



Designation: F1141/F1141M – 20

Standard Specification for Wall Coverings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1141/F1141M; 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 specification covers the performance, quality, packaging, and marking characteristics of flexible wall coverings as finished products.

1.1.1 Whenever this specification refers to wall coverings, it is intended also to refer to ceiling coverings of the same type.

1.1.2 This specification does not apply to wall coverings intended to be applied to exterior walls.

1.1.3 This specification does not apply to rigid panel products, irrespective of whether or not they include a flexible lining or veneer.

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

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

F793/F793M Classification of Wall Coverings by Use Characteristics

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *wall covering*—a flexible product designed to cover walls and ceilings for decorative or functional purposes, or both.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.15 on Wallcoverings.

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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.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *backing (substrate)*—material upon which facing (or an intermediate layer) is applied. Backing is that material which is adhered to the wall.

3.2.2 *bias*—pattern running off true horizontal or vertical plane.

3.2.3 *bolt*—a continuous amount of packaged material containing the amount specified on the label.

3.2.4 *facing*—decorative material which is applied to an intermediate layer or backing.

3.2.5 *finished product*—wall covering offered to a consumer for installation.

3.2.6 *intermediate layer*—material, if any, between the facing and the backing.

3.2.7 *lot (batch)*—the product from a continuous manufacturing run having the same appearance and characteristic from beginning to end.

3.2.8 *pattern match*—the meeting of all parts and colors of a pattern at the seams of adjacent strips.

3.2.9 *pattern repeat*—the vertical distance between adjacent match points of a pattern.

3.2.10 *protective layer*—any material applied to the facing to enhance performance.

3.2.11 *register*—the designed meeting of all parts and colors of a pattern.

3.2.12 *run*—a unit of production which may include more than one lot.

3.2.13 *seconds*—finished material not meeting the required quality criteria.

3.2.14 *selvage*—an undecorated edge which must be trimmed away to allow for correct pattern match or uniform continuity of color.

3.2.15 *waste edge*—a decorated edge that must be trimmed away to allow for correct pattern match or uniformity of color.

3.2.16 Shading:

3.2.16.1 *color variation*—difference within the same lot of wall covering.

3.2.16.2 *luster variation*—difference in gloss level within the same lot of wall covering.



3.2.16.3 *texture variation*—difference in embossing within the same lot of wall covering.

3.2.17 *split bolt*—a bolt consisting of two or three separate lengths of material.

4. Appearance

4.1 There shall be no appreciable difference in shading except on those finished products in which natural decorative characteristics are being simulated. These variances must be clearly stated in writing at the point of purchase. To determine whether there is an appreciable difference, suspend three sequential 8-ft [2.4-m] strips at eye level in a vertical position, as on the wall, under illumination between 100 fc and 150 fc [1000 lx and 1500 lx], and view the strips from a distance between 4 ft and 8 ft [1.2 m and 2.4 m]. An appreciable difference is one which is noticeable when one strip is compared with the others.

5. Wall Preparation and Installation

5.1 Basic and correct wall preparation instructions, with particular attention to wall covering which requires special wall preparation for its proper installation, shall be included in sample books and installation instructions.

5.2 Installation instructions shall be in or with each bolt and be readily accessible to the installer. It shall be the manufacturer's responsibility to notify consumers of proper installation techniques when new products are introduced.

5.3 The manufacturer shall recommend an adhesive, when necessary, and the products to be used for wall preparation. Recommendation for alternative adhesives and wall preparation products shall be included in the installation instructions.

6. Physical Requirements

6.1 Each finished product shall be uniform in physical properties, in accordance with Classification **F793/F793M** and this specification.

6.2 All facings and protective layers shall be adhered properly to backings and intermediate layers and the finished product shall be of such quality that delamination does not occur during normal installation and use.

6.3 Finished products shall not chip, peel, or flake during normal installation and use. (For test methods to determine conformity with this requirement refer to Classification **F793/F793M**.)

6.4 There shall be no more than a 1/8-in. [3.5-mm] variance in pattern match between two 8-ft [2.4-m] strips at midpoint.

6.5 The wall covering shall be free from all surface flaws, creases, splices, scratches, tears and dirt throughout its entire length.

6.6 The wall covering shall be free of wrinkles which cannot be removed in the course of normal installation.

6.7 The finished product shall not shrink or expand after installation when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

6.8 Any pretrimmed material shall be trimmed so that no contrasting backing color will show at the seam when two sheets are properly installed.

6.9 No pretrimmed material shall show frayed or wavy edges.

6.10 All elements of the pattern shall be in register.

6.11 The design shall be set at an angle of 90° to the trimmed edge.

6.12 Split bolts narrow goods shall have no piece shorter than 9 ft [2.7 m] and shall have an area at least 10 % larger than specified on the label. Three lengths are permitted in split bolts having an area exceeding 100 ft² [9.3 m²]. Wide commercial goods shall have no piece shorter than 3 yd [2.7 m] and one-half linear yard larger than specified on the label.

6.13 The finished product shall have the necessary characteristics to adhere the product to the wall when it is installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. (For test methods to determine conformity with this requirement refer to Classification **F793/F793M**.)

7. Inspection and Testing

7.1 The manufacturer shall be responsible for testing and inspection in accordance with this specification and Classification **F793/F793M**.

7.2 The introduction of new products on the market shall be preceded by thorough testing by the manufacturer under representative field conditions. The manufacturer shall validate laboratory quality control tests against actual field conditions.

8. Rejection and Review

8.1 The installer or purchaser shall be entitled to reject any wall covering that fails to conform to the requirements of this specification. Rejections shall be reported to the supplier promptly by any appropriate means. In the event the supplier is unwilling or unable to satisfy the complainant, the matter shall be referred to the manufacturer. The inspection and test procedures contained in this specification shall be used to determine the conformance of the product to the requirements of this specification. Each manufacturer who represents a product as conforming to this specification shall be permitted to use statistically based sampling plans that are appropriate for each particular manufacturing process, but shall keep such essential records as are necessary to document the claim that the requirements of this specification have been met.

8.2 Any portion of the item not meeting the required quality criteria in accordance with Classification **F793/F793M** and this specification, and thus not conforming to this specification, shall be clearly marked as seconds if packaged for resale at retail.

9. Certification

9.1 When specified in the purchase order or contract, a manufacturer's or supplier's certification shall be furnished to the purchaser stating that samples representing each lot of the

