
Textiles — Dyestuffs —

Part 1:

**General principles of testing coloured
textiles for dyestuff identification**

Textiles — Colorants —

*Partie 1: Principes généraux d'essais des textiles colorés pour
l'identification des colorants*

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ISO 16373-1:2015

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ISO copyright office
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
www.iso.org

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

ISO 16373-1 was prepared by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 248, *Textiles and textile products*, in collaboration with ISO Technical Committee TC 38, *Textiles*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

ISO 16373 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Textiles — Dyestuffs*:

- *Part 1: General principles of testing coloured textiles for dyestuff identification*
- *Part 2: General method for the determination of extractable dyestuffs including allergenic and carcinogenic dyestuffs (method using pyridine-water)*
- *Part 3: Method for determination of certain carcinogenic dyestuffs (method using triethylamine/methanol)*

Introduction

The ISO 16373- series deals with dyes used in textiles for qualification and quantification.

This part of ISO 16373 includes the definition of the classes of dyes, the description of some procedures to identify qualitatively the class of dyes used in textile material.

The other parts of ISO 16373 are related to the quantification of some dyes.

- The principle of the test method in ISO 16373-2 is based on the extraction using pyridine-water solution, which has been found to be the most efficient solution to extract a large range of dyes, including allergenic and carcinogenic dyes.
- The principle of the test method in ISO 16373-3 is based on the extraction using triethylamine-methanol solution. This solution has been found efficient to extract some dyes in some cases.

Additional information related to the recovery rates (to characterize the extraction efficiency) obtained from the application of ISO 16373-2 and ISO 16373-3 are summarized in [Annex B](#).

It is important to note that there are other test methods related to azo dyes, for which a reduction of the extracted azo dyes leads to the release of some aromatic amines to be detected and determined using chromatography (See Bibliography/Aromatic amines determination).

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Textiles — Dyestuffs —

Part 1:

General principles of testing coloured textiles for dyestuff identification

WARNING — This document calls for the use of substances/procedures that may be injurious to the health/environment if appropriate conditions are not observed. It refers only to technical suitability and does not absolve the user from legal obligations relating to health and safety/environment at any stage.

1 Scope

This part of ISO 16373 gives the definition of the colourant classes and the relationship to textile fibres. It describes some procedures to identify qualitatively the colourant class used in textile material.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

ISO 5089, *Textiles — Preparation of laboratory test samples and test specimens for chemical testing*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

colourant

dye or pigment

3.2

dye

dyestuff

water-insoluble or water-soluble molecule which has dyeing affinity with fibre

Note 1 to entry: The defining difference between a dye and a pigment is its solubility in an aqueous medium. In this part of ISO 16373, the term “affinity” is used as a qualitative expression, although affinity is the quantitative expression of substantivity and usually expressed in Joules per mole, where substantivity is the attraction between a substrate and a dye or other substance under precise conditions where the latter is selectively extracted from the application medium by the substrate.

3.3

pigment

water-insoluble molecule which has no dyeing affinity with fibre

Note 1 to entry: The defining difference between a dye and a pigment is its solubility in an aqueous medium. In this part of ISO 16373, the term “affinity” is used as a qualitative expression, although affinity is the quantitative expression of substantivity and usually expressed in Joules per mole, where substantivity is the attraction between a substrate and a dye or other substance under precise conditions where the latter is selectively extracted from the application medium by the substrate.

4 Fibre identification

Prior to any colourant identification (including dye class), the fibre nature of the textile product shall be known. The fibre nature may be based on information given by manufacturer, etc. or can be identified, using one or more techniques as described in ISO/TR 11827, for example.

An explanatory table of colourants used in various textile materials is given in [Annex A](#).

5 Dye classes, based on the method of applying the dye

5.1 Acid dye

Acid dye is water-soluble anionic dye using neutral to acid dye baths. Attachment to the fibre (e.g. protein fibres and polyamide fibres) is attributed, at least partly, to salt formation between anionic groups in the dye and cationic groups in the fibre.

5.2 Metal complex acid dye

A metal complex dye is an acid dye that has a coordinate metal atom in its molecule.

5.2.1 1:1 Metal complex dye

1 molecule of dye is combined with 1 metal ion.

5.2.2 1:2 Metal complex dye

2 molecules of dye are combined with 1 metal ion. 1:2 metal complex dyes are the most frequent.

5.3 Azoic dye

Azoic dye is water-insoluble dye which is formed on the fibre by coupling a water-soluble diazo compound with a water soluble coupling compound having affinity for cellulose.

NOTE 1 The definition of the class “azoic dye” (‘dyers’ classification) is distinct from the definition of the class “azo dye” (see [Clause 6](#), chemist classification).

NOTE 2 For the French version, the term “azoic dye” should be translated by “colorant azoïque insoluble” (known as well as “colorant naphтол”) in order to make a clear distinction with the translation of “azo dye” by “colorant azoïque”.

5.4 Basic dye (also called cationic dye)

Basic dye is water-soluble cationic dye using neutral to acid dye baths. Attachment to the fibre (e.g. acrylic) is attributed, at least partly, to salt formation between cationic groups in the dye and anionic groups in the fibre.

