



Designation: ~~D3924 – 80 (Reapproved 2011)~~ D3924 – 16

Standard Specification for Standard Environment for Conditioning and Testing Paint, Varnish, Lacquer, and Related Materials¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3924; 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.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification defines the standard atmospheres for normal conditioning and testing of paint, varnish, lacquer, and related materials, at approximately ambient conditions.

NOTE 1—See Terminology [E41](#), Specification [E171](#) and Test Method [E337](#).

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

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[E41 Terminology Relating To Conditioning](#)

[E171 Practice for Conditioning and Testing Flexible Barrier Packaging](#)

[E337 Test Method for Measuring Humidity with a Psychrometer \(the Measurement of Wet- and Dry-Bulb Temperatures\)](#)

3. Standard Atmosphere

3.1 Unless otherwise specified, conditioning and testing of coating materials known to be sensitive to variations in temperature or relative humidity shall be carried out in an atmosphere having a temperature of $23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($73.5 \pm 3.5^\circ\text{F}$) and a relative humidity of $50 \pm 5\%$ ~~10 %~~. If closer tolerances are required, $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ($\pm 2^\circ\text{F}$) or even narrower limits, and $\pm 2\%$ ~~$\pm 5\%$~~ relative humidity may be specified.

NOTE 2—The positive and negative deviations from the specified set points are maximum allowed operational fluctuations during equilibrium conditions. If the operational fluctuations are beyond the stated tolerances, discontinue the conditioning or testing and correct the cause of the tolerance exceedance before continuing.

3.2 The standard room or cabinet shall be well-ventilated but free of drafts, dust, products of combustion, and laboratory fumes. Lighting conditions, unless otherwise specified, shall be that normally maintained in a room used for paint test purposes.

4. Standard Temperature

4.1 Unless otherwise specified, the standard test temperature shall be as specified in Section 3.

5. Room Temperature

5.1 A temperature in the range from 18 to 29.5°C (65 to 85°F) shall be called room temperature.

6. Conditioning and Testing

6.1 Unless otherwise specified in the test method, condition the organic coating materials or dried test films thereof and the test equipment for not less than 3 h in the appropriate atmosphere and verify the temperature of the material before conducting the test in the same atmosphere.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D01](#) on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D01.20](#) on Quality Assurance and Statistics.

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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~~ standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.