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AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS
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Standard Practice for Evaluation of the Performance of Terry Bathroom Products for Household Use¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 4390; 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 practice covers the evaluation of specific performance characteristics of terry bath towels, hand towels, wash cloths, and other bathroom products for use in the household.

1.2 This practice shall not be construed to be a standard of performance for terry bathroom products.

1.3 This practice is not to be used for coated and laminated products.

1.4 This practice may be used by mutual agreement between purchaser and supplier to set purchasing specifications.

1.5 *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. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 123 Terminology Relating to Textiles²

D 3136 Terminology for Permanent Care Labels for Consumer Textile and Leather Products Other Than Carpets and Upholstery²

D 3821 Performance Specification for Woven Terry Household, Kitchen, and Bath Towel Fabrics³

D 3882 Test Method for Bow and Skewness in Woven and Knitted Fabrics³

D 3938 Guide for Evaluation of Textile Products in Relation to Refurbishing Described on Care Labels³

2.2 AATCC Methods:⁴

AATCC 88B Appearance of Seams in Wash and Wear Items After Home Laundering

AATCC 135 Dimensional Changes in Automatic Home Laundering of Woven or Knit Fabrics

AATCC 143 Appearance of Apparel and Other Textile End Products After Repeated Home Launderings.

NOTE 1—The specific dated editions of ASTM test methods that prevail in this document are referenced in the text.

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.63 on Home Furnishings.

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² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 07.01.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 07.02.

⁴ Available from the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists, P.O. Box 12215, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *terry fabric, n*—a material with a woven warp pile or a knitted pile, with uncut loops on a single side or uncut loops on both sides, and which is used for such products as towelings, beachwear, and bathrobes.

3.2 For definitions of other textile terms used in this practice, refer to Terminology D 123 and to Terminology D 3136.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This practice may be used to evaluate pertinent performance characteristics of terry bathroom products.

4.2 The characteristics to be evaluated and the acceptance criteria assigned to these areas shall be set by mutual agreement between purchaser and supplier.

4.3 The significance and use of specific properties are discussed in the appropriate test methods and performance standards.

5. Sampling, Selection, and Number of Specimens

5.1 *Division into Lots*—For acceptance testing, divide the product into lots as agreed upon by the purchaser and the supplier.

5.2 *Lot Sample*—As a lot sample for acceptance testing, take at random the number of shipping cartons directed in an applicable material specification or other agreement between the purchaser and the supplier.

NOTE 2—A realistic specification or other agreement between the purchaser and the supplier requires taking into account the variability between shipping cartons, between items within a carton, and between specimens within an item so as to provide a sampling plan which has a meaningful producer's risk, meaningful consumer's risk, acceptable quality level, and limiting quality level.

5.3 *Laboratory Sample*—As a laboratory sample for acceptance testing, take at least two items from each shipping carton in the lot sample.

5.4 *Test Specimens*—Take test specimens from each item in the laboratory sample as directed in the individual test methods or as agreed upon by the purchaser and the supplier. Perform each test on the product as it will reach the consumer.

6. Characteristics

6.1 The areas to be evaluated and the acceptance criteria assigned to these areas shall be set by mutual agreement between purchaser and supplier.

7. Fabric Performance Characteristics

7.1 The physical and colorfastness properties of the fabric