5.5 Mordant dye

Dye capable of forming a chelate complex with a metal ion (e.g. chromium) thus forming a metal complex dye *in situ* within the fibre.

NOTE Due to the toxicity of residual chromium ions in waste water, this kind of treatment is usually strictly controlled.

5.6 Direct dye

An anionic dye that interacts with the fibre (e.g. cellulosic fibre, polyamide fibres) by mechanical adsorption, normally applied from an aqueous bath containing electrolyte

5.7 Disperse dye

A water insoluble dye having affinity for hydrophobic fibres (e.g. polyester and acetate fibres).

NOTE The dyes are finely ground in the presence of a dispersing agent and sold as a paste, or spray-dried and sold as a powder. The very fine particle size gives a large surface area that aids dissolution to allow uptake by the fibre.

5.8 Reactive dye

5.8.1 General

Reactive dye contains specific reactive groups that are capable of chemically reacting with the fibre substrate to form a covalent chemical bond between the dye and the fibre.

5.8.2 Anthraquinone reactive dye ISO 16373-1:2015

Anthraquinone reactive dye is a sub-class of reactive dyes where the chromophore part is based on anthraquinones.

5.9 Sulfur dye

Sulfur dye is water insoluble. It has to be treated with a reducing agent and an alkali at temperature of around 80 °C where the dye breaks into small particles which then becomes water soluble and hence can be absorbed by the fibre. After this, the textile product is removed from the dye solution and then taken for oxidation. During the oxidation step the small particles of dye once more form the parent dye which is insoluble in water.

5.10 VAT dye

VAT dye is essentially insoluble in water and incapable of dyeing fibres directly. However, reduction in alkaline liquor produces the water soluble alkali metal salt of the dye, which, in this leuco form, has an affinity for the textile fibre. Subsequent oxidation reforms the original insoluble dye.

6 Complementary dye class, based on chemist classification: Azo dye

Azo dye is dye bearing the functional group $R-N=N-R'$, in which R and R' can be either aryl or alkyl. The $N=N$ group is called an azo group.

NOTE 1 For example, some acid dyes (5.1, 5.2), some direct dyes (5.6), some disperse dyes (5.7), some reactive dyes (5.8), etc. are also azo dyes.

NOTE 2 The definition of the class "azo dye" (chemist classification) is distinct from the definition of the class "azoic dye" (5.3, dyers' classification).

7 Reagents

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade.

7.1 **Water**, grade 3 in accordance with ISO 3696.

7.2 **Ammonia solution**, concentrated.

7.3 **Acetic acid**, 5 % or 30 % in weight.

7.4 **Tannic acid**.

7.5 **Sodium hydroxide solution**, 5 % or 20 % in weight.

7.6 **Sodium formaldehyde sulfoxylate**.

7.7 **Sulfuric acid**, concentrated or 5 % in weight.

7.8 **Carbazole**.

7.9 **Hydrogen peroxide**, 30 % in weight.

7.10 **Sodium dithionite**.

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7.11 **Hydrochloric acid**, 16 % in weight.

7.12 **Magnesium ribbon**. <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/21ce0293-7401-40f7-8756-d0ed2794bff3/iso-16373-1-2015>

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7.13 **Zinc dust**.

7.14 **Lead acetate paper**.

7.15 **Hypochlorite solution**, at various commercial concentrations.

7.16 **Pyridine**.

7.17 **Pyridine-water solution**, 50:50.

7.18 **Non-ionic detergent**.

7.19 **Scoured wool fabric**.

7.20 **Scoured cotton fabric**.

7.21 **Scoured secondary acetate fabric**.

7.22 **Ethylene diamine tetra-acetic acid disodium salt**.

7.23 **Glycerol**.

7.24 **Diethyl ether**.

7.25 Liquid paraffin.

7.26 Toluene.

8 Apparatus

8.1 Test tubes, watch glass, and other laboratory glassware.

8.2 Ceramic crucible.

8.3 Balance, accurate to 0,1 g.

9 Conditioning and testing atmosphere

Because dye classes are determined, it is unnecessary to condition the specimen. The analysis is carried out under ordinary room conditions.

10 Preparation of the test specimens

The test specimens are prepared in accordance with ISO 5089.

11 Procedures (examples)

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11.1 Pigment identification

Look at the fibres under a microscope. ^{ISO 16373-1:2015} If there is a layer of dye visible on the surface of the fibre and if the fibre is not dyed deep inside, it is typical of pigment dyeing.

11.2 Finishing removal treatment

Remove final chemical finishes by treating the sample twice in a boiling solution of 1 % of hydrochloric acid during about 5 min, then rinse thoroughly.

11.3 Acid dyes, basic, direct dyes and reactive dyes

See [Table 1](#).

11.4 VAT dyes, sulfur dyes, reactive dyes, aniline black, azoic dyes, direct dyes, developed disperse dyes and chrome dyes

See [Table 2](#).

11.5 Metal-complex dyes and disperse dyes

See [Table 3](#).

11.6 Extraction test

See [Table 4](#).

11.7 Ash test

See [Table 5](#).