

Australian Standard®

Methods of test for elastomers

Method 9: Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic—Determination of tension set at normal and high temperatures

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Analysis and Testing of Elastomers under the direction of the Multitechnics Standards Policy Board, to supersede AS 1683.9—1974, *Methods of test for elastomers, Method 9: Tension set under constant elongation at normal and high temperatures of vulcanized rubbers*. It is identical with and has been reproduced from ISO 2285:1988, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic—Determination of tension set at normal and high temperatures*.

For purposes of this Australian Standard, the ISO text should be modified as follows:

- (a) *Terminology* The words 'Australian Standard' should replace the words 'International Standard' wherever they appear.
- (b) *Decimal marker* Substitute a full point for a comma as a decimal marker.
- (c) *References* Replace references to other publications by references to Australian Standards as follows:

<i>Reference to International Standard or other Publication</i>		<i>Australian Standard</i>	
ISO		AS	
471	Rubber—Standard temperatures, humidities and times for the conditioning and testing of test pieces	1683	Methods of test for elastomers
		1683.20	Part 20: Standard temperatures, humidities and times for conditioning and testing test pieces
1826	Rubber, vulcanized—Time interval between vulcanization and testing—Specification	—	
3383	Rubber—General directions for achieving elevated or subnormal temperatures for test purposes	—	
4661	Rubber, vulcanized —Preparation of samples and test pieces—Part 1: Physical tests		

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1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for determining the tension set characteristics of vulcanized or thermoplastic rubbers. The test is intended to measure the ability of rubbers of hardness within the range 30 to 94 International Rubber Hardness Degrees (IRHD) to retain their elastic properties after extension, at a standard temperature, to a specified strain which is maintained for a specified time at the same or at a specified higher temperature and then released at the standard temperature.

NOTE — Three types of test piece are described: strips, strips with enlarged ends and rings. Tests made with different types of test piece do not necessarily give the same value of tension set; neither will tests made at different temperatures necessarily place the materials in the same order of merit.

2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards listed below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 471: 1983, *Rubber — Standard temperatures, humidities and times for the conditioning and testing of test pieces*.

ISO 1826: 1981, *Rubber, vulcanized — Time-interval between vulcanization and testing — Specification*.

ISO 3383: 1985, *Rubber — General directions for achieving elevated or subnormal temperatures for test purposes*.

ISO 4661: 1986, *Rubber, vulcanized — Preparation of samples and test pieces — Part 1: Physical tests*.

3 Apparatus

3.1 Straining device, consisting of a metal rod or other suitable guide fitted with pairs of holders, one fixed and one movable, for the ends of the test piece. The holders shall be in the form of self-tightening clamps for strip test pieces, in the form of jaws to hold tab ends in a firm position for strip test pieces with enlarged ends, and in the form of flat pulleys of about 5 mm width and 10 mm diameter for ring test pieces.

If so desired, a means of operating the moving holder other than by hand may be provided, for example, a screwed rod, provided that the tolerances on extension speed are met (see 5.1). Suitable stops or graduations may also be provided to avoid over-extension in the initial straining of the test piece.

Straining devices shall be so designed that, when used at high temperatures in an oven, they can be placed with the reference lengths of the test pieces

perpendicular to the direction of air flow; they shall also be of minimal mass in order to avoid excessive lag in the attainment of temperature equilibrium after introduction into an oven.

Multiple unit straining devices may be used, provided that the foregoing requirements are met.

3.2 Oven (if the test is to be carried out at a temperature above the standard temperature), conforming to the requirements of ISO 3383.

3.3 Measuring device, suitable for measuring length to the nearest 0,1 mm.

For strip test pieces, a bench marker shall be provided to mark the length used for measurement, hereinafter called the reference length.

For strip test pieces with enlarged ends, the length of the narrow portion shall be used as the reference length.

For ring test pieces, the reference length may alternatively be the inner diameter of the ring, in which case a graduated cone, allowing measurements to be made to the nearest 0,1 mm, may be used. If measurements are made on a straight reference length, a rigid channel, 3,5 mm deep and 20 mm wide for large ring test pieces, and 1,75 mm deep and 10 mm wide for small ring test pieces, shall be provided for straightening portions of such test pieces during marking and measuring of the reference length.

4 Test piece

4.1 Preparation

Test pieces shall be prepared in general accordance with ISO 4661-1.

4.1.1 Strip test piece

Strips between 2 and 10 mm wide shall be cut with a sharp die from a flat sheet 2 mm $\pm$ 0,2 mm thick of the material under test. A width of 6 mm is preferred. The sheets may be prepared by moulding or from finished articles by cutting and buffing.

