



Standard Specification for Slate Dimension Stone¹

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

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers the material characteristics, physical requirements, and sampling appropriate to the selection of slate for general building and structural purposes.

1.2 Dimension slate shall include stone that is sawed, cut, split, or otherwise finished or shaped, and shall specifically exclude molded, cast, or otherwise artificially aggregated units composed of fragments, and also crushed and broken stone.

1.3 It specifically excludes roofing slate (see Specification C 406) and slate for industrial uses.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

C 119 Terminology Relating to Dimension Stone

C 120 Methods of Flexure Testing of Slate (Modulus of Rupture, Modulus of Elasticity)

C 121 Test Method for Water Absorption of Slate

C 217 Test Method for Weather Resistance of Slate

C 241 Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Stone Subjected to Foot Traffic

C 406 Specification for Roofing Slate

C 1353 Test Method Using the Taber Abraser for Abrasion Resistance of Dimension Stone Subjected to Foot Traffic

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C18 on Dimension Stone and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C18.03 on Material 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.

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—All definitions are in accordance with Terminology C 119.

4. Classification

4.1 Dimension slate shall be selected for the following uses:

4.1.1 *I Exterior.*

4.1.2 *II Interior.*

5. Physical Requirements

5.1 Slate supplied under this specification shall conform to the requirements listed in Table 1.

5.2 Slate used for exterior applications in ambient acidic atmospheres or in industrial areas where heavy air pollution occurs shall be free of carbonaceous ribbons. Slate shall be sound, durable, and free of spalls, cracks, open seams, pits, or other defects that are likely to impair its structural integrity in its intended use.

5.3 Slate shall be selected for overall satisfactory and natural appearance.

5.4 The desired color and texture, with their permissible natural variations in material characteristics for all material to be produced for the project, shall be established by control samples. Select representative samples by viewing a sufficient number of physical samples prior to production that show the complete range of variations in color and texture of the slate specified.

6. Sampling

6.1 Samples, if required, for testing to determine the characteristics and physical properties shall be representative of the slate to be used.

TABLE 1 Physical Requirements

NOTE—The material property values in Table 1 were established using samples prepared according to the individual test methods. Finishes, other than those specified in the individual test methods, may result in a deviation from established values.

Property	Test Requirements	Classifications		Test Method(s)
Absorption, max, %	0.25	I	Exterior	C 121
	0.45	II	Interior	
Modulus of rupture, min, psi (MPa):	9000 (62.1)	I	Exterior	C 120
		II	Interior	
Across grain	7200 (49.6)	I	Exterior	
		II	Interior	
Along grain	5500 (37.9)	I	Exterior	
		II	Interior	
Abrasion resistance, min, H ^a , ^{A,B,C}	8.0	I	Exterior	C 241/C 1353
	8.0	II	Interior	
Acid resistance, max, in. (mm)	0.015 (0.38)	I	Exterior	C 217
	0.025 (0.64)	II	Interior	

^APertains only to stone subject to foot traffic.

^BThe supplier of the No. 60 Alundum abrasive, Norton, has indicated that the formula for Norton treatment 138S has been changed. The new abrasive is currently more aggressive, resulting in lower abrasive hardness values (H_a) than when the standard was initially established. As such, care should be taken when interpreting H_a values from tests using the new abrasive, particularly with regard to current ASTM stone standard specification requirements for abrasion resistance, which were developed when the original abrasive was still in use. Committee C-18 is actively studying alternatives to address this issue.

^CAbrasion Resistance Test Method C 1353 will eventually replace Test Method C 241 and it is not necessary to perform both tests. Availability of the proper equipment and materials by the testing laboratory may determine which test is performed.

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