



Designation: D6119 – 12

# Standard Practice for Creating Surface Appearance Changes in Pile Yarn Floor Covering from Foot Traffic<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D6119; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the trafficking of pile yarn floor coverings in a laboratory in order to effect a change in surface appearance as a result of exposure to foot traffic under controlled conditions. A separate test method covers the assessment of surface appearance change using the CRI Reference Scales.

1.2 This practice is applicable to most changes in surface appearance observed in all types of carpet that are intended for residential or commercial use. It eliminates change in appearance associated with soiling by focusing on appearance change due to matting, flattening, or change in pile fiber configuration. Although “pile reversal” or “watermarking” is occasionally visible, this practice is not a reliable method for producing this phenomenon.

1.3 This practice may be used by mutual agreement between the purchaser and supplier to set purchasing specifications.

1.4 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.

1.5 *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.* Specific precautionary statements are given in Section 7.

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:<sup>2</sup>

[D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles](#)

[D1776 Practice for Conditioning and Testing Textiles](#)

<sup>1</sup> This practice 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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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

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

[2.2 TM-101 CRI Technical Bulletin:](#)

[Assessment of Carpet Surface Appearance Change Using CRI Reference Scales](#)<sup>3</sup>

## 3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of terms relating to Pile Floor Coverings, D13.21, refer to Terminology [D5684](#).

3.1.1 The following terms are relevant to this standard: carpet, change in surface appearance, crush, finished, finished pile yarn floor covering, floor covering, foot traffic units, loss of tuft definition, matting, pile, pile reversal, pile yarn floor covering, textile floor covering, tufted fabric.

3.2 For all other terminology related to textiles, refer to Terminology [D123](#).

## 4. Summary of Practice

4.1 Specimens are exposed to a specified number of foot traffics under controlled conditions.

## 5. Significance and Use

5.1 By exposure to sufficient traffic, this practice can be applied to any pile yarn floor covering which undergoes changes in surface appearance.

5.1.1 This practice does not simulate surface appearance changes due to soiling, pivoting, or rolling traffic, or traffic on stairs.

## 6. Apparatus

6.1 *Area for Foot Traffic*—A room that meets the following conditions:

6.1.1 The floor must be level, rigid, and free of high and low areas. Tile, concrete, or wood are satisfactory. This area should be kept free of pedestrian traffic other than the designated walkers.

6.1.2 The length of the test area shall be adequate for the specimens plus the carpet walk-off areas at both ends of each row of specimens. These areas are necessary to align the walkers to avoid twisting motion while stepping on the specimens, and shall be a minimum of 2 yards (2 m) long.

<sup>3</sup> Available from CRI, P.O. Box 2048, Dalton, GA 30722.