
Standard Method of Test for

Repetitive Static Plate Load Tests of Soils and Flexible Pavement Components for Use in Evaluation and Design of Airport and Highway Pavements

AASHTO Designation: T 221-90 (2021)¹

Technically Revised: 1990

Reviewed but Not Updated: 2021

**Technical Subcommittee: 1b, Geotechnical Exploration,
Instrumentation, Stabilization, and Field Testing**

ASTM Designation: [D1195/D1195M-09](#)



**American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
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1. SCOPE

- 1.1. This test method covers a procedure for making repetitive static plate load tests on subgrade soils and compacted pavement components, in either the compacted condition or the natural state, and is to provide data for use in the evaluation and design of rigid and flexible-type airport and highway pavements.
- 1.2. The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard.
- 1.3. *The quality of the results produced by this standard are dependent on the competence of the personnel performing the procedure and the capability, calibration, and maintenance of the equipment used. Agencies that meet the criteria of [R 18](#) are generally considered capable of competent and objective testing/sampling/inspection/etc. Users of this standard are cautioned that compliance with [R 18](#) alone does not completely assure reliable results. Reliable results depend on many factors; following the suggestions of [R 18](#) or some similar acceptable guideline provides a means of evaluating and controlling some of those factors.*

2. REFERENCED DOCUMENT

- 2.1. *AASHTO Standard:*
 - [R 18](#), Establishing and Implementing a Quality Management System for Construction Materials Testing Laboratories

3. TERMINOLOGY

- 3.1. *Definitions:*
 - 3.1.1. *deflection*—the amount of downward vertical movement of a surface due to the application of a load to the surface.