



Designation: D5260 – 16

Standard Classification for Chemical Resistance of Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Homopolymer and Copolymer Compounds and Chlorinated Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (CPVC) Compounds¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5260; 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 classification covers the method for determining and classifying the resistance of poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) homopolymer and copolymer compounds, and chlorinated poly(vinyl chloride) (CPVC) compounds in chemicals by simple immersion testing of unstressed specimens.

1.2 This classification is applicable to any PVC or CPVC compound as defined in Specifications [D1784](#), [D4216](#), [D4396](#), or [D4551](#).

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

1.4 The text of this standard references notes and footnotes which provide explanatory material. These notes and footnotes (excluding those in tables and figures) shall not be considered as requirements of this standard.

1.5 *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.*

NOTE 1—There are no ISO standards covering the subject matter of this classification.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[D543 Practices for Evaluating the Resistance of Plastics to Chemical Reagents](#)

[D883 Terminology Relating to Plastics](#)

[D1600 Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics](#)

¹ This classification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D20](#) on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D20.15](#) on Thermoplastic Materials.

Current edition approved May 1, 2016. Published May 2016. Originally approved in 1992. Last previous edition approved in 2010 as D5260 - 04(2010). DOI: 10.1520/D5260-16.

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.

[D1784 Specification for Rigid Poly\(Vinyl Chloride\) \(PVC\) Compounds and Chlorinated Poly\(Vinyl Chloride\) \(CPVC\) Compounds](#)

[D4216 Specification for Rigid Poly\(Vinyl Chloride\) \(PVC\) and Related PVC and Chlorinated Poly\(Vinyl Chloride\) \(CPVC\) Building Products Compounds](#)

[D4396 Specification for Rigid Poly\(Vinyl Chloride\) \(PVC\) and Chlorinated Poly\(Vinyl Chloride\) \(CPVC\) Compounds for Plastic Pipe and Fittings Used in Nonpressure Applications](#)

[D4551 Specification for Poly\(Vinyl Chloride\) \(PVC\) Plastic Flexible Concealed Water-Containment Membrane](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions and Abbreviations:*

3.1.1 Definitions are in accordance with Terminology [D883](#) and abbreviations with Terminology [D1600](#) unless otherwise indicated.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Reference this chemical resistance classification for any PVC/CPVC material compound specification wherein a level of resistance to specific chemicals is required for satisfactory product performance.

4.2 Listing of a chemical in the annex does not imply PVC/CPVC compatibility or resistance to the chemical. Some of the chemicals listed could be deleterious to a specific compound, causing radical changes in the physical properties. Resistance to these chemicals is not intended to be a practical requirement in a specification.

4.3 For resistance to mixtures of chemicals, it is suggested that the blend be tested rather than accepting the resistance of the individual chemicals because of a possible solvency enhancement of the combined chemicals.

4.4 The specimens tested in this classification are unstressed. When service conditions include stress or other factors, or both, test chemical resistance of the PVC/CPVC compound under actual service conditions.

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

5. Basis of Classification

5.1 The chemical resistance of a PVC or CPVC compound is composed of the cell classifications specified from **Table 1**. For example, the resistance of PVC to 25 % acetic acid at ambient temperature would be written as a cell classification of A05231:

Chemical (acetic acid from annex)	Class
Concentration of 25 %	A05
Temperature of 23°C	2
Resistance	3
	1

NOTE 2—The cell-type format provides the means of classifying chemical resistance. This type of format is subject to possible misapplication in classifying a chemical resistance that is unobtainable with commercially available materials. Consult the manufacturer regarding this classification.

6. Performance Requirements

6.1 The chemical resistance shall be for a compound that meets the physical property and processing requirements of the application.

7. Sampling

7.1 A batch or lot shall be considered as a unit of manufacture and is permitted to consist of a blend of two or more production runs of material.

7.2 Sample using a statistically acceptable procedure.

8. Test Methods

8.1 Determine the chemical resistance of a compound following the procedure of Test Method **D543** except the exposure period shall be for 30 days. Note the chemical, concentration, test temperature, and resistance in accordance with **8.1.1 – 8.1.4**. This data is compiled in **Table 1** and comprises the six digits of the chemical resistance cell.

8.1.1 The test chemical is designated from the alphanumeric list of chemicals in the annex. This alphanumeric designation is the first three digits of the chemical resistance cell.

8.1.2 The concentration of the chemical from row two of **Table 1** is designated as the fourth digit of the chemical resistance cell.

8.1.3 The test temperature from row three of **Table 1** is designated as the fifth number of the chemical resistance cell.

8.1.4 The resistance of a compound from row four of **Table 1** is designated as the sixth number of the chemical resistance cell. Grade a compound for its resistance to the testing of **8.1.1 – 8.1.3** as follows:

	Resistant	Marginally Resistant	Non-Resistant
Linear Swelling	0 %	<5 %	>5 %
Change in Weight	<1 %	<10 %	>10 %
Change in Shore Hardness	no change	<5 units	>5 units

9. Inspection

9.1 Inspection of the product shall be agreed upon between the purchaser and the supplier as part of the purchase contract.

