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Standard Guide to International Test Methods Associated with Textile Care Procedures¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This guide lists general home laundering and commercial drycleaning textile care procedures and the associated ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials), AATCC (American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists), CGSB (Canadian General Standards Board), and ISO (International Organization for Standardization) standards available for the testing and evaluation of textile products.

1.2 This guide identifies the national and international textile and apparel test methods available to manufacturers, retailers, importers, testing organizations and other related parties.

1.3 This guide provides a list of test methods that can be used by the reader to evaluate the properties of textiles and apparel during refurbishing, textile and apparel care instructions; and, textile and apparel care labels.

1.4 This guide is not intended to be used in the establishment of performance criteria, but as a guide for product development and purchasing contracts. The country of Canada, however, has some performance criteria cited in The National Standard of Canada—Care Labelling of Textiles in CAN/CGSB-86.1-2003. See [Table 1](#).

1.5 This guide is applicable to textile and apparel articles; excluding upholstery fabrics, mattresses, carpet, leather, fur, and yarns.

1.6 *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.*

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.62 on Labeling.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

- D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles
- D3136 Terminology Relating to Care Labeling for Apparel, Textile, Home Furnishing, and Leather Products
- D3938 Guide for Determining or Confirming Care Instructions for Apparel and Other Textile Products
- D4720 Performance Specification for Soft Window Covering Fabrics for Household Use
- D4721 Practice for Evaluation of the Performance of Machine Washable and Drycleanable Bedcoverings and Accessories
- D5489 Guide for Care Symbols for Care Instructions on Textile Products

2.2 *AATCC Standards*:³

- AATCC Evaluation Procedure 1 Gray Scale for Color Change
- AATCC Evaluation Procedure 2 Gray Scale for Staining
- AATCC Evaluation Procedure 7 Instrumental Assessment of the Change in Color of a Test Specimen
- AATCC Evaluation Procedure 8 AATCC 9-Step Chromatic Transference Scale
- AATCC Evaluation Procedure 12 Instrumental Assessment of Degree of Staining
- AATCC A Glossary of AATCC Standard Terminology
- AATCC Monograph Nomenclature for Subjective Rating Process
- AATCC Monograph M1, 1993 Standard Reference Detergent and Laundry Detergents in General
- AATCC Monograph M5 Standardization of Hand Laundering for Fabrics and Apparel

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.

³ *Annual AATCC Technical Manual*, available from the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), P.O. Box 12215, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, <http://www.aatcc.org>.

TABLE 1 Canadian Criteria to Evaluate Instructions on a Care Label⁴

Property	Criteria
Laundering—Washing and Drying Combined	
Colour Fastness (Grey Scale)	
Colour Change	4
Exception: In the case of textiles containing more than one colour, one of which is white or almost white, colour change of the white or almost white shall not exceed Grey Scale 4–5 contrast by reference to CAN/CGSB-4.2	4-5
Staining	4
	3–4 Nylon
Dimensional Stability	
All textiles	All textiles other than knitted textiles (grow or shrink) or those no more than the maximum dimensional change shown on the care label or on a separate label securely attached to or near the care label
	3 %
Knitted Textiles	All knitted textiles, excluding coated knitted textiles and textiles having both woven and knitted components. The textile shall not shrink or stretch in either direction more than the maximum values given below or more than the maximum dimensional change shown on the care label or on a separate label securely attached to or near the care label
Category of Knitted Textile	maximum dimensional change, each direction %
Weft-knit underwear and sleepwear	10
Warp-knit slips, gowns, and other lingerie and sleepwear	5
Casual wear (including but not limited to T-shirts, jogging suits, sweaters)	6
Dresses, skirts, jackets, pants, coats, blouses, dress shirts	3
Home furnishing items	3

⁴ In addition to the properties of colourfastness, dimensional stability, effect of retained bleaching agent whether or not included in detergent and maximum safe ironing temperature, use of this care symbol system signifies that as a result of the restorative treatment, there shall be no appreciable change in the appearance of the textile product. For additional information on performance specifications and recommended test methods for the assessment of appearance changes, refer to CAN/CGSB-86.1-2003.

