



Standard Test Method for Compressive Properties of Rigid Plastics¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D695; 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.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the mechanical properties of unreinforced and reinforced rigid plastics, including high-modulus composites, when loaded in compression at relatively low uniform rates of straining or loading. Test specimens of standard shape are employed. This procedure is applicable for a composite modulus up to and including 41,370 MPa (6,000,000 psi).

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values in parentheses are for information only.

NOTE 1—For compressive properties of resin-matrix composites reinforced with oriented continuous, discontinuous, or cross-ply reinforcements, tests may be made in accordance with Test Method [D3410/D3410M](#) or [D6641/D6641M](#).

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* A specific precautionary statement is given in [13.1](#).

NOTE 2—This standard is equivalent to ISO 604.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[D618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing](#)
[D638 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics](#)
[D883 Terminology Relating to Plastics](#)
[D3410/D3410M Test Method for Compressive Properties of Polymer Matrix Composite Materials with Unsupported Gage Section by Shear Loading](#)
[D4000 Classification System for Specifying Plastic Materials](#)

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D20](#) on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D20.10](#) on Mechanical Properties. Current edition approved Sept. 1, 2015. Published September 2015. Originally approved in 1942. Last previous edition approved in 2010 as D695 - 10. DOI: 10.1520/D0695-15.

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.

[D5947 Test Methods for Physical Dimensions of Solid Plastics Specimens](#)

[D6641/D6641M Test Method for Compressive Properties of Polymer Matrix Composite Materials Using a Combined Loading Compression \(CLC\) Test Fixture](#)

[E4 Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines](#)

[E83 Practice for Verification and Classification of Extensometer Systems](#)

[E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method](#)

2.2 *ISO Standard:*³

[ISO 604 Plastics—Determination of Compressive Properties](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *General*—The definitions of plastics used in this test method are in accordance with Terminology [D883](#) unless otherwise indicated.

3.2 Definitions:

3.2.1 *compressive deformation*—the decrease in length produced in the gage length of the test specimen by a compressive load. It is expressed in units of length.

3.2.2 *compressive strain*—the ratio of compressive deformation to the gage length of the test specimen, that is, the change in length per unit of original length along the longitudinal axis. It is expressed as a dimensionless ratio.

3.2.3 *compressive strength*—the maximum compressive stress (nominal) carried by a test specimen during a compression test. It may or may not be the compressive stress (nominal) carried by the specimen at the moment of rupture.

3.2.4 *compressive strength at failure (nominal)*—the compressive stress (nominal) sustained at the moment of failure of the test specimen if shattering occurs.

3.2.5 *compressive stress (nominal)*—the compressive load per unit area of minimum original cross section within the gage boundaries, carried by the test specimen at any given moment. It is expressed in force per unit area.

3.2.5.1 *Discussion*—The expression of compressive properties in terms of the minimum original cross section is almost

³ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard