



Standard Specification for Photoluminescent (Phosphorescent) Safety Markings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2072; 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 specification covers minimum photometric requirements for newly applied photoluminescent (phosphorescent) safety materials used to provide supplemental markings of escape routes, emergency equipment, and obstructions along the escape route. (see also Test Method E2073 and Guide E2030).

1.2 This specification establishes minimum luminance values for photoluminescent (phosphorescent) markings.

1.3 This specification applies to all types of photoluminescent (phosphorescent) markings, including but not limited to plastics, coatings, ceramics, films, etc.

1.4 This specification does not cover potentially diminished performance due to wear and tear and aging.

1.5 This specification applies only to photoluminescent (phosphorescent) markings emitting the majority of spectral energy within the 515 to 535 nanometer range.

1.6 When reference is made regarding photoluminescence in the text of this standard, it implies phosphorescence.

1.7 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.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

E284 [Terminology of Appearance](#)

E1316 [Terminology for Nondestructive Examinations](#)

E2030 [Guide for Recommended Uses of Photoluminescent \(Phosphorescent\) Safety Markings](#)

E2073 [Test Method for Photopic Luminance of Photoluminescent \(Phosphorescent\) Markings](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of terms in Terminology E284 and Terminology E1316 are applicable to this specification.

4. Performance Requirements

4.1 *Optical Requirements:*

4.1.1 *Luminance in a Test Laboratory*—The photopic luminance of all three specimens of the photoluminescent marking, measured in compliance with Test Method E2073, shall be not less than: 20.0 mcd/m² at 10 min after activation has ceased; and 2.8 mcd/m² at 60 min after activation has ceased.

5. Installation Site

5.1 *On-Site Luminance*—The photopic luminance of on-site installed photoluminescent markings shall be measured in compliance with Test Method E2073. The on-site lighting shall be used as activation. Markings must be a minimum of 1-in. (25.4-mm) width. For markings of width W , the required photopic luminance shall, at all times, be not less than:

1500/ W mcd/m² at 10 min after activation has ceased

For this calculation, the width W is measured in millimetres.

Examples of Required Luminance Values

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E12 on Color and Appearance and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E12.13 on Photoluminescent Safety Markings.

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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.