Document Preview

[AATCC Monograph M6 Standardization of Home Laundry Test Conditions](#)

[AATCC Monograph M7 Standard Laboratory Practice for Home Laundering Fabrics Prior to Flammability Testing to Differentiate Between Durable and Non-Durable Finishes](#)

[AATCC Test Method 8 Colorfastness to Crocking: Crockmeter Method](#)

[AATCC Test Method 61 Colorfastness to Laundering, Home and Commercial: Accelerated](#)

[AATCC Test Method 86 Dry-Cleaning: Durability of Applied Designs and Finishes](#)

[AATCC Test Method 88B Smoothness of Seams in Fabrics After Repeated Home Laundering](#)

[AATCC Test Method 88C Retention of Creases in Fabrics after Repeated Home Laundering](#)

[AATCC Test Method 96 Dimensional Changes in Commercial Laundering of Woven and Knitted Fabrics Except Wool](#)

[AATCC Test Method 114 Chlorine Retained Tensile Loss: Multiple Sample Method](#)

[AATCC Test Method 116 Colorfastness to Crocking: Rotary Vertical Crockmeter Method](#)

[AATCC Test Method 124 Smoothness Appearance of Fabrics After Repeated Home Laundering](#)

[AATCC Test Method 128 Wrinkle Recovery of Fabrics: Appearance Method](#)

[AATCC Test Method 132 Colorfastness to Drycleaning](#)

[AATCC Test Method 133 Colorfastness to Heat: Hot Pressing](#)

[AATCC Test Method 135 Dimensional Change of Fabrics after Home Laundering](#)

[AATCC Test Method 142 Appearance of Flocked Fabrics After Repeated Home Laundering and/or Coin-op Drycleaning](#)

[AATCC Test Method 150 Dimensional Changes of Garments after Home Laundering](#)

[AATCC Test Method 157 Colorfastness to Solvent Spotting: Perchloroethylene](#)

[AATCC Test Method 158 Dimensional Changes on Drycleaning in Perchloroethylene: Machine Method](#)

[AATCC Test Method 172 Colorfastness to Non-chlorine Bleach in Home Laundering](#)

[AATCC Test Method 179 Skewness Change in Fabric and Garment Twist Resulting from Automatic Home Laundering](#)

[AATCC Test Method 188 Colorfastness to Sodium Hypochlorite Bleach in Home Laundering](#)

2.3 CGSB Standards:⁴

[CAN/CGSB-2-M Conditioning Textile Materials for Testing](#)
[CAN/CGSB-4.2 Textile Test Methods](#)

⁴ Available from Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB), Place du Portage III, 6B1 11 Laurier Street Gatineau, Quebec, Canada K1A 1G6.

CAN/CGSB-18.3/ISO 105-B02: 1994 Textiles—Tests for Colourfastness Part B02: Colourfastness to Artificial Light: Xenon Arc Fading Lamp Test (Reaffirmation of December 1997, including CGSB Amendment No.1)

CAN/CGSB-19.1 Colour Fastness to Washing - Accelerated Test - Launderometer

CAN/CGSB-20-M Colour Fastness to Water

CAN/CGSB-24 Colourfastness and Dimensional Change in Commercial Laundering

CAN/CGSB-25.1 Dimensional Change in Wetting

CAN/CGSB-29.1-M Colour Fastness to Dry Cleaning Solvent

CAN/CGSB-31-2004/ISO 105-X11: 1994 Textiles—Tests for Colourfastness Part X11: Colourfastness to Hot Pressing

CAN/CGSB-33 Methods of Pressing (Extension of June 1994)

CAN/CGSB-46-M/ISO 105-A02: 1987 (CP: 1993) Textiles—Tests for Colour Fastness - Part A02: Gray Scale for Assessing Change in Colour

CAN/CGSB-47-M/ISO 105-A03: 1987 (CP: 1993) Textiles—Tests for Colour Fastness - Part A03: Gray Scale for Assessing Staining

CAN/CGSB-55-M Loss in Strength and Colour Change of Fabrics Due to Retained Chlorine

