



Designation: D1518 – 11

Standard Test Method for Thermal Resistance of Batting Systems Using a Hot Plate¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D1518; 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.

INTRODUCTION

This standard replaces D1518-85, Thermal Transmittance of Textile Materials. This standard provides a method for measuring the thermal resistance (insulation) provided by battings and batting/fabric systems under still air conditions or an air flow condition. Other hot plate standards [F1868](#) and [ISO 11092](#) provide a method for measuring the thermal resistance and evaporative resistance of fabrics and fabric systems. The method for measuring fabric insulation in these standards is comparable to Option 2: Air Velocity Condition in D1518. These standards can be used to compare the thermal properties of textile materials. Manikin standards [F1291](#) and [F2370](#) can be used to measure and compare the thermal resistance and evaporative resistance of clothing systems, respectively. Manikin standard [F1720](#) can be used to measure the insulation provided by sleeping bag systems.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the measurement of the thermal resistance, under steady-state conditions, of battings and batting/fabric systems, and other materials within the limits specified in [1.2](#). It measures the heat transfer from a warm, dry, constant-temperature, horizontal flat-plate up through a layer of the test material to a cool atmosphere and calculates the resistance of the material. The measurements are made under still air conditions (Option #1) or with a horizontal air flow over the specimen (Option #2).

1.2 For practical purposes, this test method is limited to determinations on specimens of battings and layered batting/fabric assemblies having an intrinsic thermal resistance from 0.1 to 1.5 K·m²/W and thicknesses not in excess of 50 mm.

1.3 This test method also provides a method for determining the bulk density of the material, the insulation per unit thickness, and the insulation per unit weight.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard.

1.5 *This standard does not purport to address the safety concerns associated with its use. It is the responsibility of whoever uses this standard to consult and establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D13](#) on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D13.51](#) on Conditioning and, Chemical and Thermal Properties.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[D123](#) Terminology Relating to Textiles

[D3776](#) Test Methods for Mass Per Unit Area (Weight) of Fabric

[F1291](#) Test Method for Measuring the Thermal Insulation of Clothing Using a Heated Manikin

[F1494](#) Terminology Relating to Protective Clothing

[F1720](#) Test Method for Measuring Thermal Insulation of Sleeping Bags Using a Heated Manikin

[F1868](#) Test Method for Thermal and Evaporative Resistance of Clothing Materials Using a Sweating Hot Plate

[F2370](#) Test Method for Measuring the Evaporative Resistance of Clothing Using a Sweating Manikin

2.2 ISO Standards:³

[ISO 11092](#) Textiles—Physiological Effects—Measurement of Thermal and Water-Vapour Resistance Under Steady-State Conditions (Sweating Guarded-Hotplate Test)

[ISO 9073-2](#) Textile—Test Methods for Nonwovens—Part 2: Determination of Thickness

3. Terminology

3.1 The following terms are relevant to this standard: bulk density, clo, thermal resistance, thermal insulation.

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 National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

3.2 For terminology relating to thermal resistance and insulation see Terminology F1494.

3.3 For terminology relating to textiles see Terminology D123.

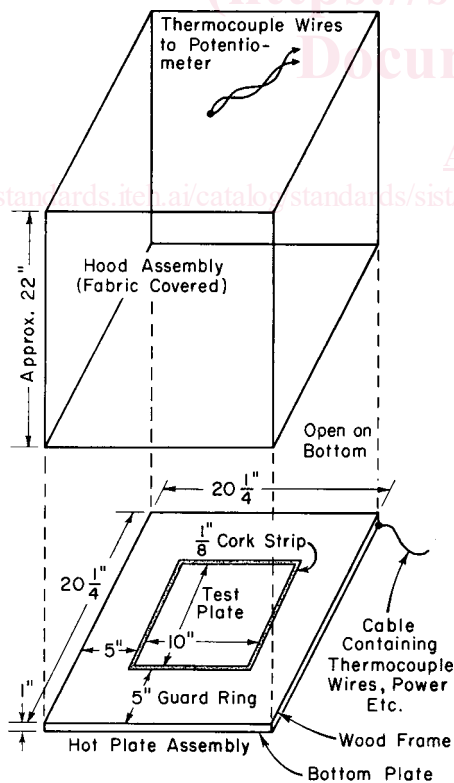
4. Significance and Use

4.1 The thermal resistance of a batting or batting/fabric system is of considerable importance in determining its suitability for use in fabricating cold weather protective clothing, sleeping bags, and bedding systems. The thermal interchange between man and his environment is, however, an extremely complicated subject which involves many factors in addition to the insulation values of fabrics and battings. Therefore, measured thermal insulation values can only indicate relative merit of a particular material.

5. Interferences

5.1 Departures from the instructions of this test method may lead to significantly different test results. Technical knowledge concerning the theory of heat transfer, temperature measurement, and testing practices is needed to evaluate which departures from the instructions are significant. Standardization of the method reduces, but does not eliminate the need for such technical knowledge. Report any departures from the instructions of Test Method D1518 with the results.

