



Designation: **F498 – 12 F498 – 19**

# Standard Test Method for Center Spring Constant and Spring Constant Balance of Alpine Skis<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F498; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of center spring constant, forebody spring constant, and afterbody spring constant of Alpine skis. In addition, it covers a method for determination of the spring constant balance.

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. Terminology

### 2.1 Definitions:

2.1.1 *afterbody spring constant*—the load, in newtons, required to deflect point *A* a distance of 1 cm.

$$C_A = \frac{F_A}{f_m} \quad (1)$$

2.1.2 *center spring constant*—the load, in newtons, required to deflect point *M* a distance of 1 cm.

$$C_M = \frac{F_M}{f_m} \quad (2)$$

2.1.3 *deflection  $f$* —the displacement of the ski under load *F* measured at points *A*, *B*, or *M* normal to a line between support points or the clamping plane.

2.1.4 *forebody spring constant*—the load, in newtons, required to deflect point *B* a distance of 1 cm.

$$C_B = \frac{F_B}{f_B} \quad (3)$$

2.1.5 *load  $F$* —the force applied normal to the support points or the clamping plane, at points *A*, *B*, or *M*. The only component of load *F* is shown in Fig. 1.

2.1.6 *point  $A$* —the support point for the afterbody of the ski when the center spring constant is measured or the load application point when the afterbody spring constant is measured.

2.1.7 *point  $B$* —the support point for the forebody of the ski when the center spring constant is measured or the load application point when the forebody spring constant is measured.

2.1.8 *point  $M$* —the load application point when the center spring constant is measured and the clamping point when the forebody spring constant or the afterbody spring constant is measured. It is located at the midpoint between points *A* and *B*.

2.1.9 *ski size,  $x_p$* —the projected length with the ski body pressed flat against a plane surface, measured between the ski tail and the ski tip, commonly referred to as chord length. The developed or material length is the length from tip to tail along the bottom contour of the ski.

2.1.10 *spring constant*—a measurement of the stiffness of a ski in bending, expressed as a ratio of force to deflection.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F27 on Snow Skiing and Water Sports and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F27.30 on Skis, Skiing and Boots/Snowboarding Equipment.

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