



Designation: ~~D3136 – 13~~<sup>ε1</sup> D3136 – 14

## Standard Terminology Relating to Care Labeling for Apparel, Textile, Home Furnishing, and Leather Products<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3136; 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.

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<sup>ε1</sup> NOTE—Editorial updates were made in September 2013.

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### 1. Scope

1.1 This standard is a compilation of terminology developed by Subcommittee D13.62 on Labeling that is related to refurbishing and labeling for apparel, textile, home furnishing, and leather products other than upholstered furniture and floor coverings.

1.2 This terminology provides a uniform language for the disclosure of care instructions on labels that are to be attached to apparel, textile, home furnishing, and leather products according to the Federal Trade Commission's regulation 16 CFR, Part 423 (See 2.3).

1.3 These terms, definitions and descriptions employ common meanings for the care instructions required to be on textile products sold in the U.S.

1.4 This terminology is unique to the care of textile and leather products as the meanings are often expressed in phrases for care processes related to home-type washers, dryers, drying techniques and those for professional care.

1.5 For definitions of other textile terms, see Terminology [D123](#).

### 2. Referenced Documents

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

[D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles](#)

[D5489 Guide for Care Symbols for Care Instructions on Textile Products](#)

2.2 *AATCC Standard*:<sup>3</sup>

[AATCC Technical Manual, Monograph M6 Standardization of Home Laundry Test Conditions, current edition](#)

2.3 *Federal Document*:<sup>4</sup>

[16 CFR, Part 423 Federal Trade Commission Amendment to Trade Regulation Rule Concerning Care Labeling of Textile Wearing Apparel, and Certain Piece Goods, current amendment published](#)

### 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*:

**bleach**, *n—in care of textiles*, a product for brightening and aiding the removal of soils and stains from textile materials by oxidation that is inclusive of both chlorine and non-chlorine products.

**care instructions**, *n—in textiles*, a series of directions that describes practices which should refurbish a product without adverse effects and warn against any part of the directions which one could reasonably be expected to use that may harm the item.

**care label**, *n—in textiles*, a label or other affixed instructions that report how a product should be refurbished.

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<sup>1</sup> This terminology is under the jurisdiction of Committee [D13](#) on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D13.62](#) on Labeling. Current edition approved July 1, 2013; May 15, 2014. Published August 2013; June 2014. Originally approved in 1972. Last previous edition approved in 2008 as ~~D3136 – 04~~ [D3136 – 13\(2008\)](#)<sup>ε1</sup>. DOI: [10.1520/D3136-13E01-10.1520/D3136-14](#).

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Available from American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), One Davis Dr., P.O. Box 12215, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2215, [www.aatcc.org](#).

<sup>4</sup> Available from U.S. Government Printing Office Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Mail Stop: SDE, Washington, DC 20401, [www.gpo.gov](#)

DISCUSSION—

The Federal Trade Commission, in Rule 16 CFR 423, requires care instructions on most apparel and certain other textile items. In relation to these products, the FTC definition states: “Care Label means a permanent label or tag, containing regular care information and instructions, that is attached or affixed in some manner that will not become separated from the product and will remain legible during the useful life of the product.”

**care procedure**, *n*—*in textiles*, one or more refurbishing methods to which products may be subjected for soil and stain removal and aesthetic improvement such as appearance restoration or hand.

DISCUSSION—

The process employs appropriate equipment, materials and processes, and may include but need not be limited to the following: water or drycleaning solvent, detergent or soap, foam, absorption (powder) type compounds, bleach, agitation, drying, pressing or ironing.

**chlorine bleach**, *n*—a bleach that releases the hypochlorite ion in solution, for example, sodium hypochlorite.

**cleaning agent**, *n*—a chemical compound or formulation of several compounds which loosens, disperses, dissolves, or emulsifies soil to facilitate removal by mechanical action.

**commercial laundering**, *n*—a process by which textile products or specimens may be washed, bleached, rinsed, dried, and pressed typically at higher temperatures, higher pH, and longer times than used for home laundering.

**consumer care**, *n*—*of consumer textile products*, cleaning and maintenance procedures as customarily undertaken by the ultimate user.

**consumer textile product**, *n*—a textile item intended to satisfy human wants and needs.

DISCUSSION—

Consumer textile products include such products as apparel, curtains, draperies, piece goods, sheets, slipcovers, table linens, towels, trims, yarns, zippers, and findings. The component parts of consumer textile products may include such other materials as suede, leather and fur.

**detergent**, *n*—*in textile product care*, a cleaning agent containing one or more surfactants as the active ingredient(s).

DISCUSSION—

In popular usage, washing and cleaning agents with a composition other than soap that clean by much the same mechanism as does soap. The term detergent is used to describe both the basic surface active agents and finished products. The finished product may contain additional ingredients such as builders, antiredeposition agents, corrosion inhibitors, suds control agents, fluorescent whitening agents, etc.

**drycleaning**, *n*—*in the care of textiles, textile products*, the cleaning of consumer textile products with organic a cleaning process using solvents such as perchloroethylene, a petroleum solvent petroleum, or perchloroethylene-silicone.

DISCUSSION—

The process may include moisture addition to solvent of up to 75 % relative humidity, a detergent addition-detergent, hot tumble drying up to 70°C (160°F) and restoration by steam or steam air finishing.

**hand washing**, *n*—the most gentle form of home laundering using hand manipulation without the use of a machine or device such as a scrubbing board.

**home laundering**, *n*—a process by which textile products or parts thereof may be washed, bleached, dried, and pressed by any customary method designed for use in a residence, or non-professional use. (See also **professional care**.)

**ironing**, *n*—a method of pressing using a heated hand iron, sometimes together with moisture or steam, and a gliding motion.

**laundering**, *n*—*in textile product care*, a process intended to remove soil or stains by treatment (washing) with an aqueous detergent solution (and possibly bleach) and normally including subsequent rinsing, extracting, and drying.

**non-chlorine bleach**, *n*—a bleach that does not release the hypochlorite ion in solution, for example, sodium perborate, sodium percarbonate.

**permanent care label**, *n*—*as applied to textile products*, a care label that remains legible and attached to a textile product throughout its useful life.

**pressing**, *n*—*in the care of textiles*, a process of smoothing and shaping by heat and pressure, with or without the presence of steam.

DISCUSSION—