



Designation: D 3691 – 02

Standard Performance Specification for Woven, Lace, and Knit Household Curtain and Drapery Fabrics¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 3691; 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.

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

1. Scope

1.1 This performance specification covers the requirements for all knit, lace, foam back, stitch-bonded, conventional weights, and sheer woven fabrics to be used in the manufacture of curtains and draperies.

1.2 This performance specification is applicable to all fabrics except those made of glass.

1.3 For those properties where fabric direction is pertinent, these requirements apply to the length and width directions for woven fabric and to both the wale and course directions for knit fabric.

1.4 *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:²

- D 123 Terminology Relating to Textiles
- D 231 Methods of Testing Tolerances for Knit Goods³
- D 1336 Test Method for Distortion of Yarn in Woven Fabrics
- D 1424 Test Method for Tearing Strength of Woven Fabrics by Falling-Pendulum (Elemendorf) Apparatus
- D 2261 Test Method for Tearing Strength of Fabrics by the Tongue (Single Rip) Procedure (Constant-Rate-of-Extension Tensile Testing Machine)
- D 2724 Test Methods for Bonded, Fused, and Laminated Apparel Fabrics

- D 2905 Practice for Statements on Number of Specimens for Textiles
- D 5034 Test Method for Breaking Strength and Elongation of Textile Fabrics (Grab Test)
- 2.2 *AATCC Test Methods*⁴
 - 8 Colorfastness to Crocking: AATCC Crockmeter Method
 - 16 Colorfastness to Light
 - 23 Colorfastness to Burnt Gas Fumes
 - 61 Colorfastness to Laundering Home and Commercial: Accelerated
 - 116 Colorfastness to Crocking: Rotary Vertical Crockmeter Method
 - 124 Appearance of Fabrics After Repeated Home Laundering
 - 129 Colorfastness to Ozone in the Atmosphere Under High Humidities
 - 132 Colorfastness to Dry Cleaning
 - 135 Dimensional Changes in Automatic Home Laundering of Durable Press Woven or Knit Fabric
 - 172 Colorfastness to Non-Chlorine Bleach in Home Laundering
 - 187 Dimensional Changes of Fabrics: Accelerated
 - 188 Colorfastness to Sodium Hyperchlorite Bleach in Home Laundering
 - Evaluation Procedure 1 Gray Scale for Color Change
 - Evaluation Procedure 2 Gray Scale for Staining
 - Evaluation Procedure 9 Visual Assessment of Color Difference of Textiles

NOTE 1—Reference to test methods in this specification give only the permanent part of the designation of ASTM, AATCC, or other test methods. The current editions of each test method cited shall prevail.

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

⁴ Available from American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists, P.O. Box 12215, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.63 on Home Furnishings.

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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.

³ *Discontinued*—See 1979 *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Part 32.

3.2 For definitions of other textile terms used in this specification, refer to Terminology D 123 and to the Technical Manual of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists.⁴

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Fabrics intended for this end-use should meet all of the requirements listed in Table 1.

4.2 It should be recognized that fabric can be produced utilizing an almost infinite number of construction variables (e.g., type of fibers, percentage of fibers, yarn twist, yarn number, warp and pick count, chemical and mechanical finished). Additionally, fashion and aesthetics dictate that the ultimate consumer may find acceptable articles made from fabrics that do not conform to all of the requirements in Table 1.

4.2.1 Hence, no single performance specification can possibly apply to all the various fabrics that could be utilized for this end-use.

4.3 The uses and significance of particular properties and test methods are discussed in the appropriate sections of the specified test methods.

5. Test Methods (Note 1)

5.1 *Breaking Force* (Woven Fabrics Only)—Determine the dry breaking force (load) as directed in the grab test procedure of Test Method D 5034, using a constant- rate- of -extension (CRE) tensile testing machine.

NOTE 2—If preferred a constant-rate-of-traverse (CRT) tensile testing machine may be used. There may be no overall correlation between the results obtained with the CRT machine and with the CRE machine. Consequently, these two breaking load testers cannot be used interchangeably. In case of controversy, the CRE method shall prevail.

5.2 *Bursting Pressure* (Knit Fabrics Only)—Determine the bursting strength of knit fabrics as directed in Methods D 231 using an approved type of diaphragm bursting tester or an

TABLE 1 Performance Requirements

Characteristics	Knit and Lace	Sheer (woven)	Foam Back, Stitch Bonded, and Conventional Weights (woven)	Section
Breaking strength (load), (CRT method), in both directions ^A	...	67 N (15 lbf), min	89 N (20 lbf), min	5.1
Bursting strength (ball burst) ^A	138 kPa (20 lbf/in. ²), min	...	...	5.2
Tear strength (tongue tear), in both directions ^A	...	4.4 N (1 lbf), min	6.7 N (1.5 lbf), min	5.3
Dimensional change:				
After 5 launderings in both directions	3.0 % max +0.0%	3.0 % max 0.0%	3.0 % max +0.0%	5.4.1
After 3 dry cleanings in both directions	3.0 % max +0.0%	3.0 % max +0.0%	3.0 % max +0.0 %	5.4.2
Distortion of yarn:				
1-lbf load	...	2.54 mm (0.1 in.), max	...	5.5
2-lbf load	...	...	2.54 mm (0.1 in.), max	
Colorfastness to laundering: ^B				
Shade Change	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	5.6.1
Staining	Class 3 ^D min	Class 3 ^D min	Class 3 ^D min	
Colorfastness to dry cleaning:				
Shade change	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	5.6.2
Burnt gas fumes, 2 cycles:				
Shade change	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	5.6.3
After 1 refurbishing	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	
Crocking:				
Dry	Class 4 ^E min	Class 4 ^E min	Class 4 ^E min	5.6.4
Wet	Class 3 ^E min	Class 3 ^E min	Class 3 ^E min	
Light (60 AATCC FU), xenon ^A	Step 4 ^C min	Step 4 ^C min	Step 4 ^C min	5.6.5
Ozone, 1 cycle	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	Class 4 ^C min	5.6.6
Fabric appearance	SA 3.5 ^F min	SA 3.0 min	SA 3.5 min	5.7
Retention of hand, character, and appearance	No significant change	No significant change	No significant change	5.8
Durability of back coating	No significant change	No significant change	No significant change	5.9
Flammability	pass	pass	pass	5.10
Light degradation ^G	...	...	...	5.11

^A There is more than one standard test method that can be used to measure breaking strength, bursting strength, tear strength, and lightfastness. These test methods cannot be used interchangeably since there may be no overall correlation between them (see Note 2, Note 3, Note 4, Note 5, and Note 9).

^B Class in colorfastness and SA rating is based on a numerical scale of 5.0 for negligible color change, color transfer, or wrinkling to 1.0 for very severe color change, color transfer, or wrinkling. The numerical rating in Table 1 or higher is acceptable.

^C AATCC Gray Scale for Color Change.

^D AATCC Gray Scale for Staining.

^E AATCC Chromatic Transference Scale.

^F For durable-press fabrics only.

^G The development of a standard method has been referred to the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists.