



Designation: D6108 – 19

Standard Test Method for Compressive Properties of Plastic Lumber and Shapes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D6108; 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 mechanical properties of plastic lumber and shapes, when the entire cross-section is loaded in compression at relatively low uniform rates of straining or loading. Test specimens in the “as-manufactured” form are employed. As such, this is a test method for evaluating the properties of plastic lumber or shapes as a product and not a material property test method.

1.2 Plastic lumber and plastic shapes are currently made predominantly with recycled plastics. However, this test method would also be applicable to similar manufactured plastic products made from virgin resins, or where the product is non-homogenous in the cross-section.

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

1.4 *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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

NOTE 1—There is no known ISO equivalent to this test method.

1.5 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing

D883 Terminology Relating to Plastics

D4000 Classification System for Specifying Plastic Materials

D5033 Guide for Development of ASTM Standards Relating to Recycling and Use of Recycled Plastics (Withdrawn 2007)³

D5947 Test Methods for Physical Dimensions of Solid Plastics Specimens

D6111 Test Method for Bulk Density And Specific Gravity of Plastic Lumber and Shapes by Displacement

E4 Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines

E83 Practice for Verification and Classification of Extensometer Systems

E456 Terminology Relating to Quality and Statistics

E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method

E2935 Practice for Conducting Equivalence Testing in Laboratory Applications

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms:

3.1.1 Definitions of terms applying to this test method appear in Terminology **D4000** and Guide **D5033**. For terms relating to precision and bias and associated issues, the terms used in this test method are in accordance with the definitions in Terminology **E456**.

3.1.2 *plastic lumber, n*—a manufactured product made primarily from plastic materials (filled or unfilled), typically used as a building material for purposes similar to those of traditional lumber, which is usually rectangular in cross-section. (Terminology **D883**)

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—Plastic lumber is typically supplied in sizes similar to those of traditional lumber board, timber and dimension lumber; however the tolerances for plastic lumber and for traditional lumber are not necessarily the same. (Terminology **D883**)

3.1.3 *resin, n*—a solid or pseudosolid organic material often of high molecular weight, which exhibits a tendency to flow when subjected to stress, usually has a softening or melting range, and usually fractures conchoidally. (Terminology **D883**)

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **D20** on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **D20.20** on Plastic Lumber (Section D20.20.01).

Current edition approved May 1, 2019. Published May 2019. Originally approved in 1997. Last previous edition approved in 2018 as D6108 – 18. DOI: 10.1520/D6108-19.

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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

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