



Designation: D4120 – 07 (Reapproved 2024)

Standard Test Method for Fiber Cohesion in Roving, Sliver, and Top in Dynamic Tests¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4120; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method describes the measurement of fiber cohesion as the dynamic cohesive force required to maintain drafting in rovings, slivers or tops when they are subjected to stress induced by passing between pairs of drafting rolls of different surface speeds. The cohesive force is converted to cohesive tenacity based on the linear density of the material.

NOTE 1—For static tests refer to Test Method [D2612](#).

1.2 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.3 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles](#)

[D519 Test Method for Length of Fiber in Wool Top](#) (Withdrawn 2022)³

[D1440 Test Method for Length and Length Distribution of Cotton Fibers \(Array Method\)](#)

[D1447 Test Method for Length and Length Uniformity of Cotton Fibers by Photoelectric Measurement](#)

[D1575 Test Method for Fiber Length of Wool in Scoured Wool and in Card Sliver](#) (Withdrawn 2022)³

[D1776/D1776M Practice for Conditioning and Testing Textile](#)

[D2258/D2258M Practice for Sampling Yarn for Testing](#)
[D2612 Test Method for Fiber Cohesion in Sliver and Top \(Static Tests\)](#)
[D3333 Practice for Sampling Manufactured Staple Fibers, Sliver, or Tow for Testing](#)
[D4849 Terminology Related to Yarns and Fibers](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 For all terminology relating to D13.58, Yarns and Fibers, refer to Terminology [D4849](#).

3.1.1 The following terms are relevant to this standard: cohesive force, fiber cohesion, roving, sliver, tenacity, top.

3.2 For all other terms are related to textiles, refer to Terminology [D123](#).

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 This test method provides an indication of the ability of fibers to hold together by measuring the force required to slide fibers in a direction parallel to their length. Specific lengths of roving, sliver, or top are drafted between two pairs of rollers, with each pair moving at a different peripheral speed. The draft forces are recorded. Test specimens are then weighed and the linear density calculated. Drafting tenacity, calculated as the draft resisting force per unit linear density, is considered to be a measure of the dynamic fiber cohesion.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method for the determination of cohesion in sliver, roving, or top in dynamic tests may be used for the acceptance testing of commercial shipments but caution is advised since information on between-laboratory precision is lacking. Comparative tests as directed in [5.1.1](#) may be advisable.

5.1.1 If there are differences or practical significance between reported test results for two laboratories (or more), comparative test should be performed to determine if there is a statistical bias between them, using competent statistical assistance. As a minimum, test samples that are as homogeneous as possible, drawn from the material from which the disparate test results were obtained, and randomly assigned in equal numbers to each laboratory for testing. The test results from the two laboratories should be compared using a statistical test for unpaired data, at a probability level chosen prior to the testing

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D13](#) on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D13.58](#) on Yarns and Fibers.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at www.astm.org/contact. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

series. If a bias is found either its cause must be found and corrected, or future test results for that material must be adjusted in consideration of the known bias.

5.2 The cohesive forces overcome in continuous drafting of slivers, rovings, or tops are affected by surface lubricants and such fiber properties as linear density, surface configuration, fiber length, fiber crimp, and fiber-frictional characteristics.

5.2.1 The concept of drafting is one of the most important principles in the production of yarn from fibrous raw stock.

5.2.2 The values of force to maintain drafting determined by this method are induced by mechanical means similar to those used in textile processing.

5.2.3 The attenuation of textile fiber strands while in motion closely approximates actual textile processing conditions, and the relative values of force may be used to predict processing behaviors.

5.3 Fiber cohesion is affected by the alignment of fiber in the textile strand and strand compaction in addition to the factors listed in 5.2. Although fibers are more nearly aligned in draw sliver than in card sliver, the draw sliver is more compact. Thus, for a given production run, the drafting forces are higher for draw sliver than for card sliver.

5.4 In addition to the aforementioned effects on drafting forces, the direction of specimen movement through drafting rollers may give different drafting force. Fibers in slivers may have hooks of varying severity at one or both ends. Passage through drafting rollers results in higher drafting forces when the predominance of fiber hooks are oriented in the trailing mode of the strand.

6. Apparatus and Materials

6.1 *Cohesion Meter*,⁴ with rollers and controls for varying drafts and rates of drafting.

6.2 *Tensiometer*,⁴ with accessory equipment including measuring heads, integrator, (or computer or programmable calculator), and recorder for sensing, accumulating, and recording drafting forces.

6.3 *Calibration Mass*, 1 kg, NBS Class T.

6.4 *Tachometer*, capable of measuring roll surface speed to within 0.1 m/min.

6.5 *Balance*, with sufficient capacity and sensitivity to weigh specimens to within 0.1 % of specimen mass.

7. Sampling

7.1 *Lot Sampling*—As a lot sample for acceptance testing, take at random the number of shipping containers directed in the applicable material specification or other agreement between the purchaser and supplier, such as an agreement to use Practice D3333 or Practice D2258/D2258M. Consider shipping containers to be the primary sampling units.

⁴ The sole source of supply of the apparatus known to the committee at this time is Rothschild, Zurich, Switzerland, and it may be obtained from Lawson-Hemphill Sales, Inc., P.O. Drawer 6388, Spartanburg, SC 29304. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,¹ which you may attend.

NOTE 2—An adequate specification or other agreement between the purchaser or supplier requires taking into account the variability between shipping units, between packages, ends or other laboratory sampling unit within a shipping unit if applicable, and within specimens from a single package, end or other laboratory sampling unit to provide a sampling plan with a meaningful producer's risk, consumer's risk, acceptable quality level, and limiting quantity level.

7.2 *Laboratory Sample*—As a laboratory sample for acceptance testing, take at random from each shipping container in the lot sample the number of laboratory sampling units as directed in an applicable material specification or other agreement between purchaser and supplier such as an agreement to use Practice D3333 or Practice D2258/D2258M. Preferably, the same number of laboratory sampling units are taken from each shipping container in the lot sample. If differing numbers of laboratory sampling units are to be taken from shipping containers in the lot sample, determine at random which shipping containers are to have each number of laboratory units drawn.

7.2.1 Each laboratory sampling unit should be at least 100 m long.

7.3 *Test Specimens*—From each laboratory sampling unit, take one specimen. If the standard deviation determined for the laboratory sample is more than a value agreed upon between the purchaser and supplier, continue testing one specimen from each unit in the laboratory sample until the standard deviation for all specimens tested is not more than the agreed to value or, by agreement, stop testing after a specified number.

8. Preparation and Calibration of Equipment

8.1 Install the tensiometer measuring head in the cohesion meter. Selection of the proper capacity head may be determined by trial tests on the materials to be tested, or previous experience with a given product.

8.2 Calibrate the apparatus as directed in the manufacturer's instructions.

8.3 Verify the input and output speeds using a tachometer.

8.4 Unless otherwise directed, set the draft ratio for 1.25, the material input speed to 5 m/min, the timer to give an input test length of 10 m and the integration period for 1 min.

8.5 Set the gage spacing of the drafting rollers for 1.4× the mean staple length of the fiber in the test specimen.

8.5.1 Use the staple length determined using Test Method D1440 or Test Method D1447 for cotton, or the staple length assigned by the fiber producer to manufactured fibers developed for processing on the cotton system. For wool or manufactured fibers with great variability in their length distribution and developed for processing on a long staple fiber system, use the fiber length which includes 95 % of the fibers in the specimen as determined from a fiber sorting, using Test Methods D519 or D1575.

9. Conditioning

9.1 Precondition and condition the laboratory samples as directed in Practice D1776/D1776M.