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Water Resistance: Rain Test

Developed in 1947 by AATCC Committee RA63; reaffirmed 1952, 1963, 1964, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1985, 1989, 2006, 2013; editorially revised 1983, 1987, 1998, 2004, 2009; editorially revised and reaffirmed 1994; revised 2000. Technically equivalent to ISO 22958.

1. Purpose and Scope

1.1 This test method is applicable to any textile fabric, which may or may not have been given a water-resistant or water-repellent finish. It measures the resistance to the penetration of water by impact, and thus can be used to predict the probable rain penetration resistance of fabrics. It is especially suitable for measuring the penetration resistance of garment fabrics. With the instrument, tests may be made at different intensities (see 11.1) of water impact to give a

complete overall picture of the penetration resistance of a single fabric or a combination of fabrics.

1.2 The results obtained with this test method depend on the water repellency of the fibers and yarns, and on the construction of the fabric.

2. Principle

2.1 A test specimen, backed by a weighed blotter, is sprayed with water for 5 min under controlled conditions. The blotter is then reweighed to determine the amount of water which has leaked through the specimen during the test.

3. Terminology

3.1 **water resistance**, *n.*—*of fabric*, the characteristic to resist wetting and penetration by water. (See also *water repellency*.)

4. Safety Precautions

NOTE: These safety precautions are for information purposes only. The precautions are ancillary to the testing procedures and are not intended to be all inclusive. It is the user's responsibility to use safe and proper techniques in handling materials in this test method. Manufacturers MUST be consulted for specific details such as material safety data sheets and other manufacturer's recommendations. All OSHA standards and rules must also be consulted and followed.

4.1 Good laboratory practices should be followed. Wear safety glasses in all laboratory areas.

5. Apparatus and Materials

5.1 AATCC Rain Tester (see Figs. 1, 2 and 3 and 11.3).

5.2 White AATCC Textile Blotting Paper (see 11.4).



Fig. 1—Rain tester, complete assembly.

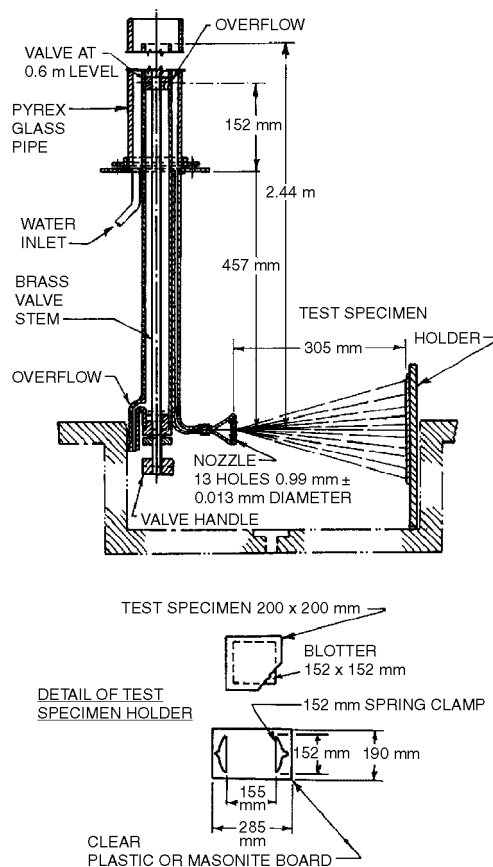


Fig. 2—Rain tester, structural details.