



Designation: D4258 – 23

Standard Practice for Surface Cleaning Concrete for Coating¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4258; 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 practice includes surface cleaning of concrete to remove grease, dirt, and loose material prior to the application of coatings. Procedures include broom cleaning, vacuum cleaning, air blast cleaning, water cleaning, detergent water cleaning, and steam cleaning.

1.2 This practice is not intended to alter the surface profile of the concrete but to clean the surface.

1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.4 *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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.5 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D4259 Practice for Preparation of Concrete by Abrasion Prior to Coating Application

D4260 Practice for Liquid and Gelled Acid Etching of Concrete

D4262 Test Method for pH of Chemically Cleaned or Etched Concrete Surfaces

D4263 Test Method for Indicating Moisture in Concrete by the Plastic Sheet Method

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D33 on Protective Coating and Lining Work for Power Generation Facilities and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D33.05 on Application and Surface Preparation.

Current edition approved April 1, 2023. Published April 2023. Originally approved in 1983. Last previous edition approved in 2017 as D4258 – 05 (2017). DOI: 10.1520/D4258-23.

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.

D4285 Test Method for Indicating Oil or Water in Compressed Air

2.2 *Other Standard:*

ACI-308 Guide to Curing Concrete³

3. Summary of Practice

3.1 Surface cleaning is intended to provide a clean, contamination-free surface without removing concrete from intact, sound surfaces.

3.2 Acceptable surfaces shall be free of oil, grease, loosely adhering concrete, and other contamination. Fins and projections shall be corrected prior to surface cleaning.

3.3 Air, water cleaning, scrubbing, sweeping, or vacuuming are acceptable cleaning methods. Cleaning agents may also be used to remove oil and grease spots followed by a fresh water rinse.

3.4 Any one or a combination of the listed cleaning procedures may be used to achieve acceptably cleaned surfaces.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Surface cleaning is used to prepare concrete surfaces for applying coatings intended for light-duty service.

4.2 Use of this practice alone is not intended where protective systems will be used for continuous or intermittent immersion, mechanical loading, or for protective systems needing optimum bond for satisfactory performance (see Practices D4259 and D4260).

5. Hazards and General Considerations

5.1 New concrete shall be cured according to ACI-308 and sufficient additional time allowed for drying.

5.2 Moisture in the concrete may be detrimental to coating adhesion. Moisture content shall be in compliance with coating manufacturer's recommendation (see Test Method D4263).

5.3 Concrete cure compounds, form release materials, or concrete hardeners not compatible with the coating may require removal by other surface preparation methods as in Practices D4259 and D4260.

³ Available from American Concrete Institute (ACI), P.O. Box 9094, Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9094, <http://www.concrete.org>.