Strip test pieces may have wider ends for easier clamping out side the reference length, for example dumb-bells.

The length of any given strip depends on the selected reference length and the type of straining device.

4.1.2 Strip test piece with enlarged ends

Test pieces of the shape shown in figure 1 shall be cut with a sharp die from a flat sheet 2 mm $\pm$ 0,2 mm thick of the material under test. The length of the narrow section (reference length) shall be between 25 and 50 mm. The sheets may be prepared by moulding or from finished articles by cutting and buffing.

Dimensions in millimetres

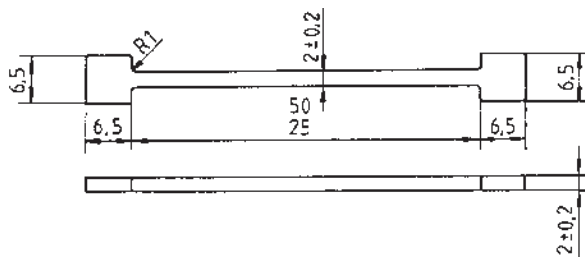


Figure 1 — Test piece with enlarged ends

4.1.3 Ring test piece

Ring test pieces shall be cut from a flat sheet by means of a pair of concentric circular dies or rotating cutters. The separation of the two cutting edges of such dies or cutters shall not differ from the average value by more than 0,05 mm. The sheets may be prepared by moulding or from finished articles by cutting and buffing.

The following two sizes of ring test piece may be used:

large ring test piece :

thickness : 4 mm $\pm$ 0,2 mm

outer diameter: 52,6 mm $\pm$ 0,2 mm

inner diameter: 44,6 mm $\pm$ 0,2 mm

small ring test piece :

thickness: 2 mm $\pm$ 0,2 mm

outer diameter : 33,5 mm $\pm$ 0,2 mm

inner diameter : 29,5 mm $\pm$ 0,2 mm

4.2 Marking

A reference length shall be marked on strip test pieces using a suitable bench marker and ink which does not affect the material and which withstands the temperature of test. The reference length shall be between 25 and 50 mm. The preferred length of strip test pieces and strip test pieces with enlarged ends is 50 mm. Ring test pieces shall be straightened by means of the rigid channel (see 3.3) and the reference length, preferably 40 mm for large ring test pieces and 25 mm for small ring test pieces, shall be marked on one of the straightened sides.

4.3 Number of test pieces

For each test, three test pieces shall be used.

4.4 Time-interval between vulcanization and testing

4.4.1 The time-interval between vulcanization and testing shall be in accordance with ISO 1826.

4.4.2 Samples and test pieces shall be protected from light as completely as possible during the interval between vulcanization and testing.

4.5 Conditioning

Prepared test pieces shall be conditioned immediately before testing for a minimum period of 3 h at one of the standard temperatures defined in ISO 471, the same temperature being used throughout any one test or series of tests intended to be comparable.

5 Procedure

5.1 Measure the unstrained reference length to the nearest 0,1 mm at the standard temperature. Place the ends of strip test pieces (4.1.1) into the clamps, or tab ends of test pieces with enlarged ends (4.1.2) into the jaws, or fit ring test pieces (4.1.3) over the pulley rims of the straining device (3.1). Extend the test pieces to the required strain at a speed between 2 and 10 mm/s.

With ring test pieces, rotate the pulleys slightly by hand to equalize the strain in the two halves of the ring, ensuring that the reference length remains centralized between the pulleys.

5.2 Between 10 and 20 min after the specified strain has been reached, measure the strained reference length to the nearest 0,1 mm. When the inner diameter of ring test pieces is used as the reference length, it may be calculated from the diameter of the pulleys and the distance between them, measured to the nearest 0,1 mm. If the strain, calculated as specified in 6.1, does not conform to the appropriate standard value, taking account of tolerances, discard the test piece and prepare and test a replacement test piece with a modified applied strain.

5.3 For tests at other than standard temperatures, place the strained test pieces in the oven (3.2), operating at the test temperature, between 20 and 30 min after the specified strain has been reached; at the end of the test period, remove the test pieces from the oven and allow to cool in the strained condition for 30 to 35 min.

5.4 After the appropriate duration of straining (see 6.2), release the strain at a speed of 2 to 10 mm/s, remove the test pieces from the clamps or pulleys and lay free on a wooden surface. After 30^{+3}_0 min, measure the reference length to the nearest 0,1 mm, using the rigid channel to straighten ring test pieces if required.

6 Strain, duration of test and temperature of test

6.1 Strain

The percentage strain, calculated by the formula