



Standard Practice for Selection of Cutback Asphalts¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the selection of cutback asphalts of the slow, medium, and rapid curing types for various paving and allied uses. Slow-curing cutback asphalts are also called road oils.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the 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 and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

D 2026 Specification for Cutback Asphalt (Slow-Curing Type)

D 2027 Specification for Cutback Asphalt (Medium-Curing Type)

D 2028 Specification for Cutback Asphalt (Rapid-Curing Type)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *bitumen-aggregate applications*—the spraying of liquid bitumen on prepared aggregate or pavement surfaces, which subsequently are covered with graded aggregate.

3.1.2 *bitumen-aggregate mixture*—a combination of bituminous material and aggregate that is physically mixed by mechanical and thermal means, spread on the job-site, and compacted.

3.1.3 *bitumen applications*—the uses of sprayed bituminous coatings not involving the use of aggregates. Uses of liquid bitumen in this group are all classed as treatments. (See *surface treatments*.)

3.1.4 *cold-laid plant mix*—a mixture of liquid bitumen and mineral aggregate prepared in a central bituminous mixing plant and spread and compacted at the job-site when the mixture is at or near ambient temperature.

3.1.5 *dense-graded aggregate*—aggregate that is graded from the maximum size down to filler with the object of obtaining a bituminous mix with a controlled void content and high stability.

3.1.6 *dust binder*—a light application of bituminous material for the express purpose of laying and bonding loose dust.

3.1.7 *mixed-in-place (road mix)*—a bituminous course produced by mixing mineral aggregate and liquid bitumen at the job-site by means of travel plants, motor graders, drags, or special road-mixing equipment. Pavement base and surfaces, mixed in place, may utilize open-graded aggregates (3.1.10), dense-graded aggregates (3.1.5), sand (3.1.15), or sandy soil (3.1.17).

3.1.8 *mulch treatment*—a spray application of bituminous material used to temporarily stabilize a recently seeded area. The bitumen can also be applied to straw or hay mulch as a tie-down.

3.1.9 *multiple surface treatment*—two or more surface treatments placed one on the other. The maximum aggregate size of each successive treatment is usually one half that of the previous one, and the total thickness is about the same as the nominal maximum size aggregate particles of the first course.

3.1.10 *open-graded aggregate*—one containing little or no mineral filler and in which the void spaces in the compacted aggregate are relatively large.

3.1.11 *patch mix*—a mixture of bituminous material and mineral aggregate for patching holes, depressions, and distressed areas in existing pavements. These mixes are suitable for use in relatively small areas, applied at ambient temperature using hand-laying and hand-compaction techniques. These mixes may be designed for immediate use or for stock-piling for a period of time prior to use.

3.1.12 *pavement base and surfaces*—the lower or underlying pavement course atop the subbase or subgrade and the top or wearing course. Cold-laid mixtures that are bound together with liquid bitumens use either open or dense aggregate gradations.

3.1.13 *penetration macadam*—a pavement construction using essentially one-size coarse aggregate, which is penetrated in place by a heavy application of high-viscosity bituminous

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D04 on Road and Paving Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D04.40 on Asphalt Specifications.

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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.