



Designation: D4214 – 23

# Standard Test Methods for Evaluating the Degree of Chalking of Exterior Paint Films<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4214; 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.

*This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.*

## 1. Scope

1.1 These test methods cover the evaluation of the degree of chalking on white or tinted exterior paint films. These test methods describe the procedures recommended for transferring the chalk to a fabric or fingertip, which is then compared to photographic reference standards, or in the case of adhesive tapes, compared to a reflectance table or photographic reference standards, to determine the degree of chalking.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for 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:<sup>2</sup>

[D662 Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Erosion of Exterior Paints](#)

[D3330 Test Method for Peel Adhesion of Pressure-Sensitive Tape](#)

[E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods](#)

[E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to](#)

<sup>1</sup> These test methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D01 on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D01.25 on Evaluation of Weathering Effects.

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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

### [Determine the Precision of a Test Method](#)

[E1347 Test Method for Color and Color-Difference Measurement by Tristimulus Colorimetry](#)

## 3. Terminology

### 3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *chalking, n*—the formation on a pigmented coating of a friable powder evolved from the film itself at or just beneath the surface.

## 4. Significance and Use

4.1 The procedures provide a broad range of techniques and photographic references to evaluate chalking of exterior paints.

## 5. Type of Chalking

5.1 Only one type of chalking is recognized, as defined in Section 3.

## 6. Use of Photographic Reference Standards

6.1 The following two photographic reference standards are part of these test methods. Each represents the degree of chalking on a paint film. The photographs shown in [Fig. 1](#) and [Fig. 2](#) are to be used for the evaluation of degree of chalking.

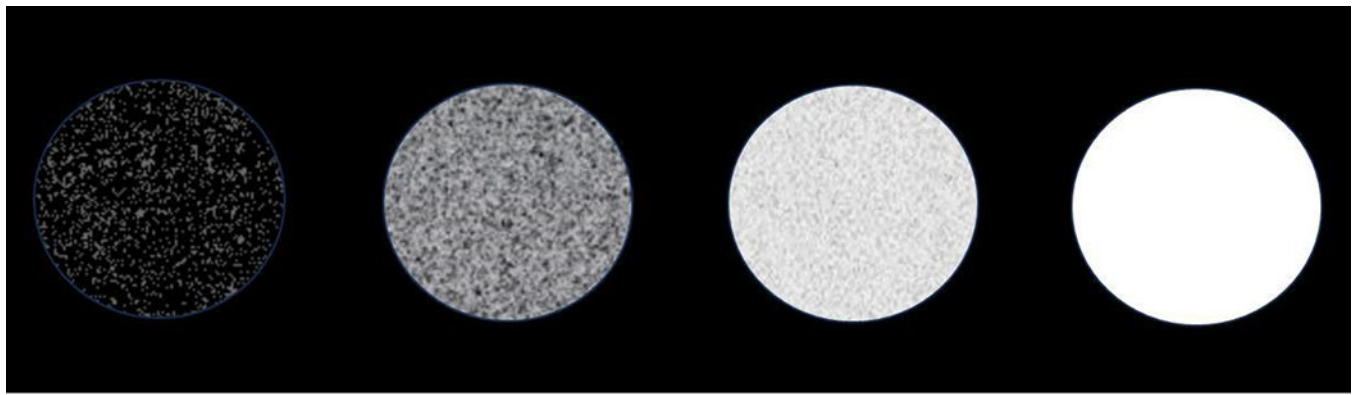
6.2 The use of photographic reference standards [Fig. 1](#) and [Fig. 2](#) requires the following precautions:

6.2.1 The degree of chalking may vary over any given area. It is important, therefore, to select a representative portion of the coated material to evaluate. On large surfaces, it is recommended that the rating be made at several locations and the mean and range reported.

6.2.2 It is difficult to make readings outdoors on a windy day, and making readings at such time should be avoided. It should also be noted that rain, snow, or moisture in any form will remove chalk, so readings should be made after a period of clear weather and when the surface is dry.

6.2.3 Chalking and erosion ([Note 1](#)) are closely related. However, the rate of chalking as measured by these test methods, and the rate of erosion may not be comparable because some pigment combinations tend to retain chalk on the surface while other pigment combinations exert a self-cleaning action by natural means.

NOTE 1—For the evaluation of erosion, see Test Method [D662](#).



