



Designation: C550 – 03 (Reapproved 2009)

Standard Test Method for Measuring Trueness and Squareness of Rigid Block and Board Thermal Insulation¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C550; 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 reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

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

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers locations for measuring the trueness and squareness of rigid block/board thermal insulation. This test method does not purport to address the variability in board thickness. Thickness is addressed in other ASTM standards.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

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

[C168 Terminology Relating to Thermal Insulation](#)

[C390 Practice for Sampling and Acceptance of Thermal Insulation Lots](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in this test method, refer to Terminology [C168](#).

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *squareness*—the lack of deviation from a right angle.

3.2.2 *trueness*—the lack of deviation from straightness or flatness.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Insulating blocks or boards that are not true or square may not fit properly. Extra labor may be required to obtain proper fit and may affect the product performance as well as the appearance of the finished installation.

4.2 This test method provides terminology and describes locations for obtaining consistent measurements of trueness and squareness of blocks and boards.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Straightedge*, minimum length equal to the maximum dimension of the block or board with a maximum out of trueness of ± 0.003 in./ft (± 0.25 mm/m).

5.2 *Rigid Ruler*, graduated to 0.03 in. (1.0 mm) or finer.

5.3 *Square*, shall have sides at least as long as the longest side of the block. If the longest side of the block is greater than 20 in. (500 mm), then the length of the square must be at least 20 in. (500 mm). The maximum deviation from 90° shall be no more than ± 3 min (± 0.9 mrad).

5.4 *Flat Surface*, large enough to accommodate the block or board in its full length and width dimensions, with a trueness of ± 0.008 in./ft (± 0.65 mm/m).

5.5 *Feeler Gage Set*, from 0.001 to 0.020 in. (0.03 to 0.50 mm).

5.6 *Tape Measure*, steel, long enough to measure the longest side of the block, graduated in 0.031 in. (1 mm) intervals.

6. Test Specimens

6.1 The test specimens shall be of commercial size.

6.2 The number of test specimens shall be defined by the appropriate product specification.

6.3 When the appropriate product specification does not cover sampling, samples shall be selected in accordance with Practice [C390](#) inspection requirements.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [C16](#) on Thermal Insulation and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [C16.32](#) on Mechanical Properties.

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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.