



Standard Terminology Relating to Home Furnishings¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This standard is the compilation of all terminology developed by Subcommittee D13.63 on Home Furnishings.

1.2 This terminology is unique to the Home Furnishings industry. Meanings of the same terms used outside the industry can be found in other compilations in dictionaries of general usage.

1.3 In addition to being a specialized dictionary, D7023 is also useful for managing the Subcommittee's terminology.

1.4 Terms listed are under the jurisdiction of Subcommittee D13.63.

1.5 For the definitions of other textile terms, refer to Terminology **D123**.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D123** Terminology Relating to Textiles
- D3136** Terminology Relating to Care Labeling for Apparel, Textile, Home Furnishing, and Leather Products
- D3597** Performance Specification for Woven Upholstery Fabrics—Plain, Tufted, or Flocked
- D3690** Performance Specification for Vinyl-Coated and Urethane-Coated Upholstery Fabrics—Indoor
- D3786** Test Method for Bursting Strength of Textile Fabrics—Diaphragm Bursting Strength Tester Method
- D3787** Test Method for Bursting Strength of Textiles—Constant-Rate-of-Traversal (CRT) Ball Burst Test
- D3882** Test Method for Bow and Skew in Woven and Knitted Fabrics
- D3887** Specification for Tolerances for Knitted Fabrics
- D4037** Performance Specification for Woven, Knitted, or Flocked Bedspread Fabrics
- D4151** Test Method for Flammability of Blankets

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **D13** on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **D13.63** on Home Furnishings.

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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.

- D4720** Performance Specification for Soft Window Covering Fabrics for Household Use
- D4721** Practice for Evaluation of the Performance of Machine Washable and Drycleanable Bedcoverings and Accessories
- D4769** Specification for Woven and Warp Knitted Comforter Fabrics
- D4770** Test Method for Appearance and Integrity of High-loft Batting After Refurbishing
- D4771** Performance Specification for Knitted Upholstery Fabrics for Indoor Furniture
- D4847** Performance Specification for Woven Awning and Canopy Fabrics
- D4850** Terminology Relating to Fabrics and Fabric Test Methods
- D4852** Practice for Evaluation of Attached Upholstery Fabrics
- D5253** Terminology Relating to Floor Coverings and Textile Upholstered Furniture
- D5378** Performance Specification for Woven and Knitted Shower Curtains for Institutional and Household Use
- D5431** Performance Specification for Woven and Knitted Sheeting Products for Institutional and Household Use
- D5432** Performance Specification for Blanket Products for Institutional and Household Use
- D5433** Performance Specification for Towel Products for Institutional and Household Use
- D5684** Terminology Relating to Pile Floor Coverings

3. Terminology

attached upholstery fabric, *n*—the exterior fabric covering secured to a furniture unit by the furniture manufacturer or custom upholsterer. (See **furniture coverings**.) **D4852**

back coating, *n*—in *textile floor covering*, an adhesive compound applied for such purpose as locking pile yarn tufts into a carpet backing, bonding a secondary backing to a primary backing, or increasing fabric body or stiffness and increasing dimensional stability. **D4852, D5684**

bath sheet, *n*—a textile terry product with end hems or fringes and side hems or selvages that is generally much larger than a bath towel. **D5433**

