



Standard Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Textile Fabrics (Martindale Abrasion Tester Method)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4966; 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 covers the determination of the abrasion resistance of textile fabrics using the Martindale abrasion tester. Fabrics of all types may be tested by this method but difficulties may arise with fabrics with a pile depth greater than 0.08 in. (2 mm).

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered 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.*

NOTE 1—For other current test methods of testing the abrasion resistance of textiles refer to Test Methods [D3884](#), [D3885](#), [D3886](#), [D4157](#), [D4158](#), and AATCC Test Method 93.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles](#)

[D1776 Practice for Conditioning and Testing Textiles](#)

[D3884 Guide for Abrasion Resistance of Textile Fabrics \(Rotary Platform, Double-Head Method\)](#)

[D3885 Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Textile Fabrics \(Flexing and Abrasion Method\)](#)

[D3886 Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Textile Fabrics \(Inflated Diaphragm Apparatus\)](#)

[D4157 Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Textile Fabrics \(Oscillatory Cylinder Method\)](#)

[D4158 Guide for Abrasion Resistance of Textile Fabrics \(Uniform Abrasion\)](#)

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D13](#) on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D13.60](#) on Fabric Test Methods, Specific.

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

[D4850 Terminology Relating to Fabrics and Fabric Test Methods](#)

2.2 *AATCC Methods and Procedures:*

[Evaluation Procedure 1 Gray Scale for Color Change](#)³

[Test Method 93 Abrasion Resistance of Fabrics: Accelerator Method](#)³

3. Terminology

3.1 For all terminology relating to [D13.60](#), Fabric Test Methods, Specific, refer to Terminology [D4850](#).

3.1.1 The following terms are relevant to this standard: abrasion, abrasion cycle, Lissajous figure, rub, standard atmosphere for preconditioning textiles, standard atmosphere for testing, in textiles.

3.2 For all other terms related to textiles, refer to Terminology [D123](#).

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 Abrasion resistance is measured by subjecting the specimen to rubbing motion in the form of a geometric figure, that is, a straight line, which becomes a gradually widening ellipse, until it forms another straight line in the opposite direction and traces the same figure again under known conditions of pressure and abrasive action. Resistance to abrasion is evaluated by various means which are described in Section [11](#).

5. Significance and Use

5.1 *Acceptance Testing*—this test method is not considered satisfactory for acceptance testing of commercial shipments of fabric. The between-laboratory precision of this test method is poor and, because of the nature of abrasion testing itself, technicians frequently fail to obtain results in agreement on the same type of testing instrument, both within and between laboratories. Although this test method is not recommended for acceptance testing, it is useful because it is used widely, especially outside the United States.

5.1.1 In case of a dispute arising from differences in reported test results when using this test method for acceptance

³ Available from the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists, P.O. Box 12215, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.