



Designation: D 1684 – 96 (Reapproved 2002)

Standard Practice for Lighting Cotton Classing Rooms for Color Grading¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 1684; 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 approval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

INTRODUCTION

Until 1940, practically all cotton classing was done in daylight, much of it in specially skylighted rooms designed to provide sufficient and uniform lighting on the classing tables. Cotton classification or classing is the art and science of describing the quality of cotton according to the official standards of the United States. Grade is divided into two categories—color grade and leaf grade. Because color grade is an important quality factor in establishing the price and use of cotton, the color quality of lighting is important. The cotton classer attempts to class cotton on the basis of the color the sample and the standard would have in daylight. In classing rapidly he refers to physical standards only occasionally each day; therefore it is most important that the lighting in a classing room shall not only provide a constant color but that it shall make the color of cotton appear as nearly as possible as it would in daylight so that he can take full advantage of training and memory.

In the USA, daylight at about 7500 K is what the cotton classer (**1,2,3**),² (as well as color matchers in other industries (**4,5,6**)) has found in practice to be the minimum color temperature of preferred daylight.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers practices in general use in the United States for lighting cotton classing rooms, provides general background information regarding the development and establishment of these practices, and prescribes a test method for appraising the color quality of lamps procured for this purpose.

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 and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 123 Terminology Relating to Textiles³

D 1535 Practice for Specifying Color by the Munsell System⁴

2.2 Other Documents:

The Classification of Cotton, Agricultural Handbook Number 566.⁵

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *color grading, n*—the act of identifying a specimen by a color grade or color score, that is specific to the color and the material graded.

3.1.2 *illumination, n*—in lighting, the density or flux of light on a unit area of surface.

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—The lux (lx) is the SI unit of illumination and equals a luminous flux of one lumen per square metre of surface. The footcandle (fc) is the inch-pound unit of illumination and equals a luminous flux of one lumen per square foot of surface. To convert footcandles to lux, multiply by 10.76391 (exactly).

3.1.3 *kelvin, n*—the unit of thermodynamic temperature; the SI unit of temperature for which an interval of one kelvin (K) equals exactly an interval of one degree Celsius (1°C) and for which a level of 273.15 K equals exactly 0°C.

3.1.4 For definitions of other textile terms used in this practice, refer to Terminology D 123.

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles, and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.11 on Cotton and Fibers.

Current edition approved Oct 10, 1996. Published February 1997. Originally published as D 1684 – 59 T. Last previous edition D 1684 – 90.

² The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to references listed at the end of this practice.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 07.01.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 06.01.

⁵ Available from Cotton Div., Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 Artificial lighting is used in cotton classing rooms to simulate ideal daylight conditions in north latitudes with a moderately overcast sky. The quality and quantity of illumination, the geometry of illumination, the type of lighting unit and pattern for installation, the color of surroundings, and maintenance of lighting equipment are specified in this practice.

5. Significance and Use

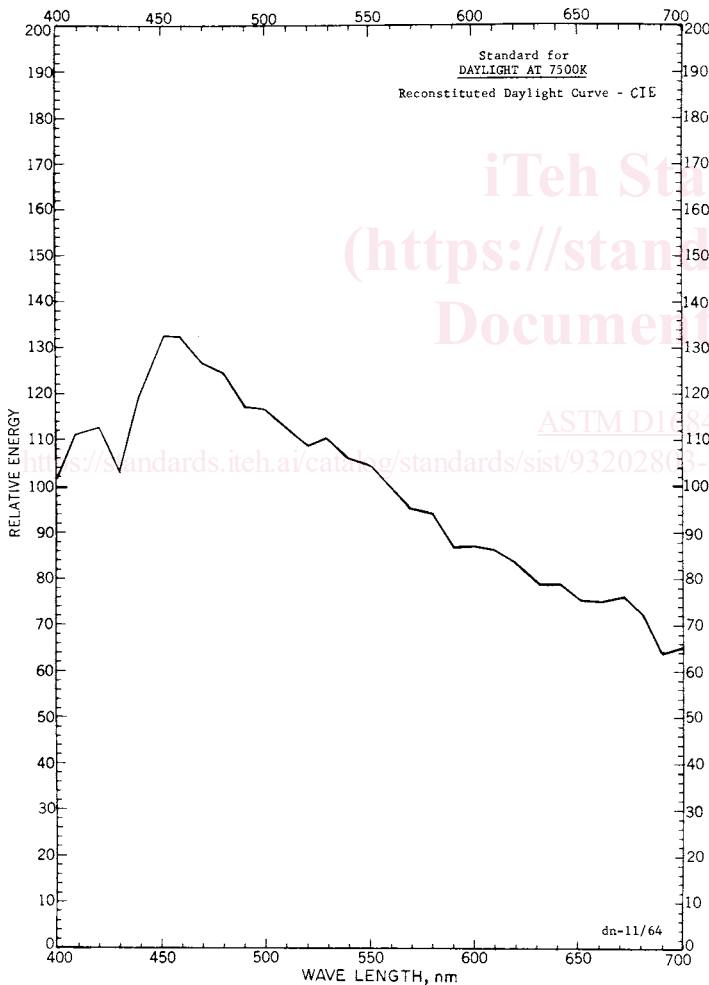
5.1 This practice is useful for establishing and maintaining standard lighting conditions in cotton classing rooms. This permits the classer to make a valid assessment of the color grade of cotton. The cotton classer attempts to classify cotton

on the basis of the color the sample and the standard would have in daylight. It is essential that the lighting in a classing room is constant and that it makes the color of cotton appear as nearly as possible as it would in natural daylight.

5.2 Uniform lighting conditions permit classers to go from one classing room to another without having to make adjustments for wide differences in the amount and quality of lighting.

6. Quality of Illumination

6.1 The standard for color quality of illumination is the color and spectral quality of daylight of a moderately overcast northern sky, as represented by the curve and data in Fig. 1 for



Wave-length, nm ^A	CIE Standard for Daylight at 7500 K ^B (Relative Energy)
400	101.9
10	111.9
20	112.8
30	103.1
40	121.2
450	133.0
60	132.4
70	127.3
80	126.8
90	117.8
500	116.6
10	113.7
20	108.7
30	110.4
40	106.3
550	104.9
60	100.0
70	95.6
80	94.2
90	87.0
600	87.2
10	86.1
20	83.6
30	78.7
40	78.4
650	74.8
60	74.3
70	75.4
80	71.6
90	63.9
700	65.1

^A nm is the abbreviation for nanometre, which is a metre × 10⁻⁹ = μm = millimicron.

^B The data for 400 to 700 nm are based on Table III of August, 1965, recommendations of the CIE colorimetry committee (E-1.3.1) for an international standard to represent typical daylight (300 to 830 nm) of correlated color temperature 7500 K (7,8).

FIG. 1 Standard for Color Quality of Illumination for Color Grading Problems in Which the Equivalent of Light from a “Covered Sky” is Required or Preferred. In North Latitudes this is a sky that is moderately overcast from the north.