



Standard Specification for Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Siding¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 3679; 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.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification establishes requirements and test methods for the materials, dimensions, warp, shrinkage, impact strength, expansion, appearance, and windload resistance of extruded single-wall siding manufactured from rigid (unplasticized) PVC compound. Methods of indicating compliance with this specification are also provided.

1.2 The use PVC recycled plastic in this product shall be in accordance with the requirements in Section 4.

1.3 Rigid (unplasticized) PVC soffit is covered in Specification D 4477.

1.4 Siding produced to this specification shall be installed in accordance with Practice D 4756. Reference shall also be made to the manufacturer's installation instructions for the specific product to be installed.

NOTE 1—Information with regard to siding maintenance shall be obtained from the manufacturer.

1.5 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The SI units given in parentheses are for information purposes only.

1.6 The following precautionary caveat pertains to the test method portion only, Section 6, of this specification: *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.*

NOTE 2—There is no known ISO equivalent to this standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D20 on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D20.24 on Plastic Building Products.

Current edition approved Sept. 1, 2004. Published October 2004. Originally approved in 1979. Last previous edition approved in 2004 as D 3679 – 04.

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.

D 374 Test Methods for Thickness of Solid Electrical Insulation

D 618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing

D 635 Test Method for Rate of Burning and/or Extent and Time of Burning of Plastics in a Horizontal Position

D 696 Test Method for Coefficient of Linear Expansion of Linear Thermal Expansion of Plastics Between -30°C and 30°C with a Vitreous Silica Dilatometer

D 883 Terminology Relating to Plastics

D 1042 Test Method for Linear Dimensional Changes of Plastics Under Accelerated Service Conditions

D 1435 Practice for Outdoor Weathering of Plastics

D 1600 Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics

D 2244 Practice for Calculation of Color Tolerance and Color Differences from Instrumentally Measured Color Coordinates

D 2457 Test Method for Specular Gloss of Plastic Films and Solid Plastics

D 3892 Practice for Packaging/Packing of Plastics

D 4226 Test Methods for Impact Resistance of Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Building Products

D 4477 Specification for Rigid (Unplasticized) Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Soffit

D 4756 Practice for the Installation of Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Siding and Soffit

D 5033 Guide for the Development of ASTM Standards Relating to Recycling and Use of Recycled Plastics

D 5206 Test Method for the Windload Resistance of Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Siding

E 631 Terminology of Building Constructions

E 805 Practice for Identification of Instrumental Methods of Color or Color-Difference of Materials

2.2 ASCE Standard:

ASCE 7-98 Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures³

³ Available from the American Society of Civil Engineers, 1801 Alexander Bell Dr., Reston, VA 20191-4400.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard.

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions are in accordance with Terminologies D 883, E 631, and D 1600, unless otherwise specified.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *nominal*—the value that a manufacturer consistently uses to represent a specific property or dimension of a vinyl siding product in public claims including, but not limited to, product literature, advertisements, quotations, and certificates of conformance.

3.2.2 *process average thickness*—the rolling, arithmetic mean of average specimen thicknesses measured according to 6.5 for a specific product during all productions runs for the most recent six month period.

3.2.3 *temperate northern climate— in weather testing*, a North American metropolitan area testing site located within 73 to 100°W longitude and 37 to 45°N latitude.

3.2.4 *vinyl siding*—a shaped material, made principally from rigid poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC), that is used to clad exterior walls of buildings.

3.2.5 *Discussion*—Any exception to a homogeneous rigid PVC compound is present in a coextruded or laminated capstock.

4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 The siding shall be made of one or more layers of poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) compound. Any layers of materials other than poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) compound shall be kept to less than 20% by volume.

4.2 Where rigid PVC recycled plastic as defined in Guide D 5033 is used, the siding containing the PVC recycled plastic shall meet all of the requirements of Section 3, Terminology; Section 4, Materials and Manufacture; and Section 5, Physical Requirements.

4.3 The poly(vinyl chloride) siding material, when tested in accordance with Test Method D 635, shall not exceed an average extent of burn of 4 in. (100 mm), with an average time of burn not to exceed 10 s. A minimum sample thickness of 0.035 in. (0.9 mm) is required.

NOTE 3—**Caution:** The flammability testing data, conclusions, and recommendations of Test Method D 635 related solely to the measurement and description of properties for classification of the poly(vinyl chloride) siding material in response to flame under controlled laboratory conditions and shall not be used for the description or appraisal of the fire hazard of vinyl siding under actual fire conditions.

4.4 The PVC compound when extruded into siding shall maintain uniform color and be free of any visual surface or structural changes, such as peeling, chipping, cracking, flaking, or pitting.