No. 8

No. 6

No. 4

No. 2

FIG. 1 Photographic Reference Standard No. 1

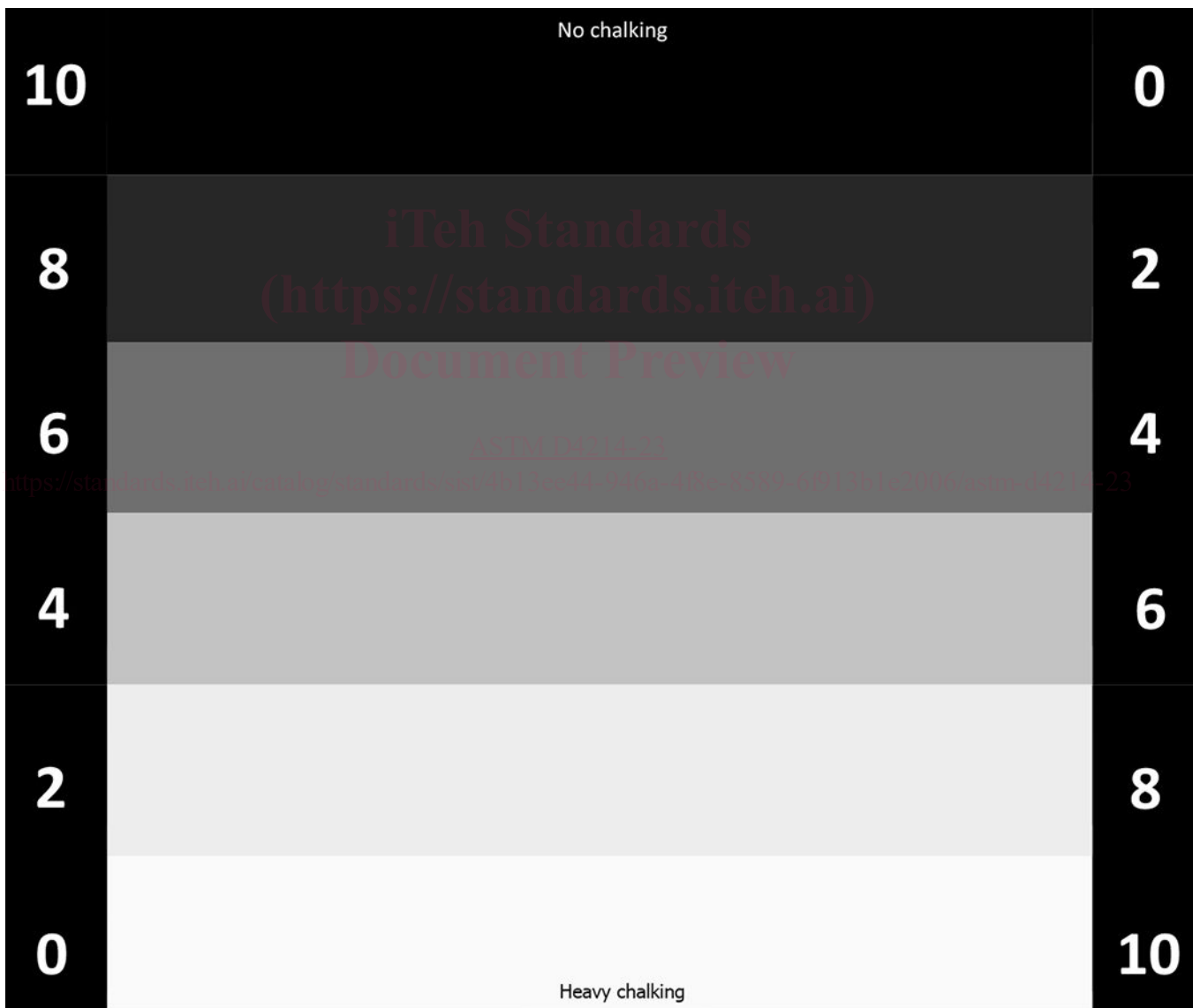


FIG. 2 Photographic Reference Standard No. 2—Verinstituut TNO

6.3 Records may be kept in a manner such as shown in Fig. 3. Reporting of the results shall include the information given in Section 8.

6.4 When these test methods are referenced in specifications for performance, the permissible degree of chalking is established between the producer and the user.

**7. Recommended Procedures**

7.1 *Test Method A—Cloth Tape Method:*

7.1.1 *Material*—Fabric, as agreed upon between the producer, user, or other interested parties, to rub against the surface being tested. Black (or white for dark coatings) wool felt, velvet, and velveteen have proven particularly effective.

7.1.2 *Procedure*—Wrap the fabric around the index fingertip, then make a 50 mm to 75 mm (2 in. to 3 in.) stroke with medium pressure on the coating under observation. Remove the fabric and compare the spot of chalk on it with Photographic Reference Standard No. 1.

## D4214 Tape Chalk Rating Worksheet

### Reflectance Method C

Client Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Order #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exposure Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Sample	1st reading	2nd reading	Average Y (%)	Corrected Value	ASTM Chalk Rating
Tape+Sheet					
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspected by: \_\_\_\_\_

FIG. 3 Example of Worksheet