



Designation: D5818 – 22

Standard Practice for Exposure and Retrieval of Samples to Evaluate Installation Damage of Geosynthetics¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5818; 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 covers standardized procedures for obtaining samples of geosynthetics from a test section for use in assessment of the effects of damage immediately after installation caused only by the installation techniques. The assessment may include physical testing. This practice is applicable to any geosynthetic except those installed between layers of aggregate or soil modified by a binder.

NOTE 1—The binder would inhibit the retrieval of the geosynthetic without inflicting further damage to the geosynthetic. Other practices may be suitable for retrieving geosynthetics used in these applications but are out of the scope of this practice.

1.2 This practice is limited to full-scale test sections and does not address laboratory modeling of field conditions. This practice does not address which test method(s) to use for quantifying installation damage.

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

[D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles](#)

[D4439 Terminology for Geosynthetics](#)

[D4873/D4873M Guide for Identification, Storage, and Handling of Geosynthetic Rolls and Samples](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions related to textiles, see Terminology [D123](#); for geosynthetics, see Terminology [D4439](#).

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *test section, n*—a distinct area of actual or simulated full-scale construction.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 Damage to geosynthetics from installation operations may be quantified by evaluating specimens from a sample(s) exhumed from a full-scale installation. The sample(s) should be installed using project-specific procedures and materials. When project-specific materials and/or procedures are unknown, generally accepted, representative materials and procedures should be used and thoroughly documented and reported. Addressed within this practice are: amount of geosynthetic sample(s) to install; procedures for installing the geosynthetic sample(s); procedures for exhuming the geosynthetic sample(s); procedure for obtaining control sample(s); and report preparation guidelines. The sample(s) should be retrieved immediately after installation to minimize potential aging of the geosynthetic. Comparison of test results on exhumed and control specimens may be used to assess effects of installation. Tests to perform are not addressed herein, and will vary with the type and function of geosynthetic and project requirements.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 The ability to maintain design function (for example, reinforcement, separation, barrier, etc.) or design properties (for example, tensile strength, chemical resistance, etc.), or both, of a geosynthetic may be affected by damage to the physical structure of the geosynthetic due to the rigors of field installation. The effect of damage may be assessed by analyzing specimens cut from sample(s) retrieved after installation in a representative test section. Analysis may be performed with visual examination or laboratory testing of specimens from the control sample(s), and from the exhumed sample(s).

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D35](#) on Geosynthetics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D35.01](#) on Mechanical Properties.

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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.