

Standard Method of Test for
**FLAMMABILITY OF PLASTICS 0.050 IN. AND UNDER
IN THICKNESS¹**



A.S.T.M. Designation: D 568 - 43

ADOPTED, 1943.²

This Standard of the American Society for Testing Materials is issued under the fixed designation D 568; the final number indicates the year of original adoption as standard or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision.

Scope

1. This method of test covers the procedure for determining the flammability of plastics in the form of thin sheets or films 0.050 in. and under in thickness. Two alternate methods of ignition are covered as follows:

Method A.—Fusee Method, and

Method B.—Benzol Drop Method.

NOTE 1.—For tests of plastics in the form of sheets or plates over 0.050 in. in thickness reference should be made to the Standard Method of Test for Flammability of Plastics Over 0.050 in. in Thickness (A.S.T.M. Designation: D 635) of the American Society for Testing Materials.³

Apparatus

2. The apparatus shall consist of the following:

(a) *Shield.*—A shield constructed from sheet metal or other fire-resistant material, 12 in. in width, 12 in. in depth, and 30 in. in height, and open at the top. The shield shall be so constructed as to provide a ventilating opening

approximately 1 in. in height around the bottom and shall have a viewing window in one side, of sufficient size and in such a position that the entire length of the specimen under test may be observed. Because of danger due to breaking glass, it may be necessary to use heat-resistant glass for the viewing window. One side of the shield shall be hinged (or some other suitable form of construction used) so that the shield may be readily opened and closed to facilitate the mounting and ignition of the test specimen.

(b) *Clamp.*—A spring type of paper clamp for holding the test specimen in position. The holding clamp shall be attached rigidly to the shield in such a manner that when the specimen is clamped therein it is centered within the shield facing the viewing window.

Test Specimens

3. (a) Not less than six test specimens 1 in. in width by $12\frac{1}{2}$ in. in length shall be cut from sheets of each of the materials being tested. The thickness of the specimens shall be determined in

¹ Under the standardization procedure of the Society, this method is under the jurisdiction of the A.S.T.M. Committee D-20 on Plastics.

² Prior to adoption as standard, this method was published as tentative from 1940 to 1943, being revised in 1941.

³ Appears in this publication, see Contents in Numeric Sequence of A.S.T.M. Designations at front of book.