



# Standard Specification for Road Tar<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D490; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) 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 specification covers 14 grades of tar as follows: RT-1, RT-2, RT-3, RT-4, RT-5, RT-6, RT-7, RT-8, RT-9, RT-10, RT-11, RT-12, RT.C.B.-5, and RT.C.B.-6.

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*<sup>2</sup>

[D4 Test Method for Bitumen Content](#)

[D20 Test Method for Distillation of Road Tars](#)

[D36 Test Method for Softening Point of Bitumen \(Ring-and-Ball Apparatus\)](#)

[D70 Test Method for Density of Semi-Solid Bituminous Materials \(Pycnometer Method\)](#)

[D95 Test Method for Water in Petroleum Products and Bituminous Materials by Distillation](#)

[D139 Test Method for Float Test for Bituminous Materials](#)

[D140 Practice for Sampling Bituminous Materials](#)

[D1665 Test Method for Engler Specific Viscosity of Tar Products](#)

## 3. Physical Requirements

3.1 The tar shall conform to the requirements in [Table 1](#).

## 4. Sampling

4.1 The material shall be sampled in accordance with Practice [D140](#).

## 5. Test Methods

5.1 The properties enumerated in [Table 1](#) shall be determined in accordance with the following methods, with the exception of the test specified in [5.1.3](#):

5.1.1 *Water*—Test Method [D95](#).

5.1.2 *Specific Gravity*—Test Method [D70](#).

5.1.3 *Specific Viscosity*—Test Method [D1665](#). The results shall be reported as specific viscosity compared with water at 25°C.

5.1.4 *Float Test*—Test Method [D139](#).

5.1.5 *Distillation*—Test Method [D20](#).

5.1.6 *Softening Point*—Test Method [D36](#).

5.1.7 *Total Bitumen*—Test Method [D4](#).

<sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D04](#) on Road and Paving Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D04.43](#) on Specifications and Test for Tar and Tar Products.

Current edition approved July 1, 2016. Published August 2016. Originally approved in 1938. Last previous edition approved in 2011 as D490 – 92 (2011). DOI: 10.1520/D0490-92R16.

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.