



Designation: D4156 – 01(Reapproved 2008)

Standard Performance Specification for Women's and Girls' Knitted Sportswear Fabrics¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This performance specification covers knitted fabrics comprised of any textile fiber or mixture of fibers, used in women's and girl's sportswear.

1.2 These requirements apply to the length and width directions for those properties where each fabric direction is pertinent.

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

- D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles
- D2594 Test Method for Stretch Properties of Knitted Fabrics Having Low Power
- D2724 Test Methods for Bonded, Fused, and Laminated Apparel Fabrics
- D3786 Test Method for Bursting Strength of Textile Fabrics—Diaphragm Bursting Strength Tester Method
- D3787 Test Method for Bursting Strength of Textiles—Constant-Rate-of-Traversal (CRT) Ball Burst Test

2.2 AATCC Methods:³

- 8 Colorfastness to Crocking: AATCC Crockmeter Method
- 15 Colorfastness to Perspiration
- 16 Colorfastness to Light
- 23 Colorfastness to Burnt Gas Fumes
- 61 Colorfastness to Washing, Domestic, and Laundering, Commercial: Accelerated

- 116 Colorfastness to Crocking: Rotary Vertical Crockmeter Method
- 124 1978 Appearance of Durable Press Fabrics after Repeated Home Launderings
- 132 Colorfastness to Drycleaning
- 135 Dimensional Changes in Automatic Home Laundering of Durable Press Woven or Knit Fabrics
- 172 Colorfastness to Non-chlorine Bleach in Home Laundering
- 188 Colorfastness to Chlorine Bleach in Home Laundering Evaluation Procedure 1 Gray Scale for Color Change Evaluation Procedure 2 Gray Scale for Staining Evaluation Procedure 3 AATCC Chromatic Transference Scale

2.3 Federal Standard:⁴

- 16 CFR, Chapter II—Consumer Product Safety Commission Subchapter D—Flammable Fabrics Act Regulations.

2.4 Military Standard:⁵

- MIL-STD-105D Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes

NOTE 1—Reference to test methods in this standard give only the permanent part of the designation of ASTM, AATCC, or other test methods. The current editions of each test method cited shall prevail.

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *sheer, n*—a fabric that is transparently thin or diaphanous.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—There is no clear distinction between sheer fabrics and nonsheer fabrics. The purchaser and the seller should agree in advance as to which category a fabric is to be classified.

3.2 For definitions of other textile terms used in this performance specification, refer to the individual ASTM and AATCC test methods and to Terminology D123.

4. Specification Requirements

4.1 The properties of knitted fabrics for women's and girls' sportswear shall conform to the specification requirements in Table 1.

⁴ Available from Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

⁵ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Attn: NPODS.

¹ This performance specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.61 on Apparel.

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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.

³ Available from American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), P.O. Box 12215, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, <http://www.aatcc.org>.

TABLE 1 Specification Requirements

NOTE 1—Class in colorfastness is based on a numerical scale of 5 for negligible color change or color transfer to 1 for very severe color change or color transfer.

Characteristic	Requirements		Section
	Sheer Fabric	Nonsheer Fabrics	
Bursting strength (ball burst) ^A	133 N (30 lbf), min	222 N (50 lbf), min	7.1
Dimensional change:			
Pressing and finishing	2 % max	2 % max	7.2.1
Laundering (see 7.2.2.2)	3 % max	3 % max	7.2.2
Drycleaning	3 % max	3 % max	7.2.3
Colorfastness:			
Burnt gas fumes, 2 cycles:			7.3.1
Shade change, original	Class 4 ^B min	Class 4 ^B min	
Shade change, after laundering or one drycleaning	Class 4 ^B min	Class 4 ^B min	
Laundering:			7.3.2
Shade change	Class 4 ^B min	Class 4 ^B min	
Staining	Class 3 ^C min	Class 3 ^C min	
Drycleaning:			7.3.3
Shade change	Class 4 ^B min	Class 4 ^B min	
Crocking:			7.3.4
Dry	Class 4 ^D min	Class 4 ^D min	
Wet	Class 3 ^D min	Class 3 ^D min	
Perspiration			7.3.5
Shade change	Class 4 ^B min	Class 4 ^B min	
Staining	Class 3 ^C min	Class 3 ^C min	
Light (40AATCC FU) (xenon-arc)	Step 4 ^B min	Step 4 ^B min	7.3.6
Chlorine Bleach	Class 4 ^B , min	Class 4 ^B , min	7.3.7
Non-chlorine Bleach	Class 4 ^B , min	Class 4 ^B , min	7.3.8
Fabric appearance (see 7.4.1.1)	DP 3.5 min	DP 3.5 min	7.4
Flammability	pass	pass	7.5

^A There is more than one standard method that can be used to measure bursting strength, and lightfastness. These methods cannot be used interchangeably since there may be no overall correlation between them (see Note 2, Note 3, and Note 8).

^B AATCC Gray Scale for Color Change.

^C AATCC Gray Scale for Staining.

^D AATCC Chromatic Transference Scale.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Upon mutual agreement between the purchaser and the seller, fabrics intended for this end use should meet all of the requirements listed in Table 1 of this performance specification.

5.2 It is recognized that for purposes of fashion or aesthetics the ultimate consumer of articles made from these fabrics may find acceptable fabrics that do not conform to all of the requirements in Table 1. Therefore, one or more of the requirements listed in Table 1 may be modified by mutual agreement between the purchaser and the seller.

5.2.1 In such cases, any references to the specification shall specify that: “This fabric meets ASTM Specification D4156 except for the following characteristic(s).”

5.3 Where no prepurchase agreement has been reached between the purchaser and the seller, and in case of controversy, the requirements listed in Table 1 are intended to be used as a guide only. As noted in 5.2, ultimate consumer demands dictate varying performance parameters for any particular style of fabric.

5.4 The uses and significance of particular properties and test methods are discussed in the appropriate sections of the specified test methods.

6. Sampling

6.1 *Lot Sample*—As a lot sample for acceptance testing, take at random the number of rolls as directed in an applicable

specification or other agreement between the purchaser and the supplier, such as an agreement to use MIL-STD-105D.

6.2 *Laboratory Sample*—From each roll or piece in the lot sample, cut two laboratory samples the full width of the fabric and at least 375 mm (15 in.) along the selvage,

7. Test Methods (See Note 1)

7.1 *Bursting Strength*—Determine the bursting strength as directed in Test Methods D3786 or D3787 as agreed between the purchaser and the seller.

NOTE 2—Care should be taken to subtract the tare diaphragm pressure from the gross pressure to obtain actual bursting strength of fabric when using the diaphragm bursting tester. Calibrate the equipment according to the manufacturer’s instruction before use. Since there is no overall correlation between the results obtained with the CRT machine equipped with a bursting attachment and the diaphragm bursting tester, these two bursting testers cannot be used interchangeably. In case of controversy, Test Method D3786 shall prevail.

NOTE 3—The precision of the ball burst method using the CRT machine equipped with a bursting attachment and the precision of the diaphragm bursting tester method are being established by Subcommittee D13.59. The methods are accordingly not recommended for acceptance testing unless preceded by an interlaboratory test in the laboratory of the purchaser and the laboratory of the seller using randomized replicate specimens of the type of material to be evaluated.

7.2 Dimensional Change:

7.2.1 *Pressing and Finishing During Garment Manufacturing*—Mark specimen(s) as directed in Section 4.5 of AATCC Method 135. Press and finish specimen(s) as agreed