



Designation: D6614/D6614M – 20

Standard Test Method for Stretch Properties of Textile Fabrics – CRE Method¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D6614/D6614M; 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 covers the determination of the amount of fabric stretch and fabric growth after a specified extension and held for a specified time.

1.2 While this test method can be used for any fabric, knit fabrics having high stretch are better measured by Test Method [D2594](#).

1.3 This test method should not be used to measure the breaking strength and elongation of woven fabrics, which is covered in Test Methods [D5034](#) and [D5035](#).

1.4 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, to ensure conformance with the standard, each system shall be used independently of the other, and values from the two systems shall not be combined.

1.5 *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.*

1.6 *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](#)

[D1776 Practice for Conditioning and Testing Textiles](#)

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D13](#) on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D13.59](#) on Fabric Test Methods, General.

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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.

[D2594 Test Method for Stretch Properties of Knitted Fabrics Having Low Power](#)

[D4849 Terminology Related to Yarns and Fibers](#)

[D4850 Terminology Relating to Fabrics and Fabric Test Methods](#)

[D5034 Test Method for Breaking Strength and Elongation of Textile Fabrics \(Grab Test\)](#)

[D5035 Test Method for Breaking Force and Elongation of Textile Fabrics \(Strip Method\)](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 For all terminology relating to D13.59, Fabric Test Methods, General, see Terminology [D4850](#).

3.2 For all terminology related to D13.58, Yarns and Fiber, see Terminology [D4849](#).

3.2.1 The following terms are relevant to this standard: fabric stretch, fabric growth, stretch yarn.

3.3 For definitions of all other textile terms see Terminology [D123](#).

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 *Fabric Stretch and Fabric Growth*— A specified load is applied to a fabric specimen, using a constant rate of extension tensile tester at a prescribed rate of extension. After holding at the specified load for a predetermined time, the length is measured. The load is removed from the specimen and allowed to relax for a specified time. A small amount of force, enough to remove any wrinkles or folds, is applied and the specimen length measured. The amount of fabric stretch is calculated from the difference in length prior to load and under load. Fabric growth is calculated from the difference in length prior to loading and after relaxation.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This method is used to determine the stretch and growth properties which a garment made of the fabric may be expected to exhibit during use.

5.2 This is a new method and therefore the history of data is very small, however the excellent agreement of between-laboratory data suggest this method may be considered for acceptance testing of commercial shipments.

5.2.1 If there are differences of 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, samples used for such comparative tests should be as homogeneous as possible, drawn from the same lot of material as the samples that resulted in disparate results during initial testing, and randomly assigned in equal numbers to each laboratory. Other fabrics with established test values may also be used for these comparative tests. The test results from the laboratories involved should be compared using a statistical test for unpaired data, at a probability level chosen prior to the testing series. If bias is found, either its cause must be found and corrected, or future test results must be adjusted in consideration of the known bias.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Tensile Testing Machine*³, of the CRE type with capability to maintain a constant load and measurement of the location of the moveable crosshead.

6.2 *Grips and Jaw Faces*, a minimum of 50 mm [2 in.] faces to hold the full width of the specimen.

7. Sampling, Selection, and Number of Specimens

7.1 *Primary Sampling Unit*—Consider rolls, bolts or pieces of fabric, or cartons of fabric components of fabricated systems such as garments to be the primary sampling unit, as applicable.

7.2 *Laboratory Sampling Unit*—As a laboratory sampling unit take from the primary sampling unit at least one full-width piece of fabric that is 1 m [1 yd] in length along the selvage (machine direction), after removing the first 1 m [1 yd] length. For circular knit fabrics cut a band at least 300 mm [12 in.] wide. When applicable, use the entire fabric component of the fabricated systems.

7.3 *Test Specimen Selection*—From each laboratory sampling unit, take test specimens with the long direction parallel to the stretch direction. Consider the long direction as the direction of test. Specimen preparation need not be carried out in the standard atmosphere for testing. Label to maintain specimen identity.

7.3.1 When the end-use fabric component of fabricated systems is provided, take specimens from different areas. That is, if the product is a garment worn on the upper body, then take specimens from the shoulder, shirt tail, shirt back and front, and sleeve.

7.3.2 For fabric widths 125 mm [5 in.] or more, take no specimen closer than 25 mm [1 in.] from the selvage edge.

7.3.3 For fabric widths less than 125 mm [5 in.], use the entire width for specimens.

7.3.4 Cut specimens representing a broad distribution diagonally across the width of the laboratory sampling unit. Take lengthwise specimens from different positions across the width of the fabric. Take width-wise specimens from different positions along the length of the fabric.

7.3.5 Ensure specimens are free of folds, creases, or wrinkles. Avoid getting oil, water, grease, etc. on the specimen when handling.

7.3.6 If the fabric has a pattern, ensure that the specimens are a representative sampling of the pattern.

7.4 *Specimen Preparation*—As test specimens from each laboratory sampling unit, proceed as follows:

7.4.1 For woven fabrics, cut two strips 65 by 350 mm [2.5 by 14 in.] with the long dimension parallel to the stretch direction.

7.4.1.1 Ravel the strips to form test specimens to 50 ± 0.5 mm [2 ± 0.02 in.] width by taking approximately the same number of yarns from each side of the specimen.

7.4.2 For knitted and nonwoven fabrics, cut two test specimens, 50 ± 0.5 mm [2 ± 0.02 in.] wide by 350 mm [14 in.] with the long dimension parallel to the stretch direction.

8. Conditioning

8.1 Condition each sample as directed in Practice **D1776**, prior to cutting the test specimens.

9. Preparation and Calibration of Test Apparatus

9.1 Set-up procedures for machines from different manufacturers may vary. Prepare and verify calibration of the tensile tester using directions supplied by the manufacturer.

9.2 Set the distance between the jaw faces 250 ± 0.5 mm [10 ± 0.02 in.].

9.3 Select an appropriate extension speed. Fabrics with very little stretch should be extended at a slow speed and fabrics with high stretch at a faster speed. The extension speed is not critical to the test but consideration must be given to the response of the test apparatus to ensure the machine stops without overriding the stop point and the time required to perform the test.

10. Procedure

10.1 Make all tests in the standard atmosphere for testing textiles.

10.2 Place one specimen in the upper jaw, making sure the long direction of the specimen is parallel to the sides of the jaw faces.

10.3 Place the other end of the specimen in the bottom jaw, applying just enough force to remove any folds or wrinkles.

10.4 Start the machine and hold at 1814 ± 10.0 g [4.0 ± 0.02 lb] for 5 ± 0.1 min. The electronically controlled machine should record all the measurements necessary for the final calculations.

10.5 If the machine is not electronically controlled, stop the crosshead at 1814 ± 10.0 g [4 ± 0.02 lb] Maintain the load by adjusting the crosshead until 5 ± 0.1 min. has elapsed. Measure the distance between the jaw faces.

10.6 Return the crosshead to the starting position and hold for 5 ± 0.1 min.

10.7 Move the crosshead to a position where all the slack is removed or the load increases above the zero load line. Measure the distance between jaw faces at this point.

³ Apparatus is commercially available.