10. Rejection and Rehearing

10.1 Product that fails to conform to the requirements of this classification shall not be certified as meeting the requirements of this classification. Report rejection to the producer or supplier promptly and in writing. In case of dissatisfaction with the results of the test, the producer or supplier is permitted to make claim for a rehearing.

11. Keywords

11.1 chemical resistance; chlorinated poly(vinyl chloride) polymers; poly(vinyl chloride) copolymers; poly(vinyl chloride) polymers

TABLE 1 Chemical Resistance of a Compound

Designation Order Number	Property and Unit	Cell Limits								
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1 to 3	chemical	unspecified								
4	concentration, %	unspecified	0 to 19	20 to 39	40 to 59	60 to 79	80 to 99	100		
5	temperature, °C	unspecified	<0	0 to 19	20 to 39	40 to 59	60 to 79	80 to 100	>100	
6	resistance	unspecified	R	MR	NR					

ANNEX

(Mandatory Information)

A1. ALPHANUMERICAL LIST OF CHEMICALS

Acetaldehyde	A01	Ammonia Bifluoride	A19
Acetamide	A02	Ammonium Carbonate	A20
Acetate Solvent	A03	Ammonium Casenite	A21
Acetic Acid, Glacial	A04	Ammonium Chloride	A22
Acetic Acid	A05	Ammonium Hydroxide	A23
Acetic Anhydride	A06	Ammonium Nitrate	A24
Acetone	A07	Ammonium Oxalate	A25

Acetylene	A08	Ammonium Persulfate	A26
Acrylonitrile	A09	Ammonium Phosphate, Dibasic	A27
Aluminum Chloride	A10	Ammonium Phosphate, Monobasic	A28
Aluminum Fluoride	A11	Ammonium Phosphate, Tribasic	A29
Aluminum Hydroxide	A12	Ammonium Sulfate	A30
Aluminum Potassium Sulfate	A13	Ammonium Thio-Sulfate	A31
Aluminum Sulfate	A14	Amyl Acetate	A32
Amines	A15	Amyl Alcohol	A33
Ammonia, Anhydrous	A16	Amyl Chloride	A34
Ammonia, Liquid	A17	Aniline	A35
Ammonia, Nitrate	A18	Aqua Regia (80 % HCl/20 % H ₂ SO ₄)	A36
		Arsenic Acid	A37

Barium Carbonate	B01	Benzyl Alcohol	B14
Barium Chloride	B02	Borax (Sodium Borate)	B15
Barium Cyanide	B03	Boric Acid	B16
Barium Hydroxide	B04	Brewery Slop	B17
Barium Nitrate	B05	Bromine	B18
Barium Sulfate	B06	Butadiene	B19
Barium Sulfide	B07	Butane	B20
Beer	B08	Butter	B21
Beet Sugar Liquids	B09	Buttermilk	B22
Benzaldehyde	B10	Butyl Acetate	B23
Benzene	B11	Butyl Alcohol	B24
Benzoic Acid	B12	Butylene	B25
Benzol	B13	Butyric Acid	B26

Calcium Bisulfide	C01	Chlorobenzene (mono)	C20
Calcium Carbonate	C02	Chloroform	C21
Calcium Chloride	C03	Chlorosulfuric Acid	C22
Calcium Hydroxide	C04	Chlorox (bleach)	C23
Calcium Hypochlorite	C05	Chocolate Syrup	C24
Calcium Sulfate	C06	Chromic Acid	C25
Calgon	C07	Cider	C26
Cane Juice	C08	Citric Acid	C27
Carbolic Acid.....(See Phenol).....		Coffee	C28
Carbon Bisulfide	C09	Copper Chloride	C29
Carbon Dioxide	C10	Copper Cyanide	C30
Carbon Disulfide	C11	Copper Fluoroborate	C31
Carbon Monoxide	C12	Copper Nitrate	C32
Carbon Tetrachloride	C13	Copper Sulfate	C33
Carbonated Water	C14	Cream	C34
Carbonic Acid	C15	Cresols	C35
Catsup	C16	Cresylic Acid	C36
Chloroacetic Acid	C17	Cyclohexane	C37
Chlorinated Glue	C18	Cyanic Acid	C38
Chlorine, Anhydrous Liquid	C19		

Detergents	D01	Diethylene Glycol	D04
Diethylene	D02	Diphenyl Oxide	D05
Diacetone Alcohol	D03	Dyes	D06

Epsom Salts...(See Magnesium Sulfate)		Ethyl Chloride	E06
Ethane	E01	Ethyl Sulfate	E07
Ethanolamine	E02	Ethylene Chloride	E08
Ether	E03	Ethylene Dichloride	E09
Ethyl Acetate	E04	Ethylene Glycol	E10
Ethyl Alcohol	E05	Ethylene Oxide	E11

Fatty Acids	F01	Freon 22	F13
Ferric Chloride	F02	Freon 113	F14
Ferric Nitrate	F03	Freon T.F.	F15
Ferric Sulfate	F04	Fruit Juice	F16
Ferrous Chloride	F05	Fuel Oil #1	F17
Ferrous Sulfate	F06	Fuel Oil #2	F18
Fluorboric Acid	F07	Fuel Oil #3	F19
Fluosilicic Acid	F08	Fuel Oil #5A	F20
Formaldehyde	F09	Fuel Oil #5B	F21