



Standard Classification of Wall Coverings by Use Characteristics¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This classification covers the classification of wall coverings by use characteristics, that is, according to their serviceability in use, recognizing that certain wall coverings are designed primarily for decorative effect, while other wall coverings are also designed to achieve a high degree of serviceability.

1.1.1 This classification applies to all wall coverings but some sections apply specifically to vinyl-coated wall covering materials.

1.2 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system are not necessarily exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems has the potential to result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.3 *This standard is used to measure and describe the properties of materials, products, or assemblies to heat and flame under controlled conditions, but does not by itself incorporate all factors required for fire hazard or fire risk assessment of the materials, products, or assemblies under actual fire conditions.*

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, 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

D618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing

D685 Practice for Conditioning Paper and Paper Products for Testing

D751 Test Methods for Coated Fabrics

D1308 Test Method for Effect of Household Chemicals on Clear and Pigmented Organic Finishes

D2486 Test Methods for Scrub Resistance of Wall Paints

E84 Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials

E2404 Practice for Specimen Preparation and Mounting of Textile, Paper or Polymeric (Including Vinyl) and Wood Wall or Ceiling Coverings, Facings and Veneers, to Assess Surface Burning Characteristics

G21 Practice for Determining Resistance of Synthetic Polymeric Materials to Fungi

2.2 Federal Standards:³

Fed. Std. No. 191A Textile Test Methods (Superseding Fed. Std. No. 191) (Revisions to August 2000)

Fed. Spec. CCC-W-408D Wall Covering, Vinyl-Coated (Dated January 1994, Reinstated December 2003)

2.3 ICC Codes:⁴

IBC International Building Code

IFC International Fire Code

IRC International Residential Code

2.4 NFPA Codes and Standards:⁵

NFPA 1 Fire Code

NFPA 101 Life Safety Code

NFPA 265 Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Room Fire Growth Contribution of Textile Coverings on Full Height Panels and Walls

NFPA 286 Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Contribution of Wall and Ceiling Interior Finish to Room Fire Growth

NFPA 5000 Building Construction and Safety Code

2.5 UL Standard:⁶

UL 723 Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials

¹ This classification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.15 on Wallcoverings.

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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.

³ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, ATTN: NPODS.

⁴ Available from International Code Council (ICC), 5203 Leesburg Pike, Suite 600, Falls Church, VA 22041.

⁵ Available from National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269-9101.

⁶ Available from Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Corporate Progress, 333 Pfingsten Rd., Northbrook, IL 60062.