6. Apparatus (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, and Fig. 3)



Entire Assembly to be Located in a Calm Atmosphere, 40 to 70 F Temperature Fluctuations Less Than ± 2.5 F

FIG. 1 Hot Plate with Guard Ring and Hood (No Air Velocity Method)

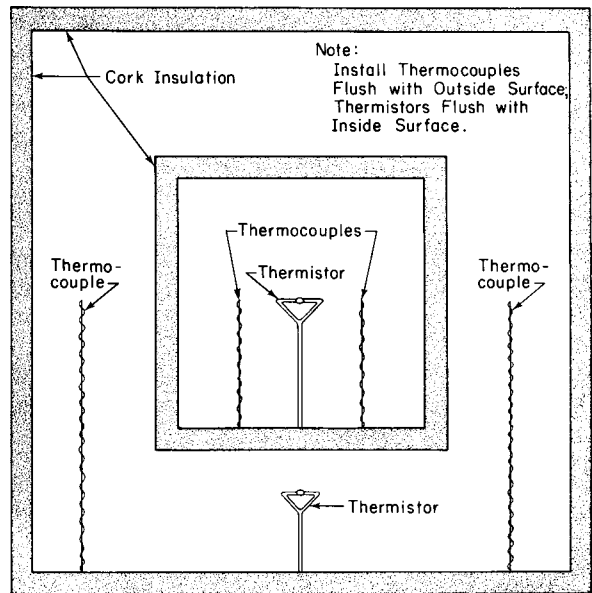


FIG. 2 Hot Plate, Top View, Showing Location of Thermistors and Thermocouples on Test Section and Guard Ring

NOTE 1—The drawings, illustrations, and captions are provided as possible design concepts only. The final design of equipment, including necessary wiring, will be dictated by the choice of the electrical measuring and control equipment.

6.1 Hot Plate—A guarded flat plate composed of a test plate, guard ring, and bottom plate as follows, each electrically maintained at a constant temperature in the range of human skin temperature (33 to 38°C).

6.1.1 Test Plate—The test plate portion of the hot plate shall be at least 254 mm (10.0 in.) square and shall be placed at the center of the upper surface of the hot-plate assembly. It shall be made of aluminum or copper with a dull black coating to approximate the emissivity of human skin. The heating element shall be uniformly distributed over the entire area of the test plate, mounted within 3 mm (0.1 in.) of the upper plate surface and well-thermally coupled to it.

6.1.2 Guard Ring—The guard ring bordering the test plate shall be at least 127 mm (5.0 in.) in width and shall be of the same thickness, composition, and type of construction as the test plate. It shall be coplanar with the test plate, and shall be separated from it by means of a strip of cork or other suitable insulating material approximately 3-mm (0.1-in.) wide. The guard ring shall be designed to prevent lateral loss of heat from the test plate.

6.1.3 Bottom Plate—The bottom plate shall be in a plane parallel to the test plate and guard ring, and at a distance of at least 25 mm (1.0 in.) but not in excess of 75 mm (3.0 in.) beneath them. It shall be separated from the test plate and guard ring and the air pocket formed thereby, or by other means of causing air entrapment. The dimensions offered as suggested design specifications are shown in Fig. 3. The purpose of the bottom plate is to prevent a downward loss of heat from the test plate and guard ring.

6.2 Temperature Control—Separate independent temperature control is required for the three sections of the hot plate (test plate, guard section, and bottom plate). Temperature

