



Designation: D3258 – 04 (Reapproved 2014)

Standard Test Method for Porosity of White or Near White Paint Films by Staining¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3258; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the porosity of a white or near white mineral spirits insoluble paint film to indicate the degree to which a subsequent coat will penetrate.

1.2 The texture of the film can affect cleanup that will influence the results of the test. A stain applied to a high-hiding paint will not lower the reflectance as much as the same stain applied to a low-hiding paint of equal porosity. These points must be considered in comparing different paints.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

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

E1347 Test Method for Color and Color-Difference Measurement by Tristimulus Colorimetry

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 The test paint is applied to a nonporous surface, air dried, then measured for reflectance. A special colored penetrating medium is applied, the excess removed in a specified manner, and reflectance measured again. The difference between the two readings indicates the degree of porosity; the smaller the difference, the lower the porosity of the film and the greater its ability to resist penetration.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D01 on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D01.42 on Architectural Coatings.

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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.

4. Apparatus and Materials

4.1 *Film Applicator*, 150 mm (6 in.) wide with a clearance of 300 μm (12 mils).

4.2 *Film Applicator*, 140 mm (5½ in.) wide with a clearance of 250 μm (10 mils).

4.3 *Reflectometer*, meeting the requirements of Test Method E1347.

4.4 *Vacuum Drawdown Plate*.

4.5 *Camelhair Brush* (approximately 13 mm (½ in.) wide).

4.6 *Plastic Wash Bottle*, containing odorless mineral spirits (about 500 mL (16 oz)).

4.7 *Test Panel*—Smooth nonporous panel such as sealed white, cardboard chart, or white plastic sheet.

4.8 *Penetrating Medium*—A composition of pigment and dark-colored dye dispersed in organic liquid vehicle.

4.9 *Filter Paper*.

5. Procedure

5.1 Place the test panel on the vacuum plate and apply the paint under test with the 30- μm (12-mil) clearance drawdown blade. Remove the test panel from the vacuum plate and air dry 48 h under standard conditions of $23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($73 \pm 3.5^\circ\text{F}$) and $50 \pm 5\%$ relative humidity.

5.2 Determine the percent reflectance of the dry film using the green filter on the reflectometer. When making this reading, back up the panel with a flat rigid opaque object and mark the area on which the reading was made.

5.3 Place the panel containing the dry paint film on the vacuum plate. Using the 25- μm (10-mil) clearance blade, apply the penetrating medium over the test paint, covering the area marked as above and drawing the applicator blade in the same direction as before.

5.4 After $5 \text{ min} \pm 15 \text{ s}$ wash off excess penetrating medium. To do this, hold the panel vertically and remove the medium using the camelhair brush wet with odorless mineral spirits. Repeat the process until most of the excess is removed. Then continue to remove more of the excess by applying mineral spirits directly from the wash bottle to the area above the stain so that it flows across the stained area. Pause to observe the bead that forms at the bottom of the panel. If the bead is not