



Standard Test Method for Stitch Tear Strength of Leather, Double Hole¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 4705; 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 test method is intended for use in determining the stitch tearing resistance of leather using a double hole tear. It is particularly applicable to lightweight leathers. This test method does not apply to wet blue.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are provided for information only.

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. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 1610 Practice for Conditioning Leather and Leather Products for Testing²

D 1813 Test Method for Measuring Thickness of Leather Test Specimens²

D 2209 Test Method for Tensile Strength of Leather²

D 2813 Practice for Sampling Leather for Physical and Chemical Tests²

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This test method is designed to measure the load required to tear leather through two holes in the test specimen. Tanners and leather buyers have found that this test gives an indication of the resistance of leather to tearing. It is of particular value in estimating the durability of leather to withstand tearing stresses encountered in the manufacture of shoes, garments, and upholstered products. The thickness of the specimen and direction of tear relative to the backbone will affect the uniformity of the test results. This test method may not apply when the conditions of the test employed differ widely from those specified in the test method.

4. Apparatus

4.1 *Testing Machine*, as described in Test Method D 2209.

4.2 *Thickness Gage*, a dead weight type of thickness gage as described in Method D 1813.

4.3 *Steel Die*, to cut test specimens (as described in 5.1).

4.4 *Paper Clip*, #1/Premium, with wire diameter 0.041 ± 0.001 in. (1.04 ± 0.0254 mm).

5. Sampling Test Specimen

5.1 Unless otherwise specified, sample the leather according to Practice D 2813.

5.2 The specimen shall be a rectangle of leather 2 in. (50.8 mm) in length and 1 in. (25.4 mm) in width with two holes ($\frac{5}{64}$ in. (1.98 mm)) in diameter on one end of the specimen. The centers of the holes shall be $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (6.35 mm) from the end, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (6.35 mm) apart, and located equidistant from the center line (length wise) of the specimen. See Fig. 1.

5.3 The specimen shall be cut with the long dimension perpendicular to the backbone.

6. Conditioning

6.1 All specimen shall be conditioned for 48 h in an atmosphere maintained at $73.4 \pm 3.6^\circ\text{F}$ ($23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$) and $50 \pm 4\%$ relative humidity and tested under the conditions as described in Practice D 1610.

7. Procedure

7.1 Determine the thickness of the specimen to the nearest 0.5 oz (0.2 mm) on the long axis near one end.

7.2 Bend the wire into a “U” shape, preferably by bending over a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (6.35 mm) rod, and pass the ends through the holes in the specimen so that both ends project from the flesh side of the specimen. Clamp both ends of the wire in the testing machine grip, the jaws of which have been covered. Clamp the free end of the specimen in the other grip of the testing machine.

7.3 Operate the machine at 10 ± 2 in. (254 ± 50.8 mm) per min until the specimen tears. At the instant that the specimen begins to tear, note and record the load registered by the machine.

8. Report

8.1 Report the following:

8.1.1 Thickness to the nearest 0.5 oz (0.2 mm) reported for each specimen or averaged and reported as the thickness of the sample.

8.1.2 The tearing strength of the specimen shall be reported

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D31 on Leather and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D31.07 on Physical Properties—General.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.04.