



Designation: D5252 – 05

Standard Practice for the Operation of the Hexapod Tumble Drum Tester¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5252; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice describes the equipment and operation of the hexapod tumble drum tester for testing pile floor covering to produce changes in appearance and color due to changes in surface structure by mechanical action tester.

1.2 This practice is applicable for use in testing unused pile floor covering of all types. It is not applicable for use in testing used pile yarn floor coverings.

1.3 This practice may be used by mutual agreement between the purchaser and supplier to set purchasing specifications.

1.4 The values stated in either SI or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as the standard. Within the text, the inch-pound units are shown in parentheses. The values in each system must be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with this practice. In case of referee decisions, the SI units shall prevail.

1.5 *This practice 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 practice 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

D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles

D1776 Practice for Conditioning and Testing Textiles

D5684 Terminology Relating to Pile Floor Coverings

3. Terminology

3.1 For all terminology related to Pile Floor Coverings, D13.21, see Terminology D5684.

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.21 on Pile Floor Coverings.

Current edition approved March 1, 2005. Published April 2005. Originally approved in 1992. Last previous edition approved in 2003 as D5252 – 98a(2003). DOI: 10.1520/D5252-05.

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.

3.1.1 The following terms are relevant to this standard: carpet, finished, finished pile yarn floor covering, floor covering, lengthwise direction, pile, pile lay, pile yarn floor covering, pitch, practice, primary backing, secondary backing, textile floor covering, texture, tufted fabric.

3.2 For all other terminology related to textiles see Terminology D123.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 The specimen is secured to a backing sheet that is mounted inside the rotatable drum with the pile surface exposed. A metal hexapod, with six polyurethane studs, rolls randomly on the pile surface inside the rotating drum for a specified number of revolutions.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This equipment may be used to bring about the changes in appearance and texture on the surface of pile floor covering caused by mechanical action.

6. Apparatus, Materials, and Reagent

6.1 Hexapod Tumble Tester

6.1.1 *Drum*—Constructed of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and capped by a lid that is secured by a metal plate and wing nut. The drum base and lid have a locating groove to hold the specimen backing sheet flat to the inner wall of the drum. The drum dimensions are:

Internal Diameter	305 ± 1 mm	(12 ± 0.01 in.)
Wall Thickness	8 mm approx.	(0.3 in. approx.)
Internal Depth	200 ± 1 mm	(7.9 ± 0.01 in.)

6.1.2 *Driving System*, which cradles the drum on rollers and keeps the axis of the drum level, and rotates at 3.6 ± 0.2 rad/s (35 ± 2 rpm). The driving direction reverses every 15 min with approximately one-minute stationery time intervals.

6.1.3 *Hexapod Tumbler*—Comprised of a mild steel 50 ± 1 mm (1.97 ± 0.04 in.) cube with 25-mm (1-in.) thick plates welded to each side. The outside corners are welded such that when the studs are fitted and the hexapod placed on a flat surface, no metal touches the flat surface. A replaceable stud⁴ is screwed centrally in each face. Tumbler parameters are:

Diameter of Stud	40 ± 1 mm	(1.6 ± 0.04 in.)
------------------	-----------	------------------