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Standard Guide to International Test Methods Associated with Textile Care Procedures[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 6322; 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.

ϵ[1] NOTE—Section 2 was modified editorially in September 2003.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide lists general home laundering and commercial drycleaning textile care procedures and the associated ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials), AATCC (American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists), CGSB (Canadian General Standards Board), and ISO (International Organization for Standardization) standards available for the testing and evaluation of textile products.

1.2 This guide identifies the national, regional, and international textile and apparel test methods available to manufacturers, retailers, importers, testing organizations and other related parties.

1.3 This guide provides a list of test methods that can be used by the reader to evaluate the properties of textiles and apparel during refurbishing, textile and apparel care instructions; and, textile and apparel care labels.

1.4 This guide is not intended to be used in the establishment of performance criteria, but as a guide for product development and purchasing contracts. The country of Canada, however, has some performance criteria cited in The National Standard of Canada–Care Labelling of Textiles in CAN/CGSB–86.1-M91 (see Appendix X1)

1.5 This guide is applicable to textile and apparel articles; excluding upholstery fabrics, mattresses, carpet, leather, fur, and yarns.

1.6 *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 and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

D 123 Terminology Relating to Textile Materials[2]

D 3136 Terminology Relating to Care Labels for Textile and Leather Products Other Than Textile Floor Coverings and Upholstery[2]

D 3786 Test Method for Bursting Strength, Hydraulic, of Knitted Goods and Nonwoven Fabrics—Diaphragm Bursting Strength Tester Method[2]

D 3787 Test Method for Bursting Strength of Knitted Goods—Constant-Rate-of-Traverse (CRT), Ball Burst Test[2]

D 3938 Guide for Determining or Confirming Care Instructions for Apparel and Other Textile Products[2]

D 4720 Practice for Evaluation of the Performance of Window Coverings—Soft[2]

D 4721 Practice for Evaluation of the Performance of Bedcoverings and Accessories, Machine Washable and Drycleanable[2]

D 5034 Test Method for Breaking Force and Elongation of Textile Fabrics (Grab Test)[2]

D 5035 Test Method for Breaking Force and Elongation of Textile Fabrics (Strip Method)[2]

D 5489 Guide for Care Symbols for Care Instructions on Textile Products[2]

2.2 *AATCC Standards:*[3]

NOTE 1—Refer to individual sections that follow for listing.

2.3 *CGSB Standards:*

CAN/CGSB-86.1-M91 The National Standard of Canada - Care Labelling of Textiles[4]

NOTE 2—Refer to individual sections that follow for listing.

2.4 *ISO Standards:*[5]

NOTE 3—Refer to individual sections that follow for listing.

2.5 *Other Documents:*

Federal Trade Commission Amendment to Trade Regulation Rule Concerning Care Labeling of Textile Wearing

[1] This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.62 on Textile Care Labeling.

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[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 07.01 and 07.02.

[3] *Annual AATCC Technical Manual*, available from the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists, P.O. Box 12215, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

[4] Available from CGSB, Sales Unit, Ottawa, Canada.

[5] Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036.

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Apparel and Certain Piece Goods, Federal Register, Vol. 48, No. 99, May 20, 1983[6]

Federal Trade Commission Amendment to Trade Regulation Rule Concerning Care Labeling of Textile Wearing Apparel and Certain Piece Goods, Federal Register, Vol. 62, No. 25, February 6, 1997[6]

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 For definitions of terms related to permanent care labeling, refer to Terminology D 3136 and AATCC Glossary. For definitions of other textiles terms used in this guide, refer to Terminology D 123, CAN/CGSB-86.1-M91, FTC 16 CFR Part 423, and ISO 3758.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This guide identifies U.S., Canadian and other international test methods used in the process of determining and evaluating textile and apparel care label instruction effectiveness for properties such as colorfastness, susceptibility to damage due to retained bleaching agents, dimensional stability, safe ironing temperatures and appearance retention (see 1.5 for exclusions).

