



Designation: ~~D4886—18~~ D4886 – 23

Standard Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Geotextiles (Sandpaper/Sliding Block Method)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4886; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of resistance of geotextiles to abrasion using an abrasion tester. This test method at this point has only been evaluated for geotextiles—not geomembranes, grids, etc. Therefore, the test method is designated for geotextiles, not geosynthetics, as all products may not lend themselves to this test method for abrasion. If later developments indicate a wider scope for this test method, appropriate changes will be made.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in inch-pound units are provided as information only.

1.3 *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.*

1.4 *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/D1776M Practice for Conditioning and Testing Textiles](#)

[D4354 Practice for Sampling of Geosynthetics and Rolled Erosion Control Products \(RECPs\) for Testing](#)

[D4439 Terminology for Geosynthetics](#)

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

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of other terms used in this test method, refer to Terminologies [D123](#) and [D4439](#).

3.2 Definitions:

3.2.1 *abrasion, n*—the wearing away of any part of a material by rubbing against another surface.

D123

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D35](#) on Geosynthetics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D35.02](#) on Endurance Properties. Current edition approved Feb. 1, 2018; Sept. 1, 2023. Published February 2018; October 2023. Originally approved in 1988. Last previous edition approved in 2016; 2018 as ~~D4486—10 (2016)~~; ~~D4886—18~~. DOI: ~~10.1520/D4886-18~~; 10.1520/D4886-23.

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.

3.2.2 *loss in breaking force, n*—percent comparison of breaking force before and after abrasion.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 A test specimen, mounted on a stationary platform, is rubbed by an abradant with specified surface characteristics. Under controlled conditions of pressure and abrasive action, the abradant is rubbed on a horizontal axis using a uniaxial motion. Resistance to abrasions is expressed as a percentage of original strength before abrading.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method may be used for acceptance testing of commercial shipments of geotextiles, but caution is advised since information on the precision of the test is lacking. Comparative testing as directed in 5.1.1 may be advisable.

5.1.1 In case of a dispute arising from differences in reported test results when using this test method, the purchaser and the supplier should conduct comparative tests to determine if there is a statistical bias between their laboratories. Competent statistical assistance is recommended for the investigation of bias. At a minimum, the two parties should take a group of test specimens that are as homogeneous as possible and that are from a lot of material of the type in question. The test specimens should then be randomly assigned in equal numbers to each laboratory for testing. The average results from the two laboratories should be compared using Student's *t*-test for unpaired data and an acceptable probability level chosen by the two parties before the testing is begun. If a bias is found, either its cause must be found and corrected or the purchaser and the supplier must agree to interpret future test results in light of the known bias.

5.2 The resistance of abrasion is also greatly affected by the conditions of the tests, such as the nature of abradant, variable action of the abradant over the area of specimen abraded, the tension of the specimen, the pressure between the specimen and abradant, and the dimensional changes in the specimens.

5.3 The resistance of geotextile materials to abrasion as measured on a testing machine in the laboratory is generally only one of several factors contributing to performance or durability as experienced in the actual use of the material. While “abrasion resistance” and “durability” are frequently related, the relationship varies with different end uses and different factors may be necessary in any calculation of predicted durability from specific abrasion data. Laboratory tests may be reliable as an indication of relative end-use performance in cases where the difference in abrasion resistance of various materials is large, but they should not be relied upon for prediction of actual in-situation life in specific end uses unless there are data showing the specific relationship between laboratory abrasion tests and actual in-situation life in the intended end use.

5.4 These general observations apply to all types of fabrics, including woven, nonwoven, and knit fabrics.

5.5 If there is a disagreement arising from differences in values reported by the purchaser and the seller when using this test method for acceptance testing, the statistical bias, if any, between the laboratory of the purchaser and the laboratory of the seller should be determined with each comparison being based on testing specimens randomly drawn from one sampling unit of material of the type being evaluated.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Abrasion Tester*,³ having the following essential parts:

6.1.1 *Balanced Head and Block Assembly*—The assembly should be two parallel, smooth plates, one of which makes a reciprocating motion. The speed of the reciprocating plate should be adjustable between 10 and 115 double strokes per minute. The stroke length should be 25 mm (1 in.). The second plate is rigidly supported by a double-lever assembly to provide free movement in a direction perpendicular to the reciprocating plate. This plate is stationary during the test and must be well balanced so that a vertical load can be maintained by means of dead weights. Both plates are equipped with clamps at each end to hold the test specimen and the abrading medium. The clamps have gripping surfaces adequate to prevent slippage of the specimen or the abrading material during the test.

³ The sole source of supply of the abrasion tester known to the committee at this time is Custom Scientific Instrument Inc., 13 Wing Drive, Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,¹ which you may attend.