



Designation: D490 – 92 (Reapproved 2016)

Standard Specification for Road Tar¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D490; 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 covers 14 grades of tar as follows: RT-1, RT-2, RT-3, RT-4, RT-5, RT-6, RT-7, RT-8, RT-9, RT-10, RT-11, RT-12, RT.C.B.-5, and RT.C.B.-6.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[D4 Test Method for Bitumen Content](#)

[D20 Test Method for Distillation of Road Tars](#)

[D36 Test Method for Softening Point of Bitumen \(Ring-and-Ball Apparatus\)](#)

[D70 Test Method for Density of Semi-Solid Bituminous Materials \(Pycnometer Method\)](#)

[D95 Test Method for Water in Petroleum Products and Bituminous Materials by Distillation](#)

[D139 Test Method for Float Test for Bituminous Materials](#)

[D140 Practice for Sampling Bituminous Materials](#)

[D1665 Test Method for Engler Specific Viscosity of Tar Products](#)

3. Physical Requirements

3.1 The tar shall conform to the requirements in [Table 1](#).

4. Sampling

4.1 The material shall be sampled in accordance with Practice [D140](#).

5. Test Methods

5.1 The properties enumerated in [Table 1](#) shall be determined in accordance with the following methods, with the exception of the test specified in [5.1.3](#):

5.1.1 *Water*—Test Method [D95](#).

5.1.2 *Specific Gravity*—Test Method [D70](#).

5.1.3 *Specific Viscosity*—Test Method [D1665](#). The results shall be reported as specific viscosity compared with water at 25°C.

5.1.4 *Float Test*—Test Method [D139](#).

5.1.5 *Distillation*—Test Method [D20](#).

5.1.6 *Softening Point*—Test Method [D36](#).

5.1.7 *Total Bitumen*—Test Method [D4](#).

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D04](#) on Road and Paving Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D04.43](#) on Specifications and Test for Tar and Tar Products.

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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.