



Designation: D4705 – 18 (Reapproved 2023)

Standard Test Method for Stitch Tear Strength of Leather, Double Hole¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4705; 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 test method is intended for use in determining the stitch tearing resistance of leather using a double hole tear. It is particularly applicable to lightweight leathers. This test method does not apply to wet blue.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.3 *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.*

1.4 *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

D1610 Practice for Conditioning Leather and Leather Products for Testing

D1813 Test Method for Measuring Thickness of Leather Test Specimens

D2209 Test Method for Tensile Strength of Leather

D2813 Practice for Sampling Leather for Physical and Chemical Tests

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This test method is designed to measure the load required to tear leather through two holes in the test specimen.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D31 on Leather and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D31.07 on Physical Properties.

Current edition approved Jan. 1, 2023. Published January 2023. Originally approved in 1987. Last previous edition approved in 2018 as D4705 – 18. DOI: 10.1520/D4705-18R23.

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.

Tanners and leather buyers have found that this test gives an indication of the resistance of leather to tearing. It is of particular value in estimating the durability of leather to withstand tearing stresses encountered in the manufacture of shoes, garments, and upholstered products. The thickness of the specimen and direction of tear relative to the backbone will affect the uniformity of the test results. This test method may not apply when the conditions of the test employed differ widely from those specified in the test method.

4. Apparatus

4.1 *Testing Machine*, as described in Test Method D2209.

4.2 *Thickness Gauge*, a dead weight type of thickness gauge as described in Method D1813.

4.3 *Steel Die*, to cut test specimens (as described in 5.1).

4.4 *Paper Clip*, Smooth, with wire diameter 0.041 in. $\pm$ 0.002 in. (1.04 mm $\pm$ 0.05 mm).

5. Sampling Test Specimen

5.1 Unless otherwise specified, sample the leather according to Practice D2813.

5.2 The specimen shall be a rectangle of leather 2 in. (50.8 mm) in length and 1 in. (25.4 mm) in width with two holes ($\frac{5}{64}$ in. (1.98 mm)) in diameter on one end of the specimen. The centers of the holes shall be $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (6.35 mm) from the end, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (6.35 mm) apart, and located equidistant from the center line (length wise) of the specimen. See Fig. 1.

5.3 The specimen shall be cut with the long dimension perpendicular to the backbone.

6. Conditioning

6.1 All specimen shall be conditioned and tested in an atmosphere as described in Practice D1610.

7. Procedure

7.1 Determine the thickness of the specimen to the nearest 0.001 in. (0.01 mm) on the long axis near one end.

7.2 Bend the wire into a “U” shape, preferably by bending over a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (6.35 mm) rod, and pass the ends through the holes in the specimen so that both ends project from the flesh side of