



Standard Terminology Relating to Polishes and Related Materials¹

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

GENERAL

buffable—capable of improvement in gloss or general appearance, or both, of a polish film by a mechanical action.

build-up—condition resulting from lack of self-sensitivity in a polish, whereby new film deposits over old, with little or no self-cleaning action.

burnishing—enhancement of the appearance of a polish accomplished by dry mechanical abrasion with a suitable machine and accessories.

cleaning—removal of marks, dust, and other extraneous materials from the surface.

coagulum—an agglomerate of particles.

creaming—the separation of a layer of the dispersed phase of an emulsion polish to the surface of the liquid continuous phase.

depth of gloss—the optical phenomenon of relative depth perceived when viewing reflective surfaces.

detergent resistance—the degree to which a polish film exhibits no apparent deterioration when spotted or cleaned with a solution of a nonabrasive, nonammoniacal detergent.

distinctness of image—degree of clarity exhibited by images reflected from a surface.

drag—physical resistance to spreading of a polish.

dry bright polish—a polish that dries to a gloss without buffing.

ease of use—cumulative effect of drag encountered in application or removal, or both, and the amount of time required to achieve the desired finish.

film clarity—characteristic of a deposited film which permits an unobstructed view of the substrate.

gloss retention—maintenance of gloss of a film under normal use conditions.

haze—film whose clarity is impaired with varying degrees of opacity.

leveling—the property of a freshly spread polish to dry to a uniform and streak-free appearance.

mar—mutilation of polish film repairable only by recoating.

nonvolatiles—materials remaining after the loss of volatile components.

polish—a temporary coating that enhances the appearance and may protect the substrate to which it is applied.

recoatability—the application characteristics of a polish and the appearance of the film after successive coatings to a surface.

soil—solid foreign matter embedded in or adhered on the surface.

speed relating to rotary disc floor machines—low speed: up to 800 R.P.M., high speed: more than 800 R.P.M. but less than 1500 R.P.M., and ultra high speed: 1500 R.P.M. or more.

NOTE 1—Effectiveness of the floor machine depends upon machine weight and pad diameter as well as R.P.M.'s.

spreading—the action of flowing out over a surface during application.

stain—discoloration by foreign matter.

streaking—nonuniform deposition of a polish film.

volatile solvent—a nonaqueous liquid that evaporates readily at room temperature and atmospheric pressure.

water beading—surface property that causes the formation of discrete water droplets on the polished surface.

water spotting—change in appearance of surface resulting solely from the action of cool water.

wetting—the property of a polish to uniformly and completely contact the solid surface to which it is applied.

FLOOR POLISH

black marking—black marks on a flooring surface usually caused by the impact of the soles and heels of footwear.

buffing-type of floor polish—a floor polish that requires buffing to maintain or enhance appearance, or both.

fracture—a rupture or break of the polish film (usually multiple).

powdering—partial or total disintegration of the polish film resulting in a fine, light-colored material.

rubber heel marking—the mechanical transfer of coloring matter from rubber heels to surfaces.

scratch—damage resulting from the movement of a hard pointed object.

scuff—disfigurement of polish film resulting from the abrading

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-21 on Polishes and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D21.91 on Terminology and Editorial Review.

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