



Designation: D 4798 – 08

Standard Practice for Accelerated Weathering Test Conditions and Procedures for Bituminous Materials (Xenon-Arc Method)¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers test conditions and procedures for xenon-arc exposures according to Practices **G 151** and **G 155** for bituminous roofing and waterproofing materials that have a minimum softening point of approximately 95°C (200°F) as determined by Test Method **D 36**. (Also see Terminology **G 113**.)

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

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:*²

D 36 Test Method for Softening Point of Bitumen (Ring-and-Ball Apparatus)

D 1669 Practice for Preparation of Test Panels for Accelerated and Outdoor Weathering of Bituminous Coatings

D 1670 Test Method for Failure End Point in Accelerated and Outdoor Weathering of Bituminous Materials

G 113 Terminology Relating to Natural and Artificial Weathering Tests of Nonmetallic Materials

G 141 Guide for Addressing Variability in Exposure Testing of Nonmetallic Materials

G 147 Practice for Conditioning and Handling of Nonmetallic Materials for Natural and Artificial Weathering Tests

G 151 Practice for Exposing Nonmetallic Materials in Accelerated Test Devices that Use Laboratory Light Sources

G 155 Practice for Operating Xenon Arc Light Apparatus

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D08 on Roofing and Waterproofing and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D08.02 on Prepared Roofings, Shingles and Siding Materials.

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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.

for Exposure of Non-Metallic Materials

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 Thin films of bitumen are uniformly applied to aluminum panels. Shingles and similar products are cut to size and exposed to specified cycles of temperature, light, and water. A choice of two test cycles is given along with options for determining the period of exposure and evaluating results.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 It is not possible to establish a precise correlation between accelerated and natural weathering because (1) there are geographical climatic variations, local weather variations, and variations in local pollutants, and (2) the relation between accelerated and natural weathering is material dependent with differences in acceleration factors between materials as well as for different formulations of the same material. This weathering apparatus and procedure are used for comparing the weathering characteristics of bituminous materials against a control material for which the outdoor weathering characteristics are known. Guide **G 141** provides guidance regarding this issue.

NOTE 1—This practice can be used for other than bituminous materials, but the significance and use have not been evaluated.

5. Apparatus

5.1 The xenon-arc apparatus used shall conform to the requirements defined in Practices **G 151** and **G 155**.

5.2 *Filters*—Daylight filter as described in Practice **G 155**.

5.3 *Radiometer*—The use of a radiometer to monitor and control the amount of radiant energy received at the specimen is required. The use of the radiometer shall comply with the requirements in Practice **G 151**.

6. Test Specimens

6.1 Unless otherwise agreed upon, test specimens shall be approximately 70 by 150 mm (2¾ by 5⅞ in.). Bituminous materials shall be applied as uniform coatings on aluminum panels in accordance with Practice **D 1669**. Fabricated materials such as bituminous roofing, shingles, and similar products shall be cut to size and their weather surfaces exposed. If these