



Designation: C777 – 04 (Reapproved 2019)

Standard Test Method for Sulfide Resistance of Ceramic Decorations on Glass¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C777; 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 qualitative determination of the sulfide resistance of ceramic decorations on glass to assure the necessary durability of the decoration.

1.2 This test method provides an indication of performance when and if the decorations are exposed to sulfide attack.

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

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.5 This test method generates hydrogen sulfide gas which is highly poisonous.

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[C224 Practice for Sampling Glass Containers](#)

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 One half of the specimens are immersed in a volume 4 % acetic acid solution that contains 1 mL of saturated sodium sulfide solution per each 100 mL of the acetic acid solution in a suitable covered container at room temperature. The degree

of attack is determined by visual observation and physical testing of the specimen exposed to a hydrogen sulfide atmosphere.

4. Apparatus

4.1 *Suitable Covered Container.*

4.2 *Stirrer.*

4.3 *Hot Plate.*

4.4 *Pipet.*

4.5 *Fume Hood*, or other means of adequately exhausting H₂S produced during the test.

5. Reagents

5.1 *Sodium Sulfide* (Na₂S·9H₂O), reagent grade.

5.2 *Acetic Acid* (CH₃COOH, min 99.8 %), reagent grade.

6. Test Specimen

6.1 The decorated ware should be representative of the lot, or run, and should be taken in accordance with the principles stated in Practice [C224](#).

6.2 Standard reference ware of known resistance must be run with each test.

7. Preparation of Test Solution

7.1 Make a 4 % volume acetic acid solution by adding to each 96 mL of distilled water 4 mL of acetic acid.

7.2 Dissolve an excess amount of sodium sulfide in warm (35 to 40°C) distilled water. Make sure there is undissolved sodium sulfide left over. Cool to room temperature.

7.3 Stir into each 100 mL of the 4 % acetic acid solution 1 mL of saturated, clear, sodium sulfide solution for 2 or 3 min. A milk of sulfur will precipitate.

8. Procedure

8.1 Place the test specimens and the reference standard of known resistance into the test solution prepared according to [7.3](#) at room temperature so that only half of the decoration is immersed. Stir and cover.

8.2 Remove specimens from solution after 15 min and allow to air dry.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C14 on Glass and Glass Products, and was written by Subcommittee C14.10 on Glass Decoration in cooperation with the Society of Glass Decorator's Committee A-20.

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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.

8.3 Note the degree of attack after 15 min by visual observation and grade.

8.4 Retain a duplicate piece of ware of each decoration under test without exposure as an aid in judging the degree of attack on the specimens under test.

9. Interpretation of Results

9.1 Visual Inspection:

9.1.1 Grade the decoration on the test specimen and reference standard in accordance with one of the following visual test grades:

9.1.2 Visual Evaluation:

Grade V1—No attack apparent.

Grade V2—Appearance of iridescence or visible stain on the exposed surface when viewed at a 45° angle but not apparent at angles less than 30°.

Grade V3—A definite stain which does not blur reflected images and is visible at angles less than 30°.

Grade V4—Definite stain with a gross color change or strongly iridescent surface visible at angles less than 30° and which may blur reflected images.

Grade V5—Surface dull or matte and grossly discolored.

9.2 Physical Testing of Stain:

9.2.1 If a stain exists, grade the decoration on the test specimen and reference standard in accordance with one of the following physical test grades:

9.2.2 Physical Testing of Stain:

Grade P1—Stain is easily removed by gently rubbing the hydrogen sulfide atmosphere exposed decoration with a dry paper towel.

Grade P2—Stain is not completely removed by gently rubbing the hydrogen sulfide atmosphere exposed decoration with a dry paper towel, but can be removed by vigorous rubbing.

Grade P3—Stain cannot be completely removed by vigorous rubbing with a dry paper towel.

10. Report

10.1 Report the following information:

10.1.1 Identification of the ware, the decorating material used, and the firing cycle.

10.1.2 Grading of the specimen and the reference standard.

10.1.3 Date of test and name of operator conducting test.

11. Precision and Bias

11.1 No justifiable statement can be made regarding the precision and bias of this test method since the degree of attack is determined with a subjective grading system.

12. Keywords

12.1 ceramic decorations; glass; sulfide resistance

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