



Designation: D3136 – 24

Standard Terminology Relating to Care Labeling for Apparel, Textile, Home Furnishing, and Leather Products¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3136; 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 standard is a compilation of terminology developed by Subcommittee D13.62 on Labeling that is related to refurbishing and labeling for apparel, textile, home furnishing, and leather products other than upholstered furniture and floor coverings.

1.2 This terminology provides a uniform language for the disclosure of care instructions on labels that are to be attached to apparel, textile, home furnishing, and leather products according to the Federal Trade Commission's regulation 16 CFR, Part 423 (See 2.3).

1.3 These terms, definitions and descriptions employ common meanings for the care instructions required to be on textile products sold in the U.S.

1.4 This terminology is unique to the care of textile and leather products as the meanings are often expressed in phrases for care processes related to home-type washers, dryers, drying techniques and those for professional care.

1.5 For definitions of other textile terms, see Terminology D123.

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles

D1230 Test Method for Flammability of Apparel Textiles

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of Committee D13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.62 on Labeling.

Current edition approved June 15, 2024. Published August 2024. Originally approved in 1972. Last previous edition approved in 2014 as D3136 – 14^{ε1}, which was withdrawn in February 2023 and reinstated in June 2024. DOI: 10.1520/D3136-24.

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

D5489 Guide for Care Symbols for Care Instructions on Textile Products

2.2 AATCC Standard:³

AATCC Technical Manual, Monograph M6 Standardization of Home Laundry Test Conditions, current edition

2.3 Federal Document:⁴

16 CFR, Part 423 Federal Trade Commission Amendment to Trade Regulation Rule Concerning Care Labeling of Textile Wearing Apparel, and Certain Piece Goods, current amendment published

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

bleach, *n*—*in care of textiles*, a product for brightening and aiding the removal of soils and stains from textile materials by oxidation that includes both chlorine and non-chlorine products.

care instructions, *n*—*in textiles*, a series of directions to refurbish a product without adverse effects, warning about any part of the directions that could potentially harm the product.

care label, *n*—*in textiles*, a label or other permanently affixed instructions that report how a product should be refurbished.

DISCUSSION—The Federal Trade Commission, in Rule 16 CFR 423, requires care instructions on most apparel and certain other textile items. In relation to these products, the FTC definition states: "Care Label means a permanent label or tag, containing regular care information and instructions, that is attached or affixed in some manner that will not become separated from the product and will remain legible during the useful life of the product." Furthermore, per ASTM D5489-18, section 4.3: "Care labeling using symbols can be used by the purchaser to select textiles on the basis of the care method required without knowledge of the language. The FTC Care Labeling Rule specifies Guide D5489-96c symbols. Additional changes in words and symbols have been added to this guide which are not covered by 16 CFR 423. In the United States, when care symbols only are to be included in a care label, the FTC requires that the Guide D5489-96c version of symbols must be used. However, the symbols, as included in

³ Available from American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), One Davis Dr., P.O. Box 12215, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2215, www.aatcc.org.

⁴ Available from U.S. Government Printing Office Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Mail Stop: SDE, Washington, DC 20401, www.gpo.gov