CAN/CGSB-57-M Determination of Maximum Safe Ironing Temperature

CAN/CGSB-58 Dimensional Change in Domestic Laundering of Textiles

CAN/CGSB-59.1 (CP M88) Appearance After Repeated Domestic Launderings—Smoothness

CAN/CGSB-59.2 (CP M88) Appearance After Repeated Domestic Launderings—Seams

CAN/CGSB-59.3 (CP M88) Appearance After Repeated Domestic Launderings—Pressed-in Creases

CAN/CGSB-65-M Determination of Strength of Bonds of Bonded, Laminated and Fused Fabrics

CAN/CGSB-66-M Dimensional Change and Appearance After Dry-Cleaning of Coated, Bonded, Laminated and Fused Fabrics

CAN/CGSB-67-M Dimensional Change and Appearance After Laundering of Coated, Bonded, Laminated and Fused Fabrics

CAN/CGSB-86.1-2003 The National Standard of Canada—Care Labelling of Textiles

2.4 ISO Standards:⁵

ISO 105-A01 Textiles—General Principles of Testing

ISO 105-A02 Gray Scale for Assessing Change in Colour

ISO 105-A03 Gray Scale for Assessing Staining

ISO 105-A05 Instrumental Assessment of Change In Colour for Determination of Grey Scale Rating

ISO 105-C06 Colour Fastness to Domestic and Commercial Laundering

ISO 105-C09:2001 Textiles—Tests for Colourfastness-Part C09: Colourfastness to DOMestic and Commercial

Laundering—Oxidative Bleach Response Using a Non-phosphate Reference Detergent Incorporating a Low Temperature Bleach Activator

ISO 105-D01 Colour Fastness to Dry Cleaning: Hydrocarbon

ISO 105-N01 Colour Fastness to Bleaching: Hypochlorite

ISO 105-X11 Colour Fastness to Hot Pressing

ISO 3578 Textiles—Care Labelling Code Using Symbols

ISO 3759 Preparation, Marking and Measuring of Fabric Specimens and Garments in Tests to Determine Dimensional Change

ISO 5077 Textiles— Determination of Dimensional Change in Washing and Drying

ISO 6330 Textiles—Domestic Washing and Drying Procedures for Textile Testing

ISO 7768 Method for Assessing the Smoothness Appearance of Fabrics after Cleansing

ISO 7769 Method for Assessing the Smoothness Appearance of Creases in Fabrics after Cleansing

ISO 7770 Method for Assessing the Smoothness Appearance of Seams in Fabrics after Cleansing

ISO 9867 Evaluation of the wrinkle recovery of fabrics - Appearance Method

ISO 13934-1: Tensile Properties of Fabrics-Part 1: Determination of Maximum Force and Elongation at Maximum Force using the Stripo Method

2.5 Other Documents:⁶

16 CFR Part 423 Federal Trade Commission Amendment to Trade Regulation Rule Concerning Care Labeling of Textile Wearing Apparel and Certain Piece Goods, Federal Register, Vol. 48, No. 99, May 20, 1983. Amended 1 January 2011.

Federal Trade Commission Amendment to Trade Regulation Rule Concerning Care Labeling of Textile Wearing Apparel and Certain Piece Goods, Federal Register, Vol. 62, No. 25, February 6, 1997. Amended 1 January 2011.

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 For definitions of terms related to permanent care labeling, refer to Terminology **D3136** and AATCC Glossary. For definitions of other textiles terms used in this guide, refer to Terminology **D123**, CAN/CGSB-86.1-2003, FTC 16 CFR Part 423, and ISO 3758.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This guide identifies U.S., Canadian and other international test methods used in the process of determining and evaluating textile and apparel care label instruction effectiveness for properties such as colorfastness, susceptibility to damage due to retained bleaching agents, dimensional stability, safe ironing temperatures and appearance retention (see **1.5** for exclusions).

⁵ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

⁶ Available from U.S. Government Printing Office Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Mail Stop: SDE, Washington, DC 20401, <http://www.access.gpo.gov>.