



Designation: ~~D2180 – 89 (Reapproved 2008)~~ D2180 – 17

Standard Test Method for Active Oxygen in Bleaching Compounds¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D2180; 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 test method covers the determination of inorganic “active oxygen” in bleaching compounds such as perborates, percarbonates, and peroxides but not in persulfates or monopersulfates.

1.2 *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. Safety Data Sheets (formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets/Sheets) are available for reagents and materials. Review them for hazards prior to usage.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[D459 Terminology Relating to Soaps and Other Detergents](#)

[D1193 Specification for Reagent Water](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *active oxygen*—the measure of the oxidizing power of compounds such as inorganic perborates, percarbonates, or peroxides which, in effect, release hydrogen peroxide in acid solutions. It is expressed in terms of oxygen (O) with gram-equivalent weight of 8.00.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 Active oxygen is determined by titration of an acidified aqueous solution of the compound with a standard solution of potassium permanganate.

NOTE 1—Use of a molybdate-catalyzed iodometric method for this purpose has been suggested, but the possible reaction of the liberated iodine on organics present must be considered. It is believed there is less likelihood of reaction with permanganate, provided the titration is performed in such a manner as to avoid any considerable excess of permanganate.

5. Interferences

5.1 The possibility of interference from organic constituents, which may react with permanganate, must be considered with each compound encountered. A sluggish reaction or vague end point, will suggest interference. Inorganic builders or detergents, such as silicates, phosphates, or carbonates, do not interfere. Organic detergents or wetting agents may interfere. EDTA-type sequestrants do interfere (see Terminology [D459](#)).

6. Reagents

6.1 *Purity of Reagents*—Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents shall conform to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society, where

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D12](#) on Soaps and Other Detergents and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D12.12](#) on Analysis and Specifications of Soaps, Synthetics, Detergents and their Components.

Current edition approved ~~July 1, 2008~~ Jan. 1, 2017. Published ~~July 2008~~ February 2017. Originally approved in 1963. Last previous edition approved in ~~2003~~ 2008 as D2180 – 89 (~~2003~~ (2008)). DOI: ~~10.1520/D2180-89R08~~ 10.1520/D2180-17.

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.