



Standard Specification for Marble Dimension Stone (Exterior)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C 503; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers the material characteristics, physical requirements, and sampling appropriate to the selection of marble for general (exterior) building and structural purposes.

1.2 Dimension marble shall include stone that is sawed, cut, split, or otherwise finished or shaped and shall specifically exclude molded, cast, or otherwise artificially aggregated units composed of fragments, and also crushed and broken stone.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

C 97 Test Methods for Absorption and Bulk Specific Gravity of Dimension Stone

C 99 Test Method for Modulus of Rupture of Dimension Stone

C 119 Terminology Relating to Dimension Stone

C 170 Test Method for Compressive Strength of Dimension Stone

C 241 Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Stone Subjected to Foot Traffic

C 880 Test Method for Flexural Strength of Dimension Stone

C 1353 Test Method Using the Taber Abraser for Abrasion Resistance of Dimension Stone Subjected to Foot Traffic

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—All definitions are in accordance with Terminology C 119.

3.1.1 *marble, n*—a crystalline rock composed predominantly of one or more of the following minerals: calcite, dolomite, or serpentine and capable of taking a polish (see Terminology C 119).

4. Classification

4.1 Dimension marble (exterior) is classified as follows:

4.1.1 *I Calcite.*

4.1.2 *II Dolomite.*

4.1.3 *III Serpentine.*

4.1.4 *IV Travertine.*

5. Physical Properties

5.1 Marble supplied under this specification shall conform to the physical requirements prescribed in Table 1.

5.2 Marble for exterior use shall be sound, durable, and free of spalls, cracks, open seams, pits, or other defects that are likely to impair its structural integrity in its intended use.

5.3 The desired color and texture, with their permissible natural variations in material characteristics for all material to be produced for the project, shall be established by control samples. Select representative samples by viewing a sufficient number of physical samples prior to production that show the complete range of variations in color and texture of the marble specified.

6. Sampling

6.1 Samples, if required, for testing to determine the characteristics and physical properties shall be representative of the marble to be used.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C18 on Dimension Stone and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C18.03 on Material Specifications.

Current edition approved Dec. 1, 2003. Published January 2004. Originally approved in 1962. Last previous edition approved in 1999 as C 503 – 99^{ε1}.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.