
Standard Specification for Materials for Asphalt Tack Coat

AASHTO Designation: MP 36-18 (2020)

Technical Subcommittee: 2a, Emulsified Asphalts

Release: Group 3 (July)



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1. SCOPE

- 1.1. This standard specifies quality requirements for emulsified asphalt or performance-graded asphalt binder for tack coats.
- 1.2. A tack coat is the application of an emulsified asphalt or performance-graded (PG) asphalt binder, to an existing pavement surface just prior to placement of a pavement overlay course. The tack coat is used to ensure a good bond between an existing asphalt or concrete pavement and a pavement overlay course, between multiple pavement lifts of a structural pavement, and at any vertical surfaces to which a new pavement layer will be placed adjacent, such as curbs, gutters, utilities, and construction joints.
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2. REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

- 2.1. *AASHTO Standards:*
- M 140, Emulsified Asphalt
 - M 208, Cationic Emulsified Asphalt
 - M 316, Polymer-Modified Emulsified Asphalt
 - M 320, Performance-Graded Asphalt Binder
 - M 332, Performance-Graded Asphalt Binder Using Multiple Stress Creep Recovery (MSCR) Test
 - PP 93, Asphalt Tack Coat Design
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3. ASPHALT REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1. Use an emulsified asphalt type or performance-graded asphalt binder designated by the purchasing agency.
- Note 1**—When using emulsified asphalt, select either cationic or anionic emulsified asphalt. Cationic and anionic emulsified asphalt cannot be used together.
- Note 2**—Cationic emulsified asphalts are often recommended for areas with damp pavement, such as coastal areas, because they are less sensitive to moisture and temperature.
- 3.2. Use slow-setting, medium-setting, rapid-setting, or quick-setting emulsified asphalt meeting the requirements in M 140, M 208, or M 316. The test requirement and associated specification limits for the cement mixing test are waived for emulsified asphalt following dilution. Use performance-graded asphalt binder meeting the requirements of M 320 or M 332.
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