Designation: D 3574 – 03

Standard Test Methods for Flexible Cellular Materials—Slab, Bonded, and Molded Urethane Foams[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 3574; 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 Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 These test methods apply to slab, bonded, and molded flexible cellular products known as urethane foams. Urethane foam may be generally defined as an expanded cellular product produced by the interaction of active hydrogen compounds, water, and isocyanates.

1.2 *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.*

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard.

NOTE 1—There is no equivalent ISO standard, however certain test methods in this standard have similar or equivalent ISO standards and are listed in the Scope of the individual test method sections.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

D 412 Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers— Tension[2]

D 624 Test Method for Tear Strength of Conventional Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers[2]

D 726 Test Method for Resistance of Nonporous Paper to Passage of Air[3]

D 737 Test Method for Air Permeability of Textile Fabrics[4]

D 3675 Test Method for Surface Flammability of Flexible Cellular Materials Using a Radiant Heat Energy Source[5]

E 691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method[6]

NOTE 2—The specific dated edition of Practice E 691 that prevails in this document is referenced in the Precision and Bias section.

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *bonded foam*—a product produced by the adhesion of small pieces of urethane foam to each other with a suitable bonding agent.

3.1.2 *core*—the internal portion of a molded part, free of skin.

3.1.3 *cored foam*—a flexible cellular material containing a multiplicity of holes (usually, but not necessarily, cylindrical in shape), molded or cut into the material in some pattern, normally perpendicular to the foam rise direction, and extending part or all the way through the piece

3.1.4 *convoluted foam*—a flexible cellular material specially cut into sheets with "egg carton"-like dimples. The dimple peaks and bases can have varied shapes and dimensions.

3.1.5 *flexible cellular product*—a cellular organic polymeric material that will not rupture when a specimen 200 by 25 by 25 mm is bent around a 25-mm diameter mandrel at a uniform rate of 1 lap in 5 s at a temperature between 18 and 29°C.

3.1.6 *molded foam*—a cellular product having the shape of the enclosed chamber in which it is produced by foaming.

3.1.7 *skin*—the smooth surface layer of a molded foam product, formed by contact with the mold or surfaces.

3.1.8 *slab*—a section of foam that is cut from the internal portion of a large bun.

3.1.9 *urethane foam*—a flexible cellular product produced by the interaction of active hydrogen compounds, water, and isocyanates.

4. Summary of Test Methods

4.1 Unless specifically stated otherwise between the supplier and the purchaser, all tests shall be made in accordance with the methods specified in Sections 9-124 which include test procedures for the following:

Tests:		Sections
Test A	Density Test	9-15
Test B_1	Indentation Force Deflection Test—Specified Deflection	16-22

[1] These test methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D20 on Plastics and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D20.22 on Cellular Materials-Plastics and Elastomers.

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[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 09.01.

[3] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.09.

[4] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 07.01.

[5] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 08.02.

[6] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.02.

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

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