



Designation: D6037 – 21

Standard Test Methods for Dry Abrasion Mar Resistance of High Gloss Coatings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D6037; 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 procedures for evaluating the relative mar resistance of high gloss coatings. Two test methods are included. Test Method A uses a device that rotates the test specimen on a vertical axis, against the sliding rotation of two abrading wheels. Test Method B uses a device that reciprocates a specimen in a horizontal plane over a stationary wheel that has been fitted with abrasive paper and is advanced after each double stroke. Either method can be used to evaluate the dry abrasion mar resistance of coatings applied to planar, rigid surfaces. Each test method provides good discrimination between highly mar resistant coatings.

NOTE 1—The mar resistance values obtained by these test methods have no absolute significance. They should only be used to derive relative performance rankings for test panels that have been prepared from the series of coatings that are currently being evaluated. If mar resistance values are quoted between laboratories, it is essential that a common standard be measured and that the values be compared to that standard. Even then, the values should be used with caution.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this 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.*

¹ These test methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D01 on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D01.23 on Physical Properties of Applied Paint Films.

Current edition approved June 1, 2021. Published June 2021. Originally approved in 1996. Last previous edition approved in 2018 as D6037 – 18. DOI: 10.1520/D6037-21.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D523 Test Method for Specular Gloss
- D609 Practice for Preparation of Cold-Rolled Steel Panels for Testing Paint, Varnish, Conversion Coatings, and Related Coating Products
- D823 Practices for Producing Films of Uniform Thickness of Paint, Coatings and Related Products on Test Panels
- D1005 Test Method for Measurement of Dry-Film Thickness of Organic Coatings Using Micrometers
- D3924 Specification for Standard Environment for Conditioning and Testing Paint, Varnish, Lacquer, and Related Materials
- D4060 Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Organic Coatings by the Taber Abraser
- D4449 Test Method for Visual Evaluation of Gloss Differences Between Surfaces of Similar Appearance
- D7091 Practice for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Nonmagnetic Coatings Applied to Ferrous Metals and Nonmagnetic, Nonconductive Coatings Applied to Non-Ferrous Metals
- E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods
- E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

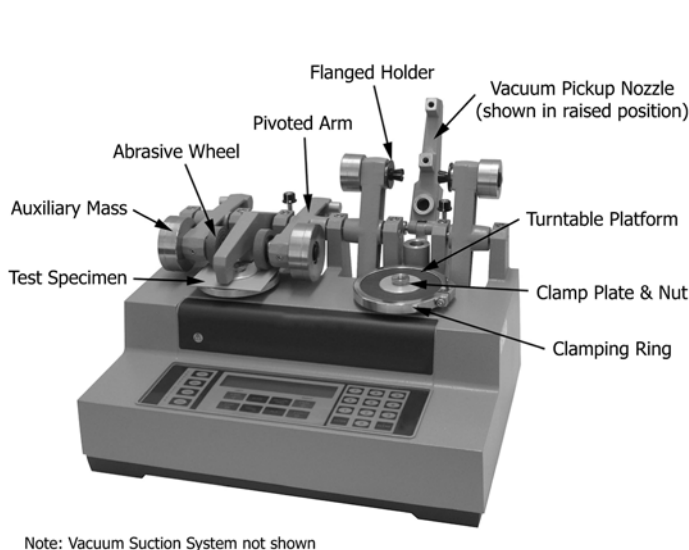
3.1.1 *mar resistance, n*—the ability of a coating to resist permanent deformation or fracture, resulting from the application of a dynamic mechanical force.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The coatings that are being evaluated are applied at uniform dry film thickness to planar panels of uniform surface texture. After drying or curing, or both, the panels are marred.

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.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard



Note: Vacuum Suction System not shown

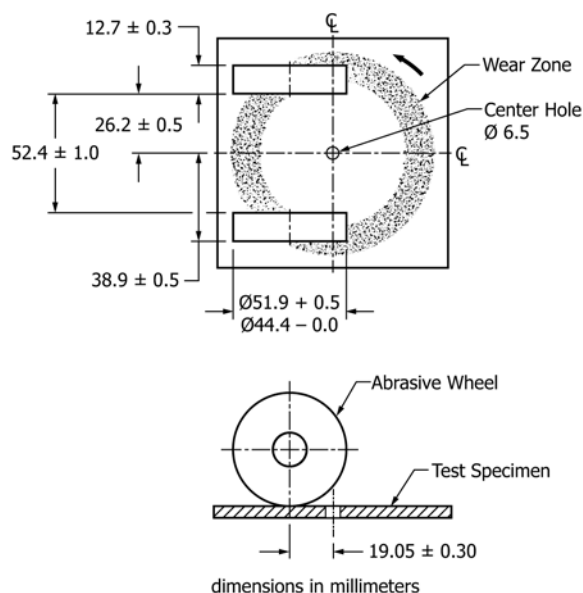


FIG. 1 Abrader for Method A

Mar resistance is assessed by measuring the coating's gloss within the abraded and unabraded areas of test panels. Mar resistance is directly related to the coating's ability to retain gloss in abraded areas.

NOTE 2—Subjective evaluations may be made visually by comparing abraded panels with a measured abraded standard using one of the procedures in Test Method D4449.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Coatings, particularly the high gloss coatings used on automobiles, boats, toys, etc., are subject to a wide variety of conditions (for example, wiping, cleaning, and exposure) that can mar their surface. The ability of these coatings to maintain their appearance is an important product attribute. These test methods provide a way to estimate the ability of high gloss coatings to resist mar damage.

5.2 These test methods do not provide fundamental values. However they are suitable for estimating the ability of high gloss coatings to resist mar.

5.3 Since the susceptibility of coatings to marring varies widely, the number of cycles that are needed to cause "relevant" mar damage also varies. Usually, 2 to 50 cycles are sufficient.

TEST METHOD A

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Application Equipment*, as described in Practices D609 and D823.

6.2 *Film Thickness Measuring Apparatus*, as described in Test Methods D1005 or D7091.

6.3 *Abrader* (Fig. 1)³—An abrasion tester as described in Test Method D4060 shall be used. In this method only the 500 g load per wheel is used unless otherwise specified.

6.4 *Refacing Disc*—An S-11 refacing disc³ for resurfacing the abrasive wheels.

6.5 *Abrasive Wheels*—"Calibrase" wheels CS-10,³ unless otherwise specified or agreed upon by the interested parties. Wheels that have worn to the diameter of the wheel label must not be used. Prior to testing, ensure the expiration date has not passed.

6.6 *Glossmeter*, with 20° geometry and a maximum width of the measurement area of 10 mm; complying with Test Method D523. In addition, geometry that places the panel with the test surface facing upwards tends to minimize the chance of stray light affecting the measurement when complete coverage of the opening is not attained.

NOTE 3—For coatings that are semi- to high-gloss, a glossmeter with a 60° geometry may be better suited.

7. Preparation of Specimens

7.1 Apply a uniform coating of the material to be tested to rigid panels having both surfaces substantially plane and parallel. Specimens shall be a disk or a square plate with a 6.5 mm hole centrally located on each panel. Typical dimensions for a test panel are 100 mm in diameter or 100 mm by

³ The sole source of supply of the apparatus known to the committee at this time is Taber Industries, 455 Bryant Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,¹ which you may attend.