



Designation: D 4720 – 87 (Reapproved 2000)

## Standard Practice for Evaluation of the Performance of Soft Window Coverings<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 4720; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

### 1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the evaluation of specific performance characteristics of any washable or drycleanable soft window covering.

1.2 This practice is not a specification for washable or drycleanable soft window coverings but may be used by mutual agreement between the purchaser and the supplier to establish material specifications.

1.3 *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:

- D 123 Terminology Relating to Textiles<sup>2</sup>
- D 1683 Test Method for Failure in Sewn Seams of Woven Fabrics<sup>2</sup>
- D 1776 Practice for Conditioning Textiles for Testing<sup>2</sup>
- D 3136 Terminology for Permanent Care Labels for Consumer Textile and Leather Products Other Than Carpet and Upholstery<sup>2</sup>
- D 3691 Performance Specification for Woven, Lace, and Knit Household Curtain and Drapery Fabrics<sup>3</sup>
- D 3773 Test Methods for Length of Woven Fabric<sup>3</sup>
- D 3940 Test Method for Bursting Strength (Load) and Elongation of Sewn Seams of Knit or Woven Stretch Textile Fabrics<sup>3</sup>

#### 2.2 AATCC Methods:<sup>4</sup>

- AATCC 88B Appearance of Seams in Durable Press Items after Repeated Home Laundering
- AATCC 135 Dimensional Changes in Automatic Home Laundering of Woven and Knit Fabrics

- AATCC 143 Appearance of Apparel and Other Textile End Products after Repeated Home Laundering
- AATCC 158 Dimensional Changes on Drycleaning in Perchloroethylene: Machine Method

### 3. Terminology

#### 3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *soft window coverings, n*—curtains, draperies, or other accessories on wall or window openings that are either lined or unlined and primarily constructed of textile fabrics.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—Washable soft window coverings include those that can be refurbished by any procedure in which the cleaning solvent is water. Drycleanable soft window coverings include those that should be refurbished by any procedure in which the cleaning solvent is primarily nonaqueous and used in drycleaning.

3.2 For definitions of textile terms used in this practice refer to Terminology D 123 and Terminology D 3136.

### 4. Significance and Use

4.1 This practice may be used to evaluate pertinent performance characteristics of washable and drycleanable soft window coverings, whether lined or unlined.

4.1.1 Soft window covering characteristics to be evaluated prior to repeated refurbishing include, but are not limited to, seam strength and appearance, uniformity of shade (part to part), and size consistency (side to side and part to part).

4.1.2 Soft window covering characteristics to be evaluated after repeated refurbishing include, but are not limited to, colorfastness, dimensional change, seam strength, appearance, and compatibility of components. Compatibility of dimensional change between drapery fabric and lining should be noted.

4.2 The specified home laundry machine settings do not reflect advances in cycle design or special features of washer and dryers which enhance the performance of these products. The standard washing and drying procedure reflects the minimum capabilities of current home laundering equipment used by consumers in accordance with care label instructions.

4.2.1 The reproducibility of the results of the test method specified in 9.2 depends on the use of procedures for automatic home laundering as specified on care labels.

<sup>1</sup> This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.63 on Home Furnishings. Current edition approved July 31, 1987. Published September 1987.

<sup>2</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 07.01.

<sup>3</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 07.02.

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