



Standard Specification for ASTM Liquid-in-Glass Thermometers¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E 1; 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.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers liquid-in-glass thermometers graduated in degrees Celsius or degrees Fahrenheit that are frequently identified and used in methods under the jurisdiction of the various technical committees within ASTM. The various thermometers specified are listed in Table 1. The inclusion of an IP number in Table 1 indicates, where appearing, that the thermometer specification has been jointly agreed upon by the British Institute of Petroleum (IP) and ASTM.

1.2 This specification also covers adjustable-range enclosed-scale thermometers, graduated in degrees Celsius, which are used in ASTM methods.

1.3 The enclosed-scale thermometers are commonly called Beckmann thermometers. They are suitable for measuring small temperature differences not exceeding 6 °C within a larger range of temperature. The thermometers are unsuitable for measuring Celsius- or kelvin-scale temperatures unless they have been compared with standard instruments immediately before use.

1.4 An alphabetic list of the ASTM Thermometers included in this standard is given in Table 2.

1.5 A list of ASTM Thermometers is given in Table 3 to facilitate selection according to temperature range, immersion, and scale-error requirements.

NOTE 1—For a listing of thermometers recommended for general laboratory use, the Scientific Apparatus Makers Association Specifications for General Purpose Glass Laboratory Thermometers may be consulted.²

NOTE 2—It has been found by experience that these ASTM Thermometers, although developed in general for specific tests, may also be found suitable for other applications, thus precluding the need for new thermometer specifications differing in only minor features. However, it is suggested that technical committees contact Subcommittee E20.05 before choosing a currently specified thermometer for a new method to be sure the thermometer will be suitable for the intended application.

1.6 *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:³

- E 77 Test Method for Inspection and Verification of Thermometers
- E 344 Terminology Relating to Thermometry and Hydrometry
- E 563 Practice for Preparation and Use of an Ice-Point Bath as a Reference Temperature
- E 2251 Specification for Liquid-in-Glass ASTM Thermometers with Low-Hazard Precision Liquids

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—The definitions given in Terminology E 344 apply.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *adjusting device, n*—a section of the instrument used to adjust the amount of mercury in the bulb and main capillary to that needed for the intended temperature interval.

3.2.2 *bulb length, n*—the distance from the bottom of the bulb to the junction of the bulb and the stem tubing.

3.2.3 *contraction chamber, n*—an enlargement of the capillary, that will appear below the main scale or between the main scale and the auxiliary scale, which serves to reduce its length or to prevent contraction of the liquid column into the bulb.

3.2.4 *diameter, n*—the largest outside dimension of the glass as measured with a ring gage.

3.2.5 *expansion chamber, n*—an enlargement at the top of the capillary to provide protection against breakage caused by excessive gas pressure.

3.2.6 *interval error, n*—the deviation of the nominal value of a temperature interval from its true value; either for the total range (total interval) or for a part of the range (partial interval).

3.2.7 *saddle, n*—the bottom support of the enclosed scale.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E20 on Temperature Measurement and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E20.05 on Liquid-in-Glass Thermometers and Hydrometers.

Current edition approved Nov. 1, 2003. Published December 2003. Originally approved in 1939. Last previous edition approved in 2003 as E 1–03.

² Available from SAMA Group of Assocs., 225 Reinekers, Ste. 625, Alexandria, VA 22314.

³ 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.