



Standard Test Method for Resistance to Impact for Resilient Floor Tile¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method measures the resistance to impact of resilient floor tile.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values in parentheses are for information only.

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

F 141 Terminology Relating to Resilient Floor Coverings

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in this test method refer to Terminology **F 141**.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Resilient floor tile is subjected to impacts from objects that may be inadvertently dropped on to surfaces. It is not possible to know all of the factors related to the dropped objects (shape, weight, height of drop) or the condition of the environment in which the tile is located (types of subfloor, degree of adhesion to subfloor, temperature). Therefore, this test method can only provide a relative measure of resistance of resilient floor tile to impact.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Impact Testing Apparatus*, consisting essentially of a specimen support, weights, and a device for guiding a freely falling weight. A suitable apparatus is shown in **Fig. 1**.

5.1.1 *Specimen Support*, consisting of three steel balls, each 1 in. in diameter, equally spaced over a rigid steel base so that

a circle drawn through the center of the balls is 5 in. in diameter. The three balls shall be firmly attached to the base plate and the balls and the base plate shall weigh not less than 10 lbs (4.5 kg).

5.1.2 *Steel Ball*, 1-in. (2.54-cm diameter) weighing 0.143 ± 0.002 lb (0.065 ± 0.001 kg) shall be used for testing $\frac{1}{8}$ (0.317 cm) and thinner floor covering; and a 1-in. (2.54 cm) diameter steel cylinder weighing 0.350 ± 0.005 lb (0.159 ± 0.002 kg) shall be used and having a hemispherical end, for testing $\frac{3}{16}$ in. (0.476 cm) and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (0.635 cm) material.

5.1.3 *Slotted Tube*, graduated in $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (0.635 cm) divisions, about 20 in. (50.8 cm) in height and of sufficient size to permit the weight to fall through it freely, is mounted vertically over the specimen support so as to guide the freely falling weight to the center of the circle formed by the three balls.

5.2 *Zinc Oxide Paste*, made by mixing powdered zinc oxide with water to form a thin paste.

6. Test Specimen

6.1 The specimen shall consist of a 6-in. by 6-in. (15 cm by 15 cm) portion of the test unit.

7. Conditioning

7.1 *Conditioning in Air*—Condition the specimens for physical test in air maintained at $73.4 \pm 1.8^\circ\text{F}$ ($25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$) and $50 \pm 5\%$ relative humidity for not less than 24 h before testing.

7.2 *Conditioning in Water*—Maintain the water temperature at $77 \pm 1.8^\circ\text{F}$ ($2 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$) unless otherwise specified. Immerse the specimen for not less than 15 min or more than 30 min before testing.

8. Procedure

8.1 The height from which the weight is dropped and the number of times the weight is dropped shall be as specified in the detailed specification.

8.2 Spread a thin coating of zinc oxide paste over the center of the wearing surface of the specimen so as to form a circle $3 \pm \frac{1}{8}$ in. (7.62 ± 0.317 cm) in diameter. With the coated side down, immediately center the specimen over the three balls attached to the specimen support so that the falling weight will strike the specimen at the center. Drop the required weight, **5.1.2**, freely through the guide tube from the specified height the specified number of times, **8.1**, so that it will strike the specimen at the center. Carefully return the specimen to its

¹ This test method is under jurisdiction of ASTM F06 Committee on Resilient Floor Coverings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F06.30 on Test Methods—Performance.

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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.