4.5 The PVC compound shall be compounded so as to provide the heat stability and weather exposure stability required for the siding market application.

5. Physical Requirements Physical Requirements

5.1 *Length and Width*—The nominal length and width of the siding shall be as agreed upon between the purchaser and the seller. The actual length shall not be less than ¼ in. (6.4 mm) of the nominal length and the actual width shall be within $\pm 1/16$ in. (1.6 mm) of the nominal width when measured in accordance with 6.3 and 6.4.

5.2 *Thickness*—These requirements pertain only to measurements of the portions of the siding that are exposed after installation of the panel, measured in accordance with the procedure in 6.5. The average thickness of each specimen shall be no less than 0.035 in. No individual measurement shall be thinner than 0.003 in. below the nominal thickness. The process average thickness as defined in 3.2.2 shall be no thinner than 0.001 in. below the nominal thickness.

5.3 *Camber*—A full length of siding (typically 10 or 12 ft (3.05 or 3.61 m)) shall not have a camber greater than ¼ in. (3.2 mm) when measured in accordance with 6.6.

5.4 *Heat Shrinkage*—The average heat shrinkage shall not exceed 3.0 % when determined by the method described in 6.7.

5.5 *Impact Resistance*—Siding shall have a minimum impact strength of 60 in.-lbf (6.78 J) when tested in accordance with 6.8.

5.6 *Coefficient of Linear Expansion*—The siding shall have a coefficient of linear expansion not greater than 4.5 by 10^{-5} in./in./°F (8.1 by 10^{-5} mm/mm/°C) when tested in accordance with 6.9.

5.7 *Gloss*—The gloss of smooth and embossed siding shall be uniform across the exposed surface. Variations in the glossmeter readings for smooth siding shall not be more than ± 10 % or ± 5.0 points (whichever is greater). Variations for embossed siding shall not be more than ± 20 % or ± 10.0 points (whichever is greater). Gloss of smooth and embossed siding shall be tested in accordance with 6.11.

5.8 *Surface Distortion*—The siding shall be free of bulges, waves, and ripples when tested to a minimum temperature of 120°F (49°C) in accordance with the procedure in 6.12. This distortion is called “oil-canning.”

5.9 *Color*—The color of the siding shall be within the defined color space parameters for the specific color agreed upon between the purchaser and the manufacturer. The color specified shall be uniform on the surface of the siding panels, except in the case of multicolored woodgrain panels.

5.9.1 *Uniformity of Color*—When tested in accordance with 6.13, the total color change, ΔE , between a production specimen and the appropriate reference specimen or agreed-upon color coordinates shall not vary by more than 1.5, and the chromatic coordinates thereof shall not change by more than $\pm \Delta a_H = 1.0$ and $\pm \Delta b_H = 1.0$.

5.10 *Weathering:*

5.10.1 The siding shall maintain a uniform color and be free of any visual surface or structural changes such as peeling, chipping, cracking, flaking, and pitting when tested in accordance with 6.10.

NOTE 4—Weathering-conformance-testing requirements are to reflect performance of a “typical” extrusion siding profile representing a specific color of PVC compound and a specific extrusion technology. In no case is there an implied requirement for testing all the various shaped and sized siding profiles produced in this color. The lengthy outdoor weatherability testing for new products may be performed concurrently with market development and sales of siding to existing markets. Completion of weatherability testing prior to marketing of the product is not required.

5.11 *Windload Resistance*—The siding panel(s) shall be able to withstand a minimum static test pressure of 17.2 lbf/ft² (824 Pa) when tested in accordance with 6.14.

5.11.1 The static test pressure of 17.2 lbf/ft² (824 Pa) was established to withstand structural loading conditions that occur in 90 mph (145 km/h) wind-zone areas for elevations of 30 ft (9.1 m) and less in exposure category B, and is equivalent to 22.9 lbf/ft² (1096 Pa) design pressure.

5.11.1.1 The design-pressure values can be negative (suction loads) or positive. The negative values are the largest in magnitude and are the values used in this specification.

NOTE 5—In that the siding is being tested as a weather-resistant exterior product applied to an existing exterior structural wall, forces (negative) working to pull the siding off the wall, fasteners, or disengage locks will be the most important criteria for testing. Positive wind forces test the integrity of the total wall sections, and do not provide a measure of the performance of the siding.

5.11.2 Refer to **Annex A1** for an explanation as to how the 22.9 lbf/ft² (1096 Pa) design pressure was established, and for applications where the effective design pressure as specified in ASCE 7-98 is greater than 22.9 lbf/ft² (1096 Pa) (for example, wind-zone areas greater than 90 mph (145 km/h) or elevations above 30 ft (9.1 m), or exposures other than exposure category B).

