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Standard Specification for Wallcovering¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers the performance, quality, packaging, and marking characteristics of flexible wall covering as a finished product.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

F 793 Classification of Wallcovering by Durability Characteristics²

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definition:*

3.1.1 *wallcovering*—a flexible product designed to cover walls and ceilings for decorative or functional purposes, or both.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *backing (substrate)*—material upon which facing (or an intermediate layer) is applied. Backing is that material which is adhered to the wall.

3.2.2 *bias*—pattern running off true horizontal or vertical plane.

3.2.3 *bolt*—a continuous amount of packaged material containing the amount specified on the label.

3.2.4 *facing*—decorative material which is applied to an intermediate layer or backing.

3.2.5 *finished product*—wallcovering offered to a consumer for installation.

3.2.6 *intermediate layer*—material, if any, between the facing and the backing.

3.2.7 *lot (batch)*—the product from a continuous manufacturing run having the same appearance and characteristic from beginning to end.

3.2.8 *pattern match*—the meeting of all parts and colors of a pattern at the seams of adjacent strips.

3.2.9 *pattern repeat*—the vertical distance between adjacent match points of a pattern.

3.2.10 *protective layer*—any material applied to the facing to enhance performance.

3.2.11 *register*—the designed meeting of all parts and colors of a pattern.

3.2.12 *run*—a unit of production which may include more than one lot.

3.2.13 *seconds*—finished material not meeting the quality criteria in accordance with Classification F 793 and this specification.

3.2.14 *selvage*—an undecorated edge which must be trimmed away to allow for correct pattern match or uniform continuity of color.

3.2.15 *waste edge*—a decorated edge that must be trimmed away to allow for correct pattern match or uniformity of color.

3.2.16 *Shading:*

3.2.16.1 *color variation*—difference within the same lot of wallcovering.

3.2.16.2 *luster variation*—difference in gloss level within the same lot of wallcovering.

3.2.16.3 *texture variation*—difference in embossing within the same lot of wallcovering.

3.2.17 *split bolt*—a bolt consisting of two or three separate lengths of material.

4. Appearance

4.1 There shall be no appreciable difference in shading except on those finished products in which natural decorative characteristics are being simulated. These variances must be clearly stated in writing at the point of purchase. To determine whether there is an appreciable difference, suspend three sequential 8-ft (2.4-m) strips at eye level in a vertical position, as on the wall, under illumination between 100 to 150 fc (1000 to 1500 lx), and view the strips from a distance between 4 and 8 ft (1.2 and 2.4 m). An appreciable difference is one which is noticeable when one strip is compared with the others.

5. Wall Preparation and Installation

5.1 Basic and correct wall preparation instructions, with particular attention to wall covering which requires special wall preparation for its proper installation, shall be included in sample books and installation instructions.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F-15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.15 on Wallcoverings.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.07.