



Standard Test Method for Freeze/Thaw Resistance of Polymer Floor Polishes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3209; 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 (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the stability of polymer emulsion floor polishes when these are exposed to repeated cycles of freezing and thawing. Possible degradation of the emulsion is observed and possible reduction of initial gloss is measured.

1.2 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, 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
D1455 Test Method for 60° Specular Gloss of Emulsion Floor Polish

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This test method is used to determine the effect of freezing on floor polishes. It may be used to predict the stability of a floor polish when exposed to freezing.

4. Apparatus

- 4.1 *Freezer*, adjusted to -7.8 to -6.7°C (18 to 20°F).
4.2 *Flint Glass Bottles*, three, 4 oz (125 mL) capacity.³

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D21 on Polishes and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D21.03 on Chemical and Physical Testing.

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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.

³ The sole source of supply of the apparatus known to the committee at this time is Fisher Scientific, Catalog No. 02-883 BA. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,¹ which you may attend.

4.3 *Black Glass*,⁴ standard, polished as described in Test Method D1455.

4.4 *60° Gloss Meter*.

4.5 *Polishes* to be tested.

5. Procedure

5.1 Determine the turbidity of each polish, visually or by any other suitable method.

5.2 Pour one coat of each polish to be tested on the black glass. Allow to dry in a vertical position at room temperature. Determine the initial gloss in accordance with Test Method D1455.

5.3 Place 100 mL of polish in each of three 125-mL (4-oz) flint glass bottles. Place the filled bottles side by side, horizontally, in the freezer on a rack, providing a minimum of 25 mm (1 in.) between the bottles and the freezer walls with the contact area between the bottles and the rack no greater than that required to support the bottles.

5.4 Allow the samples to remain in the freezer for 16 h, or a minimum of 8 h after becoming solid.

5.5 Remove all the samples of frozen polish and allow to thaw, undisturbed, at 18 to 24°C (65 to 76°F) for a period of 24 h.

5.6 Inspect all thawed samples visually. Observe and record any separation, stratification, or coagulation.

5.7 Determine the turbidity on the open sample of polish as in 5.1.

5.8 Agitate one bottle of thawed polish and apply one coat of polish to the standard black glass as in 5.2. Determine gloss as in 5.2.

5.9 Return the remaining two bottles of polish to the freezer for 16 h, and repeat 5.4 – 5.8 for the second freeze/thaw cycle.

⁴ The sole source of supply of the apparatus known to the committee at this time is Peril Stein Glass, 2543 Kensington Ave., Phila. PA 19125. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,¹ which you may attend.

5.10 Return the third bottle of polish to the freezer for 16 h and again repeat 5.4 – 5.8.

6. Interpretation of Results

6.1 The polish passes each freeze/thaw cycle if there has been no apparent change in appearance and no significant loss in gloss or increase in turbidity.

7. Report

7.1 Report test results as the number of cycles passed together with visual inspection comments regarding possible separation, stratification, or coagulation.

8. Precision and Bias

8.1 The test method differentiates polishes that are freeze stable from those which are not. Polishes that are borderline in freeze/thaw stability may pass in some laboratories and fail in others.

8.2 *Bias*—Since there is no accepted reference material suitable for determining the bias for the procedure in Test Method D3209 for measuring freeze/thaw resistance of polymer emulsion floor polishes, bias has not been determined.

9. Keywords

9.1 emulsion; polishes; polymer

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