



## Standard Practice for Evaluation of Furniture Polish<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3751/D3751M; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

### 1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the definition of properties to test and the apparatus to use in evaluating the performance of furniture polishes.

1.2 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

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.*

### 2. Terminology

#### 2.1 Definitions:

2.1.1 *furniture polish*—a polish used for cleaning and improving the appearance of furniture finishes.

### 3. Significance and Use

3.1 This practice defines the properties to be tested, the apparatus to be used, and the comparisons of product performance. It is recognized that considerable discretion exists among formulators and marketers of furniture polish on which properties or performance characteristics are best for their products. This practice will be flexible to honor this fact within the confines of the furniture polish definition below.

3.2 The methods of testing are subjective and empirical in order to conform to the basic characteristics of the industry and to allow flexibility in testing.

### 4. Apparatus and Materials

4.1 *Control Polish*, selected subjectively for comparison to the test polish. It may be a competitive product, a modified formulation of the test polish, etc. The one stipulation is that

the control polish be of the same or similar type as the test polish. For example, if the test polish is an aerosol emulsion polish, the control shall be an aerosol emulsion polish. It would not be meaningful to select a paste or liquid product as a control for comparison to an aerosol emulsion test polish.

4.2 *Test Substrate* for which the test polish is intended. The test surface shall be in good physical condition, not badly cracked, scratched, or otherwise damaged so as to interfere with evaluation of polish properties. The minimum test surface area for each sample shall be 1290 cm<sup>2</sup> [200 in.<sup>2</sup>].

4.3 *Polishing Cloth*—Materials such as washed cheese cloth, rumple cloth, flannel, cotton diaper cloth, and nonwoven fabrics are suitable for this purpose. The same type polishing cloth should be used with each sample tested. Use separate cloths for each sample. Do not use felt or paper.

4.4 *Cleaning Solvent*, aliphatic, with kauri-butanol values less than 38.

4.5 *Eye Droppers and Tap Water*.

### 5. Test Specimen

5.1 The test specimen shall be the sample of polish to be tested.

### 6. Selection of Testers

6.1 The application and evaluation of the test and control polishes requires four individuals. They shall be capable of making discriminating judgments of subjective, physical, and aesthetic properties. Training and orientation to specific product performance characteristics may be required.

6.2 Each person applies the polishes to one of the four test panels. The tester then rates all properties except application properties on the remaining three panels that they did not polish. The person applying the polishes rates ease of use and other application properties. This means there will be only four readings on application properties. The three rating the other polish properties do not observe the application because they rate properties of each polish “blind.”

### 7. Procedure

7.1 *Cleaning of Test Substrates*—Use an aliphatic solvent having a kauri-butanol value less than 38, to clean the test

<sup>1</sup> This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D21 on Polishes and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D21.04 on Performance Tests.

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