



Standard Specification for Ethylene Propylene Diene Terpolymer (EPDM) Sheet Used In Geomembrane Applications¹

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^{ε1} NOTE—Section 9 was editorially corrected in July 2015.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers flexible sheet made from ethylene propylene diene terpolymer (EPDM) geomembrane intended for use in geotechnical and geoenvironmental applications. The tests and property limits used to characterize the sheet are values to ensure minimum quality for the intended use. The vulcanized rubber sheet may be non-reinforced, fabric or scrim reinforced.

1.2 In place geomembrane design criteria, such as field seaming strength, and material compatibility, among others, are factors that must be considered but are beyond the scope of this specification.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.4 *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:²

- D412 Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers—Tension
- D471 Test Method for Rubber Property—Effect of Liquids
- D518 Test Method for Rubber Deterioration—Surface

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D35 on Geosynthetics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D35.10 on Geomembranes.

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

Cracking (Withdrawn 2007)³

- D573 Test Method for Rubber—Deterioration in an Air Oven
- D624 Test Method for Tear Strength of Conventional Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers
- D751 Test Methods for Coated Fabrics
- D1149 Test Methods for Rubber Deterioration—Cracking in an Ozone Controlled Environment
- D1204 Test Method for Linear Dimensional Changes of Nonrigid Thermoplastic Sheet or Film at Elevated Temperature
- D1418 Practice for Rubber and Rubber Latices—Nomenclature
- D2137 Test Methods for Rubber Property—Brittleness Point of Flexible Polymers and Coated Fabrics
- D4439 Terminology for Geosynthetics
- D4833/D4833M Test Method for Index Puncture Resistance of Geomembranes and Related Products
- D5884 Test Method for Determining Tearing Strength of Internally Reinforced Geomembranes
- D7004/D7004M Test Method for Grab Tensile Properties of Reinforced Geomembranes
- D7635/D7635M Test Method for Measurement of Thickness of Coatings Over Fabric Reinforcement
- G151 Practice for Exposing Nonmetallic Materials in Accelerated Test Devices that Use Laboratory Light Sources
- G155 Practice for Operating Xenon Arc Light Apparatus for Exposure of Non-Metallic Materials

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 For definitions of other geosynthetic terms used in this guide, refer to Terminology D4439.

3.1.2 *composite, n*—factory laminated non-woven geotextile and EPDM.

3.1.3 *EPDM, n*—terpolymer of ethylene, propylene, and diene with the residual unsaturated portion of the diene in the side chain.

D1418

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



4. Classification

4.1 Types describe the sheet construction:

4.1.1 *Type I*—Non-reinforced.

4.1.2 *Type II*—Scrim (or fabric) internally reinforced.

5. Materials and Manufacture

5.1 The sheet shall be formulated from EPDM polymers and other compounding ingredients. EPDM shall be the principal polymer used in the sheet and shall be greater than 95 % of the total polymer content.

5.2 To make seams and repairs, the sheet shall be capable of being bonded watertight to itself and the supplier or fabricator shall recommend suitable methods.

6. Physical Properties and Requirements

6.1 The sheet shall conform to the physical requirements prescribed in **Table 1**.

6.2 The tolerance for time conditions (aging, weathering, and so forth) is ± 15 min or ± 1 % of the period; whichever is greater, unless otherwise specified.

6.3 Tolerances for temperature shall be $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ [$\pm 4^{\circ}\text{F}$].

7. Dimensions

7.1 The width and length of the sheet shall be agreed upon between the purchaser and the supplier.

7.1.1 The width and length tolerance shall be +3 %, -0 %.

TABLE 1 Physical Requirements for EPDM Sheet

Property	ASTM	Nominal Sheet Thickness	Type I	Type II
Thickness, min, mm [in.]: Sheet-overall	D412		1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	
	D751			1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]
Coating over scrim or fabric	D7635/D7635M	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	...	0.38 [0.015] 0.59 [0.022]
Breaking Strength, min, N [lbf]	D7004/D7004M Grab Method	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	...	400 [90] 400 [90]
Tensile strength, min, MPa [psi]	D412 Die C	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	9.0 [1305] 9.0 [1305]	...
Puncture Resistance N [lbs] Min.	D4833/D4833M	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	133 [30] 178 [40]	270 [60] 350 [80]
Elongation, ultimate, min %	D412 Die C	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	300 300	250 ^A 250 ^A
Elongation @ fabric break, ultimate, min, % Machine direction	D7004/D7004M , Grab Method, 50 mm [2 in.] per minute	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]		15 15
Cross direction	jaw separation rate	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]		15 15
Tensile set, max	D412 Method A, Die C	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	10 10	...
Tear resistance, min, kN/m [lbf/in.]	D624 Die C	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	26.27 [150] 40.28 [230]	...
Tearing strength, min, N [lbf]	D5884	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	...	580 [130] 750 [170]
Brittleness point, max $^{\circ}\text{C}$ [$^{\circ}\text{F}$]	D2137	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	-45 [-49] -45 [-49]	-45 [-49] -45 [-49]
Ozone resistance, no cracks	D1149	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	pass pass	pass pass
Heat Aging:	D573			
Breaking strength, min, N [lbf]	D7004/D7004M	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]		356 [80] 888 [200]
Tensile strength, min, MPa [psi]	D412 Method A, Die C	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	8.3 [1205] 8.3 [1205]	...
Elongation, ultimate, min, %	D412 Die C	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	200 200	200 ^A 200 ^A
Tear resistance, min, kN/m [lbf/in.]	D624 Die C	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	21.9 [125] 37.3 [213]	...
Linear dimensional change, max, %	D1204	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	± 1 ± 1	± 1 ± 1
Water absorption, max, mass, %	D471	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	± 8 , -2 ± 8 , -2	± 8 , -2 ^A ± 8 , -2 ^A
Laboratory Accelerated Weathering:	G151 and G155			
Visual Inspection	D518	1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	No cracks No cracks	No cracks No cracks
PRFSE, min, %		1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	30 30	...
Elongation, ultimate, min, %		1.14 [0.045] 1.52 [0.060]	200 200	...

^A Specimens to be prepared from coating rubber compound, vulcanized in a similar method to the reinforced products.