



# Standard Test Method for Acid Resistance of Porcelain Enamels (Citric Acid Spot Test)<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C282; 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.*

## INTRODUCTION

The described method furnishes a means of testing and grading glossy porcelain enamels with respect to their resistance to citric acid at room temperature. Citric acid has been selected because it is the most common and one of the more severe of the food acids in its action on conventional porcelain enamels. The degree of etching by a citric acid solution provides a good indication of the susceptibility of attack of a porcelain enamel coating to common food-based acids.

### 1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers a procedure for evaluating porcelain enamels in their resistance to citric acid exposure at room temperature. No attempt is made to categorize porcelain enamels as to their acid-resistance or non acid-resistance properties, since the requirements in the several branches of the industry differ.

1.2 The test method is applicable for ware of various shapes providing they contain a substantially flat area approximately 50 mm in diameter.

1.3 The test method is not applicable to finishes on chemical and hospital ware, which may come in contact with strong mineral acids, nor to cooking utensils, which may come in prolonged contact with hot acid solutions.

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

### 2. Summary of Test Method

2.1 The test method consists of a 15 min exposure of the test surface to a small pool of 10 % citric acid, and an evaluation of the effect in terms of the change in appearance and the “relative cleanability” of the surface resulting from the treatment.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B08 on Metallic and Inorganic Coatings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B08.12 on Materials for Porcelain Enamel and Ceramic-Metal Systems.

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This test method is based on the Test for Acid Resistance of Porcelain Enamels (Citric Acid Spot Test) *Bulletin T-21*, of the Porcelain Enamel Institute.

### 3. Significance and Use

3.1 This test method is intended specifically for testing the porcelain enamel finish on stoves, refrigerators, table tops, sinks and other sanitary ware, laundry appliances, architectural units, etc., where the surface may come in contact with food acids at room temperature.

3.2 Citric acid has been chosen as the test medium because it is one of the most common of the food acids and will generally provide a measurable result in its action on porcelain enamel.

### 4. Apparatus

- 4.1 *Dropper Bottle*, or medicine dropper,
- 4.2 *Watch Glass*, 25 mm in diameter with fire polished edge,
- 4.3 *Towel*, soft cotton, and
- 4.4 *Drafting Pencil*, conventional graphite, degree 3B.

### 5. Reagents and Materials

5.1 *Citric Acid Solution*—Dissolve 10 g of anhydrous citric acid crystals ( $H_3C_6H_5O_7$ ) in 100 mL of water. Solution shall be prepared not more than 48 h prior to use.

5.2 *Cleaner Solution*—Dissolve 10 g of trisodium phosphate ( $Na_3PO_4$ ) in 1 L of tap water.

### 6. Sampling

6.1 The test specimens may be articles of commerce, pieces cut from articles of commerce, or laboratory specimens prepared especially for this test.

NOTE 1—Processing variables in the application and drying and firing operations materially affect the degree of attack by the acid on the surface of porcelain enamels. Sample specimens used for classification of acid