



Standard Classification for Dry Pigmentary Titanium Dioxide Products¹

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This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This classification describes eight types of dry pigmentary titanium dioxide products, grouped by composition, typical end use application, and some performance properties.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D34 Guide for Chemical Analysis of White Pigments
- D153 Test Methods for Specific Gravity of Pigments
- D185 Test Methods for Coarse Particles in Pigments
- D280 Test Methods for Hygroscopic Moisture (and Other Matter Volatile Under the Test Conditions) in Pigments
- D1394 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of White Titanium Pigments
- D2448 Test Method for Water-Soluble Salts in Pigments by Measuring the Specific Resistance of the Leachate of the Pigment
- D3720 Test Method for Ratio of Anatase to Rutile in Titanium Dioxide Pigments by X-Ray Diffraction

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This classification is given as an aid in determining the fitness for use of a titanium dioxide pigment for a coating application. It is limited to dry, hiding pigments. It excludes pigment dispersions, and non-hiding specialty titanium dioxide products.

4. Basis for Classification

4.1 Titanium dioxide pigments can differ in many ways, including composition and performance. This classification

¹ This classification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D01 on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D01.31 on Pigment 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.

outlines differences between pigment types that should be considered when selecting a product for a coating application. A minimum number of properties are given to highlight major differences, while allowing maximum flexibility.

5. Composition and Properties

5.1 *Titanium Dioxide Pigments*, should conform to the requirements for composition prescribed in **Table 1**. They are chemically prepared pigments consisting of anatase or rutile titanium dioxide with or without modifications with water-insoluble oxides of aluminum, silicon, zinc, etc., or other agents; these reagent materials are introduced specifically to improve those properties for which the pigment is used. The titanium dioxide pigments shall be free of extenders such as barium sulfate, clay, magnesium silicate, whiting, etc.

5.2 The desired properties of the pigment, other than as herein indicated, shall be subject to agreement between the purchaser and the seller and shall be based on a satisfactory match between the submitted pigment sample and a previously agreed upon reference sample (see **6.1.6**).

6. Test Methods

6.1 Tests shall be conducted in accordance with the following test methods. Test procedures not covered by ASTM test methods shall be mutually agreed upon between the purchaser and the seller.

6.1.1 *Chemical Analysis*—Guide **D34** or Test Methods **D1394**.

6.1.2 *Specific Gravity*—Test Methods **D153**.

6.1.3 *Coarse Particles*—Test Methods **D185**.

6.1.4 *Moisture*—Test Methods **D280**.

6.1.5 *Matter Soluble in Water, Specific Resistance*—Test Method **D2448**. The measured specific resistance of the aqueous leachate from the pigment is an index of the level of water-soluble salts.

6.1.6 *Chalking Resistance*—It is recommended that purchaser and seller agree upon standards and methods of test suitable for their requirements (see **5.2**). Comparison in a good quality exterior air-dry alkyd enamel (trade sales or industrial) and exposure in Florida at 45° facing south are recommended. Chalking differences are minimized by less durable vehicles, while required exposure times are prolonged by more durable

TABLE 1 Classification of Dry, Pigmentary Titanium Dioxide Pigments

Classification Type	Typical Properties								ASTM Standards	
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII		
Crystal type	anatase ^A	rutile	rutile	rutile	rutile	rutile	rutile	rutile	rutile	D3720
Chalking resistance, relative	free chalking	low-medium	medium	high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	very high	
Typical end use application(s)	white exterior house paint and interior uses	low-medium % PVC	high % PVC	exterior coatings requiring excellent durability	exterior coatings requiring excellent durability with high gloss	int-ext coatings medium-high % PVC	int-ext coatings low-high % PVC	exterior colored coatings and polymers requiring infra-red reflectance with excellent durability		
Titanium dioxide (TiO ₂) content, min., %	94	92	80	80	90	90	92	92	92	D1394
Specific resistance, min., Ω	5000	5000	3000	3000	3000	5000	5000	3000	3000	D2448
Moisture content as packed, max, %	0.7	0.7	1.5	1.5	1	0.7	0.7	1	1	D280
Specific gravity	3.8-4.0	4.0-4.3	3.6-4.3	3.6-4.3	3.6-4.3	3.6-4.3	4.0-4.3	3.6-4.3	3.6-4.3	D153
45-µm screen residue, max, %	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	D185

^A Identification of anatase or rutile or mixtures thereof is made by X-ray analysis (Test Method D3720).

vehicles. Once the reference sample agreed upon between the purchaser and seller has qualified, subsequent shipments of that product may be compared with the reference sample by an agreed upon accelerated weathering test.

7. Keywords

7.1 anatase; dioxide pigments; rutile; titanium; white pigments

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