



Standard Test Method for Flexural Properties of Polymer Matrix Composite Materials¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D7264/D7264M; 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 determines the flexural stiffness and strength properties of polymer matrix composites.

1.1.1 *Procedure A*—A three-point loading system utilizing center loading on a simply supported beam.

1.1.2 *Procedure B*—A four-point loading system utilizing two load points equally spaced from their adjacent support points, with a distance between load points of one-half of the support span.

NOTE 1—Unlike Test Method D6272, which allows loading at both one-third and one-half of the support span, in order to standardize geometry and simplify calculations this standard permits loading at only one-half the support span.

1.2 For comparison purposes, tests may be conducted according to either test procedure, provided that the same procedure is used for all tests, since the two procedures generally give slightly different property values.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. Within the text, the inch-pound units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with the standard.

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

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D790 Test Methods for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced

and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials

D2344/D2344M Test Method for Short-Beam Strength of Polymer Matrix Composite Materials and Their Laminates

D3878 Terminology for Composite Materials

D5229/D5229M Test Method for Moisture Absorption Properties and Equilibrium Conditioning of Polymer Matrix Composite Materials

D5687/D5687M Guide for Preparation of Flat Composite Panels with Processing Guidelines for Specimen Preparation

D6272 Test Method for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials by Four-Point Bending

D6856 Guide for Testing Fabric-Reinforced “Textile” Composite Materials

E4 Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines

E6 Terminology Relating to Methods of Mechanical Testing

E18 Test Methods for Rockwell Hardness of Metallic Materials

E122 Practice for Calculating Sample Size to Estimate, With Specified Precision, the Average for a Characteristic of a Lot or Process

E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods

E456 Terminology Relating to Quality and Statistics

E1309 Guide for Identification of Fiber-Reinforced Polymer-Matrix Composite Materials in Databases

E1434 Guide for Recording Mechanical Test Data of Fiber-Reinforced Composite Materials in Databases

2.2 Other Documents:

ANSI Y14.5-1999 Dimensioning and Tolerancing—Includes Inch and Metric³

ANSI B46.1-1995 Surface Texture (Surface Roughness, Waviness and Lay)³

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Terminology D3878 defines the terms relating to high-modulus fibers and their composites. Terminology E6 defines terms relating to mechanical testing. Terminology E456 and Practice E177 define terms relating to statistics.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D30 on Composite Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D30.04 on Lamina and Laminate Test Methods.

Current edition approved April 1, 2015. Published May 2015. Originally approved in 2006. Last previous edition approved in 2007 as D7264/D7264M – 07. DOI: 10.1520/D7264_D7264M-15.

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 Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.