4.2 This guide is intended for general use by those who wish to compare care label evaluation methods of the United States with those of both The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB).

4.3 The inclusion of AATCC, ASTM, CGSB, and ISO test methods provides broad reference information.

4.4 Consult specific ASTM textile fabric, apparel and home furnishing performance specifications for evaluation criteria.

4.4.1 A listing of all ASTM textile performance specifications may be found in Volumes, 07.01 and 07.02 of the *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*. These textile specifications are appropriate for apparel or textile products that have not been wet processed or dyed after the product was sewn into its final form.

4.5 *The National Standard of Canada*—Care Labelling of Textiles (CAN/CGSB-86 1-M91) includes performance criteria that is used in the evaluation of care claims, including written words or symbols, identified on garments or textile products that are offered for sale in Canada (see Appendix X1).

5. Summary of Guide

5.1 This guide lists test procedures used in evaluating care label instructions appropriate for colorfastness, susceptibility to damage due to retained bleaching agents, dimensional stability, safe ironing temperature, and appearance retention.

6. General Considerations

6.1 Wherever available AATCC, ASTM, CGSB, and ISO test methods have been listed to allow ease of comparison (see Fig. 1).

6.2 While AATCC, ASTM, CGSB, and ISO test methods may use similar conditions, it is important to note that the protocol may differ.

6.3 CGSB and ISO test procedures can not always be considered a direct comparison with, or a substitute for, test results from AATCC or ASTM test methods and vice versa.

6.4 The care procedures are listed in the order of customary consumer practice.

7. Home Laundering and Commercial Drycleaning Textile Care Procedures and the Associated Standards

7.1 This section is a list of general and specific international standards associated with the assessment of textile products for permanent care labels in the order of customary consumer practice.

7.1.1 Table 1 summarizes the general care procedures, the related care symbols, and the related standards;

7.2 *Assessment of Textile Products for Permanent Care Labels*—General information is given in the following standards:

7.2.1 *ASTM Standards*:

D 123 Terminology Relating to Textile Materials[2]

D 3136 Terminology Relating to Care Labels for Textile and Leather Products Other Than Textile Floor Coverings and Upholstery[2]

D 3938 Guide for Determining or Confirming Care Instructions for Apparel and Other Textile Products[2]

D 5489 Guide for Care Symbols for Care Instructions on Textile Products[2]

7.2.2 *AATCC Standard*:

Monograph Nomenclature for Subjective Rating Process[3]

7.2.3 *CGSB Standards*:

No. 2–M Conditioning Textile Materials for Testing[4]

No. 86.1-M91 National Standard of Canada - Care Labelling of Textiles[4]

7.2.4 *ISO Standards*:

ISO 105 - A01 Textiles—General Principles of Testing[5]

ISO 3758 Textiles—Care Labelling Code Using Symbols[5]

7.3 *Colorfastness, Including Staining*—General Information is given in the following standards:

7.3.1 *AATCC Standards*:

Evaluation Procedure 1—Gray Scale for Color Change[3]

Evaluation Procedure 2—Gray Scale for Staining[3]

Evaluation Procedure 7—Instrumental Assessment of the Change in Color of a Test Specimen[3]

Evaluation Procedure 8—AATCC Chromatic Transference Scale[3]

7.3.2 *GCGSB Standards*:

CAN/CGSB-4.2-M Textile Test Methods:

No. 46-M/ISO 105–A02 Textiles—Tests for Colour Fastness - Part A02: Gray Scale for Assessing Change in Colour[4]

No. 47-M/ISO 105-A03 Textiles—Tests for Colour Fastness - Part A03: Gray Scale for Assessing Staining[4]

7.3.3 *ISO Standards*:

ISO 105 - A02 Gray Scale for Assessing Change in Colour[5]

ISO 105 - A03 Gray Scale for Assessing Staining[5]

ISO 105 - A05 Instrumental Assessment of Change In Colour for Determination of Grey Scale Rating[5]

[6] Available from U.S. Government Printing Office, North Capital and H Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20401.

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