



Designation: C778 – 12

Standard Specification for Standard Sand¹

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

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers standard sand for use in the testing of hydraulic cements.

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

1.3 Values in SI units shall be obtained by measurement in SI units or by appropriate conversion, using the Rules for Conversion and Rounding given in [IEEE/ASTM SI 10](#), of measurements made in other units.

1.4 *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

[C109/C109M Test Method for Compressive Strength of Hydraulic Cement Mortars \(Using 2-in. or \[50-mm\] Cube Specimens\)](#)

[C127 Test Method for Density, Relative Density \(Specific Gravity\), and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate](#)

[C136 Test Method for Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates](#)

[C150 Specification for Portland Cement](#)

[C185 Test Method for Air Content of Hydraulic Cement Mortar](#)

[C595 Specification for Blended Hydraulic Cements](#)

[C702 Practice for Reducing Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size](#)

[C1005 Specification for Reference Masses and Devices for Determining Mass and Volume for Use in the Physical](#)

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C01 on Cement and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C01.95 on Coordination of Standards.

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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.

Testing of Hydraulic Cements

[E11 Specification for Woven Wire Test Sieve Cloth and Test Sieves](#)

[IEEE/ASTM SI 10 Standard for Use of the International System of Units \(SI\): The Modern Metric System](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *20–30 sand, n*—standard sand, predominantly graded to pass a 850- μm (No. 20) sieve and be retained on a 600- μm (No. 30) sieve.

3.1.2 *graded sand, n*—standard sand, predominantly graded between the 600- μm (No. 30) sieve and the 150- μm (No. 100) sieve.

3.1.3 *standard sand, n*—silica sand, composed almost entirely of naturally rounded grains of nearly pure quartz, used for preparing mortars in the testing of hydraulic cements.

4. Requirements

4.1 Sand shall meet the requirements of [Table 1](#) with respect to grading, source of sand, and absence of undesirable air entraining characteristics.

METHODS OF SAMPLING AND TESTING STANDARD SANDS

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Sieves*—The sieves shall be standard 203-mm (8-in.) diameter, full-height, wire-cloth sieves, conforming to the requirements of Specification [E11](#), and of the following sizes:

1.18-mm (No. 16)	425- μm (No. 40)
850- μm (No. 20)	300- μm (No. 50)
600- μm (No. 30)	150- μm (No. 100)

5.2 *Sample Splitter*—The sample splitter, receptacles, and feeder pan or hopper shall conform to the general design requirements listed in Method A, apparatus section of Practice [C702](#), except that the device shall have no fewer than eight chutes having a maximum opening no greater than 13 mm, and a minimum opening at least three times the diameter of the largest particle of sand in a sample to be split.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard