



Designation: D7330 – 11^{ε1}

Standard Test Method for Assessment of Surface Appearance Change in Pile Floor Coverings Using Standard Reference Scales¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D7330; 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.

^{ε1} NOTE—A research report number was added in Footnote 3 in January 2012.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the assessment of changes of surface appearance of pile floor coverings after exposure to actual or simulated foot traffic. This test method applies to pile yarn floor coverings that are, or have been, installed; laboratory floor-trafficked samples; or textiles floor coverings trafficked by mechanical traffic simulators. The subjective assessment is facilitated by use of reference scales that are based on digital images of representative pile yarn floor covering styles and constructions.

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

[D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles](#)

[D5252 Practice for the Operation of the Hexapod Tumble Drum Tester](#)

[D5417 Practice for Operation of the Vettermann Drum Tester](#)

[D5684 Terminology Relating to Pile Floor Coverings](#)

[D6119 Practice for Creating Surface Appearance Changes in Pile Yarn Floor Covering from Foot Traffic](#)

[D6962 Practice for Operation of a Roller Chair Tester for](#)

[Pile Yarn Floor Coverings](#)

[E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods](#)

[E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of terms relating to Pile Floor Coverings, refer to the Terminology [D5684](#).

3.2 The following terms are relevant to this standard: carpet, crushing cut pile yarn floor covering, finished, finished pile yarn floor covering, loss of tuft definition, matting, pile, pile yarn floor covering, textile floor covering.

3.3 For definitions of other terms related to textiles, refer to Terminology [D123](#).

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The floor covering shall be tested in a mechanical wear simulator or tested under controlled laboratory foot traffic tests referenced in Practices [D5252](#), [D5417](#), [D6119](#), and [D6962](#). The tested floor covering shall then be assessed for surface appearance change by comparing unexposed controls to the exposed sample by using the appropriate Appearance Change Grading Scale.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 The determination of surface appearance change in pile yarn floor covering is useful in quality and cost control during manufacture of pile yarn floor covering. This test method is considered satisfactory for acceptance testing of commercial shipments because current estimates of between laboratory precision are acceptable, and this test method is commonly used in trade for acceptance testing.

5.2 If there are differences of practical significance between reported test results for two laboratories (or more), comparative test should be performed to determine if there is a statistical bias between them, using competent statistical assistance. As a minimum, use the samples for such comparative tests that are as homogenous as possible, drawn from the same lot of material as the samples that resulted in disparate results

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D13](#) on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D13.21](#) on Pile Floor Coverings.

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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.