

News Release

For Immediate Release

Revised AATCC Test Methods and Procedures Available

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C., USA, June 26, 2019— AATCC research committees work year-round to develop and update standards. The results are published twice per year—in the *AATCC Technical Manual* each January and in the *Mid-Year Supplement* each June.

The 2019 *Mid-Year Supplement* includes 16 revised standards and one new evaluation procedure approved since publication of the 2019 *AATCC Technical Manual*. These documents are available ONLY as downloadable PDFs for 2019. The *2019 Mid-Year Supplement* will be discontinued at the end of 2019 and all standards contained therein will appear in the *2020 AATCC Technical Manual*.

Designation Changes

Official designations and titles for all AATCC standards were updated as prescribed by the Executive Committee on Research (ECR). Standards are officially referenced as “AATCC”, then the letters TM, LP, EP, or M as appropriate, the number (no space), a dash, and the four-digit year of the latest revision (e.g., AATCC TM135-2019). Additional technical changes within the same year are signified by a small “t” following the year. Reaffirmations—with no changes—are signified by a year in parentheses follow the year of latest revision. Editorial changes are signified by a small “e” following the year. Titles include the terms “Test Method,” “Laboratory Procedure,” or “Evaluation Procedure” as appropriate. In some cases, History has been moved to the end of the standard. This format will be gradually implemented for all standards as they are reviewed by the relevant committees.

Laundering Updates

For many years, laundering conditions and washing machine specifications were included in various AATCC test methods. They were updated by the test method committees as needed. From 1984 to 2017, specification tables expanded to include parameters for a wide range of home washing machines. There was no clear correlation among these machines. As technology changed, it became difficult for labs to obtain washers meeting the published specifications.

In January 2018, several research committees approved revised test methods with aligned, *standard* laundering conditions. In March 2019, AATCC TM130, AATCC TM179 and AATCC TM207 were approved with these standard conditions. These revised methods appear in this supplement. Washing machines and tumble dryers reported by the manufacturers to meet standard laundering parameters are listed at www.aatcc.org/test/washers. AATCC does not verify the specification of washing machines or dryers and cannot provide information on obtaining these machines.

New Procedure for E-Textiles

AATCC EP13-2018, Evaluation Procedure for Electrical Resistance of Electronically-Integrated Textiles. New procedure for initial evaluation of electrical resistance of electronically-integrated textiles and/or for evaluation of these same textiles after some treatment (e.g., laundering, stretch, etc.) The first global standard for e-textiles!

Revised Standards

The following AATCC test methods and procedures have been revised since publication of the 2019 *AATCC Technical Manual*. In accordance with AATCC M13, Rules of Procedure for AATCC Test Method and Technology Committees, all technical changes are unanimously approved by the responsible research committee and the Technical Committee on Research (TCR) before publication.

AATCC TM88B-2018t, Test Method for Seam Smoothness in Fabrics after Home Laundering. Revised to clarify use of standard detergent WITH optical brightener and add references for alternate laundering procedures. “AATCC 1993 Standard Reference Detergent” has historically referred to detergent with brightener, but this was overlooked in the previous revision.

AATCC TM88C-2018t, Test Method for Crease Retention in Fabrics after Home Laundering. Revised to clarify use of standard detergent WITH optical brightener and add references for alternate laundering procedures. “AATCC 1993 Standard Reference Detergent” has historically referred to detergent with brightener, but this was overlooked in the previous revision.

AATCC TM116-2018, Test Method for Colorfastness to Crocking: Rotary Vertical Crockmeter. Revised to align with AATCC TM8 and address industry questions. Precision data added.

AATCC TM122-2019, Test Method for Carpet Soiling: Service Soiling. Revised to correct synthetic soil formulation to include *black* iron oxide (in place of red). The supplier confirmed that black iron oxide has been used for more than 8 years.

AATCC TM124-2018t, Test Method for Smoothness Appearance of Fabrics after Home Laundering. Revised to clarify use of standard detergent WITH optical brightener and add references for alternate laundering procedures. “AATCC 1993 Standard Reference Detergent” has historically referred to detergent with brightener, but this was overlooked in the previous revision.

AATCC TM130-2018t, Test Method for Soil Release: Oily Stain Release. Revised to define standard laundering conditions.

AATCC TM134-2019, Test Method for Electrostatic Propensity of Carpets. Revised to increase tolerance for relative humidity during testing.

AATCC TM135-2018t, Test Method for Dimensional Changes of Fabrics after Home Laundering. Revised to clarify use of standard detergent WITH optical brightener and add references for alternate laundering procedures. “AATCC 1993 Standard Reference Detergent” has historically referred to detergent with brightener, but this was overlooked in the previous revision.

AATCC TM141-2019, Test Method for Compatibility of Basic Dyes for Acrylic Fibers. Revised to clarify availability of dyes from AATCC and align with prescribed AATCC style.

AATCC TM143-2018t, Test Method for Appearance of Apparel and Other Textile End Products after Home Laundering. Revised to clarify use of standard detergent WITH optical brightener and add references for alternate laundering procedures. “AATCC 1993 Standard Reference Detergent” has historically referred to detergent with brightener, but this was overlooked in the previous revision.

AATCC TM150-2018t, Test Method for Dimensional Changes of Garments after Home Laundering. Revised to clarify use of standard detergent WITH optical brightener and add references for alternate laundering procedures. “AATCC 1993 Standard Reference Detergent” has historically referred to detergent with brightener, but this was overlooked in the previous revision.

AATCC TM171-2019, Test Method for Carpets: Cleaning of; Hot Water Extraction. Revised to include recommendation for clearing vacuum slot to prevent banding.

AATCC TM179-2019, Test Method for Skew Change in Fabrics After Home Laundering. Revised to define standard laundering conditions.

AATCC TM207-2019, Test Method for Seam Twist in Garments Before and After Home Laundering. Revised to define standard laundering conditions.

AATCC EP1-2018, Evaluation Procedure for Gray Scale for Color Change. Revised for clarity and consistency. Notable changes include use of “grade” as a noun with a simplified definition, use of “evaluate” as the verb, eliminating “rate” and “rating,” discussion of decimal versus dash notations for half-steps, reference to AATCC EP9 for viewing conditions, an experimentally-verified procedure for determining if scales are within tolerance, and improved figures.

AATCC EP2-2018, Evaluation Procedure for Gray Scale for Staining. Revised for clarity and consistency. Notable changes include use of “grade” as a noun with a simplified definition, use of “evaluate” as the verb, eliminating “rate” and “rating,” discussion of decimal versus dash notations for half-steps, reference to AATCC EP9 for viewing conditions, an experimentally-verified procedure for determining if scales are within tolerance, and added/improved figures.

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New and revised standards are also available for purchase as individual downloads.

About AATCC: AATCC is the world's leading not-for-profit association serving textile professionals since 1921. AATCC, headquartered in Research Triangle Park, NC, USA, provides test method development, quality control materials, and professional networking for members in about 50 countries throughout the world.

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