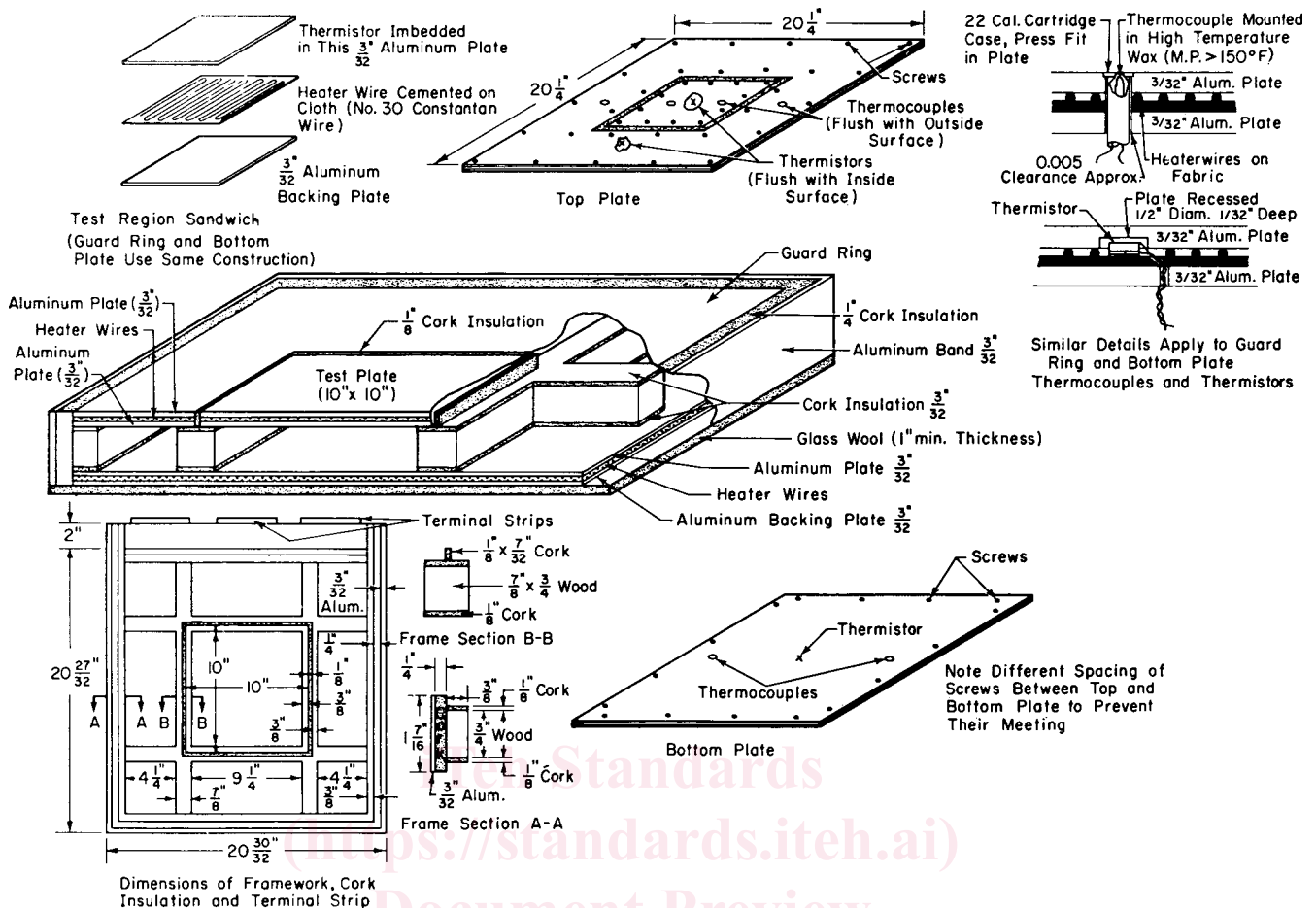


FIG. 3 Hot Plate Apparatus, Showing Dimensions

control may be achieved by independent adjustments to the voltage or current, or both, supplied to the heaters using solid state power supplies, solid-state relays (proportional time on), adjustable transformers, variable impedances, or intermittent heating cycles. The test plate, guard, and bottom plate sections shall be controlled to measure the same temperature to within $\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$ of each other.

6.3 *Power-Measuring Instruments*—Power to the hot plate test section shall be measured to provide an accurate average over the period of the test. If time proportioning or phase proportioning is used for the power control, then devices that are capable of averaging over the control cycle are required. Integrating devices (watt-hour transducers) are preferred over instantaneous devices (watt meters). Overall accuracy of the power monitoring equipment must be within $\pm 2\%$ of the reading for the average power for the test period.

6.4 *Temperature Sensors*—Temperature sensors shall be thermistors, thermocouples, resistance temperature devices (RTDs), or equivalent sensors. The test plate, guard section, and bottom plate shall each contain one or more temperature sensors that are mounted flush with the hot plate surface or within 3 mm of the hot plate surface in such a manner that they measure the surface temperature within $\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$.

6.5 *Controlled Atmosphere Chamber*—The hot plate shall be housed in an environmental chamber that can be maintained at selected temperatures between 1 and 20°C , or lower (see

8.1.2.1.) The test chamber wall temperature shall be $\pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ of the air in the chamber. The relative humidity shall be maintained between 20 and 80 %.

6.6 *Hood*—The hot plate shall be covered with a hood to control air flow.

6.6.1 *Option 1: Still Air Condition*—A box-shaped hood made of fabric on a frame with the dimensions shown in Fig. 1 is needed to cover the plate so as to maintain still air conditions over the specimen. The fabric cover must be breathable so that heat buildup is minimized inside the hood. Thin elastic knits have been successfully used to reduce air velocity in this application.

6.6.2 *Option 2: Air Velocity Condition*—An air flow hood is needed that provides 1.0 m/s of air velocity over the batting/fabric specimen in the horizontal direction. The height of the air space above the bare plate or specimen should stay the same from test to test. Therefore, the position of the hood needs to be adjustable relative to the plate surface, or the plate surface needs to be adjustable relative to the fixed position of the hood to accommodate varying sample thicknesses and to prevent air from flowing into the edge of the sample.

6.7 *Measuring Environmental Parameters*—The air temperature, relative humidity, and air velocity shall be measured as follows:

6.7.1 *Relative Humidity Measuring Equipment*—Either a wet-and-dry bulb psychrometer, a dew point hygrometer, or