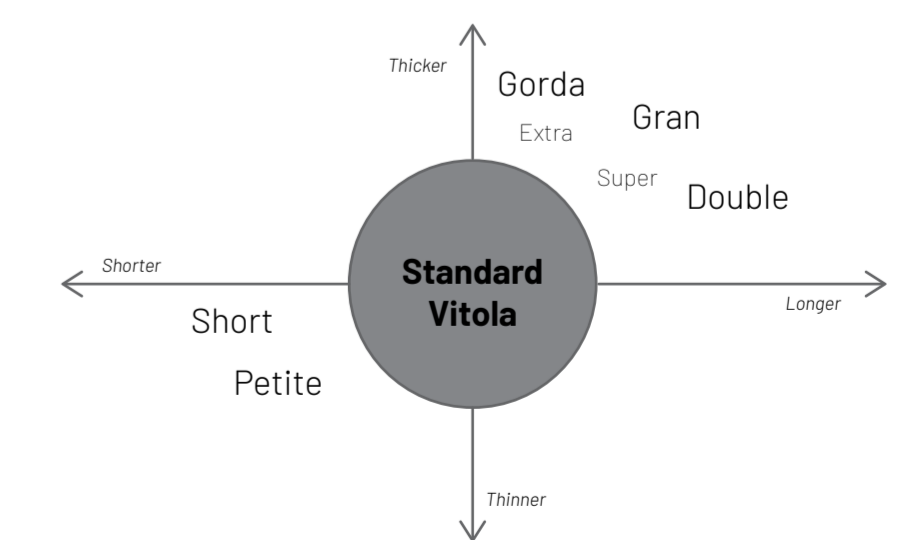


## Cigar Sizes

Cigar sizes are measured in two dimensions: length and diameter. Cigars can range from 2.5–10”, with diameters ranging from 20 up to over 70 ring gauge.

Generally, larger (longer and/or fatter) cigars burn cooler and longer than their shorter counterparts. This can change the favor of the cigar, such that you will notice a difference in taste with the same blend in different vitolas. It also affects the smoking time, ranging from 10 minutes to over an hour.

While vitolas in their own right, many cigar sizes reference a more common vitola using modifiers like short, petite, double, and gran.



Cigar vitolas are not standardized, and are named at the whims of their manufacturers. The exception to this are Cuban cigars, whose vitolas are defined by D.O.P. Habanos.