- bath towel**, *n*—a textile terry product with end hems or fringes and side hems or selvages, which is used to dry a person’s body after bathing or swimming. **D5433**
- bedcovering**, *n*—a textile product used on a bed over the sheets for warmth or decoration. **D4721**
- bedspread**, *n*—a type of bedcovering that is placed over the blankets and sheets for appearance and warmth. **D4037, D4721**
- blanket**, *n*—*for bedding*, an unquilted fabric covering designed primarily to provide thermal insulation.
DISCUSSION—Blankets may be made by any textile process from various types of fibers and may or may not have a raised fiber surface. **D4151, D4721, D5432**
- blocking**, *n*—the measurement of the development of surface tack and the thermal softening point of the material. **D3690**
- cleaning agent**, *n*—a chemical compound or formulation of several compounds which loosens, disperses, dissolves, or emulsifies soil to facilitate removal by mechanical action. **D3136, D4852, D5253**
- comforter**, *n*—a bedcovering assembly, consisting of an insulating filler secured between two layers of fabric, used primarily to reduce heat loss. **D4721, D4769**
- contract furniture**, *n*—furniture manufactured for use in non-household applications. **D4771**
- conventional blanket**, *n*—a blanket woven in either a plain or twill weave that is napped on both sides. **D5432**
- crash towel**, *n*—a plain weave non-terry product with hems or selvages which has a rough texture caused by uneven yarns. **D5433**
- delicate or gentle cycle**, *n*—a cycle in which agitation is slow and time is reduced. **D5431**
- drop**, *n*—that part of a bedcovering that hangs perpendicular to the floor.
DISCUSSION—For bedspreads, drop is measured from the top of the mattress to the bottom of the spread. For dust ruffles, drop is measured from the top of the box spring to the bottom of the ruffle. **D4721**
- dust ruffle**, *n*—a fabric which (1) lies flat over the box spring under the mattress on a bed, and (2) has a pleated, tucked, or gathered drop to the floor. **D4721**
- fill leakage**, *n*—*in comforters*, either partial or total penetration of the stuffing material through the outer or face fabric. **D4769**
- fingertip towel**, *n*—a textile product with fringes and side hems or selvages which is smaller than a hand towel, generally used as decoration and to dry hands. **D5433**
- fitted sheet**, *n*—*in textiles*, a product usually made with boxed corners, sometimes elasticized with shape and size to conform to the contours of the mattress and used for covering the mattress on a bed. **D5431**
- flannel**, *n*—*as applied to bed sheeting*, a napped fabric used in the fabrication of sheeting products. **D5431**
- flat sheet**, *n*—*in comforters*, a flat, hemmed product, usually rectangular, used for covering the mattress on a bed and used for sleeping on or under. **D5431**
- flock**, *n*—a material obtained by reducing textile fibers to fragments as by cutting, tearing, or grinding, to give various degrees of comminution. **D3597**
- flocked blanket**, *n*—a blanket made with a fishnet-type scrim sandwiched between two thin layers of foam with flock adhered to the outside of the foam. **D5432**
- founce**, *n*—a ruffled drop on a bedcovering. **D4721**
- furniture covering**, *n*—a general term for attached upholstery fabric, slipcovers and throws. **D4852**
- furniture unit**, *n*—*in upholstered furniture*, a complete single piece of upholstered seating, such as a sofa, love seat, lounge chair, rocker, or recliner. **D4852**
- group**, *n*—*in upholstered furniture*, a number of individual upholstered furniture units that are related by one or more physical characteristics such as styling, color, shape or covering. **D4852**
- huck towel**, *n*—a plain weave non-terry foundation product constructed with small warp and filling floats, having hems or selvages, which is used to dry a person’s hands and utensils such as glasses, plates, bowls, and flatware. **D5433**
- hydrolytic stability**, *n*—the ability to withstand the environmental effects of high humidity. **D3690**
- indoor furniture**, *n*—furniture manufactured for use in the interior of a building. **D4771**
- knitted fabric**, *n*—a structure produced by interlooping one or more ends of yarn or comparable material. **D3786, D3787, D3882, D3887, D4847, D4850, D5378**
- muslin**, *n*—*as applied to bed sheeting*, a plain weave fabric with not fewer than 128 yarns/in.² (645 mm²). **D5431**
- nonwoven blanket**, *n*—a blanket produced by bonding or interlocking of fibers, or both, accomplished by mechanical, chemical, thermal, or solvent means, or combination thereof. **D5432**
- overall cleaning**, *n*—*for upholstered furniture*, the application of an appropriate cleaning agent to the entire fabric covering, accomplished while the upholstery fabric remains attached to the furniture unit. **D4852**
- part**, *n*—*in upholstered furniture*, one component of a furniture unit, such as a seat, back, pillow, or arm cushion. **D4852**
- percale**, *n*—*as applied to bed sheeting*, a plain weave fabric with not fewer than 180 yarns/in.² (645 mm²). **D5431**
- quilt**, *n*—a bedcovering assembly used primarily for warmth, consisting of an insulating filler secured between two layers

of fabric, but generally lighter in weight and thinner than a comforter. **D4721**

sham, *n*—a fabric covering for a bed pillow, usually of decorative fabric that matches the bedcovering. **D4721**

sheet, *n*—*in textiles*, a large rectangular usually plain woven fabricated product which is used over a mattress on a bed. The product may be carded or combed yarn in a wide range of constructions. **D5431**

sheet blanket, *n*—a thin blanket of cotton or cotton and synthetic blend having a nap on both sides. **D5431**

shower curtain, *n*—a hanging fabric used to prevent water spillage from a shower area. **D5378**

slipcover, *n*—a removable, fitted protective textile cover, often decorative and specifically made for upholstered furniture. (See **furniture covering**.) **D4852**

soft window coverings, *n*—curtains, draperies, or other accessories on wall or window openings that are either lined or unlined and primarily constructed of textile fabrics. **D4720**

terry towel, *n*—a textile product with end hems or fringes and side hems or selvages which is made with loop pile on one or both sides generally covering the entire surface or forming strips, checks, or other patterns. **D5433**

thermal bonded batting, *n*—a textile filling material which contains low-melting point fibers or polymers which, when heated, fuse the batting materials together; a textile filling material which contains low-melting point fibers or polymers which, when heated, fuse the batting materials together. **D4770**

thread count, *n*—in woven textiles as used in sheets and bedding, the sum of the number of warp yarns (ends) and filling yarns (picks) per unit distance as counted while the fabric is held under zero tension and is free of folds and wrinkles, individual warp and filling yarns are counted as single units regardless of whether comprised of single or plied components.

DISCUSSION—The thread count of sheets and bedding articles is frequently displayed on the outside packaging of such items, or utilized in advertising literature. The specific construction of the warp and filling yarns used to construct the fabric in such items may also be displayed. Examples:

“300 Thread count, 2 ply yarn.” A representation of “600 thread count” for this same product would be likely to mislead consumers about the quality of the product purchased.

“Finely woven 380 2 ply fabric.” The representation of “finely woven 760 threads per square inch” is considered to be misleading to the consumer.

throw, *n*—a removable, unfitted protective textile cover, used over upholstered furniture. (See **furniture covering**.) **D4852**

towel, *n*—an absorbent textile product used for drying or wiping. **D4833**

tufting, *n*—*in upholstered furniture*, localized indentation of upholstered furniture surfaces and cushions, by the use of or appearance of buttons, providing an aesthetic treatment. **D4852**

upholstered furniture, *n*—furniture covered with such materials as textiles or leather, and generally with padding or cushions, or both. **D4771, D4852**

upholstery fabric, *n*—the exterior fabric covering applied to a furniture unit. **D4771**

vacuum, *v*—to clean using an electrically powered machine to create suction in order to remove loose, particulate soil and lint. **D4852**

welted seam, *n*—*in upholstered furniture*, seam sewn with a strip of covered cord between the two fabric pieces, joined so that the welting shows on the exterior of the furniture unit. **D4852**

welting, *n*—*in upholstered furniture*, a cord covered by strips of exterior fabric, used in welted seams of upholstery covering. **D4852**

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