6. Test Methods

6.1 *General*—The inspection and test procedures contained in this section are used to determine the conformance of products to the requirements of this specification. Each producer who represents its products as conforming to this specification shall be permitted to use statistically based sampling plans that are appropriate for each manufacturing process, but shall keep the essential records necessary to document, with a high degree of assurance, his claim that all of the requirements of this specification have been met. Additional sampling and testing of the product, as agreed upon between the purchaser and the manufacturer, are not precluded by this section.

6.2 *Conditioning and Test Conditions*—Condition the test specimen in accordance with Procedure A of Practice **D 618** and test under those conditions, unless otherwise specified herein.

6.3 *Length*—Lay the specimen on a flat surface and measure with a steel tape. Measure the length of a siding panel to the nearest 1/16 in. (1.6 mm) at the center, the butt edge, and the bottom of the top lock. The average of the three measurements is the actual length.

6.4 *Width*—Interlock two 2-ft (610-mm) long specimens in the normal mode for installation. Lay the two specimens on a flat surface. Measure to the nearest 1/16 in. (1.6 mm), the distance between the lowest butt edge of the top specimen and the lowest butt edge of the bottom specimen. Make a measurement at one end of the specimens and at 6-in. (152.4-mm) intervals along the entire length, making sure that the measurement is made perpendicular to the butt edge. Average the measurements. The average constitutes the exposed width of siding.

6.5 *Thickness*—Thickness shall be measured using an outside micrometer calibrated in inches that gives readings to the nearest 0.0005 in. or smaller. The micrometer shall be equipped with a ratchet or friction thimble to control the force applied during measurement, and shall be tightened on the

specimen using the ratchet knob or the friction thimble. The micrometer shall conform to the calibration requirements in Section 7 of Test Method **D 374**.

The thickness of the siding shall be measured at a minimum of 5 locations equally spaced across the entire portion of the siding that will be exposed after installation. All measurements shall be taken to the nearest 0.001 in. Calculate and report the average of these measurements. Also report the thinnest individual measurement.

6.6 *Camber*—Place a full length of siding (typically 10 or 12 ft (3.05 or 3.61 m)) on a flat surface alongside a straightedge at least as long as the siding specimen. Measure the maximum space between edge of the siding specimen and the straightedge for each edge to the nearest 1/16 in. (1.6 mm).

6.7 *Heat Shrinkage*:

6.7.1 *Apparatus*:

6.7.1.1 *Scriber*, similar to that described in Test Method **D 1042**, with the exception that the needle points shall be separated by 10 ± 0.01 in. (254 ± 0.254 mm).

6.7.1.2 *Test Media*, a controlled-temperature water bath of 5 gal (10 L) or more, equipped with an efficient stirrer that will maintain uniform temperature throughout. Heater and temperature-control devices must maintain the water at 160 ± 1°F (71 ± 0.5°C). Use a wire rack to raise and lower specimens into the water bath. As an alternative to the use of a water bath, the specimens may be heated for 30 min in a uniformly heated forced-air oven maintained at a temperature of 160 ± 1°F (71 ± 0.5°C).

6.7.1.3 Make measurements with any device capable of measuring the distance between two scribe marks to the nearest 0.01 in. (0.254 mm).

6.7.2 *Procedure*:

6.7.2.1 Cut three specimens from the siding panel, each 1 in. (25.4 mm) wide by 12 in. (305 mm) long. Cut one specimen from the center and one from each of the extreme edges of the flat surface. The long axis shall be parallel to the machine direction.

6.7.2.2 Condition specimens at 73.4 ± 3.6°F (23 ± 2°C) and 50 ± 5 % relative humidity for at least 24 h.

6.7.2.3 Make a slight mark with the scribe on each specimen so that a reference point will be clearly visible.

6.7.2.4 Place specimens in the test medium.

6.7.2.5 Remove specimens after 30 min and place on a flat surface until cool.

6.7.2.6 Repeat conditioning in accordance with **6.7.2.2**.

6.7.2.7 Make a second mark with the scribe on each specimen, using the same center.

6.7.2.8 Measure the distance, *D*, between the scribe marks to the nearest 0.01 in. (0.254 mm).

6.7.2.9 Calculate the percent shrinkage as $(D/10) \times 100$.

6.7.2.10 Report the average shrinkage of the three specimens tested.

6.8 *Impact Resistance*—Test impact resistance of siding in accordance with Test Method **D 4226**, Procedure A, impactor head configuration H.25. 4 in.-lb increments (0.5 in. height increments with 8 lb falling weight) shall be used. Minimum sample dimensions shall be 1.5 by 1.5 in. Samples shall be