

# TECHNICAL REPORT

**ISO**  
**TR 9405**

First edition  
1990-09-15

---

---

## **Textile floor coverings — Assessment of changes in appearance**

*Revêtements de sol textiles — Évaluation des changements d'aspect*



Reference number  
ISO/TR 9405:1990(E)

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards, but in exceptional circumstances a technical committee may propose the publication of a Technical Report of one of the following types:

- type 1, when the required support cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts;
- type 2, when the subject is still under technical development or where for any other reason there is the future but not immediate possibility of an agreement on an International Standard;
- type 3, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example).

Technical Reports of types 1 and 2 are subject to review within three years of publication, to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards. Technical Reports of type 3 do not necessarily have to be reviewed until the data they provide are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

ISO/TR 9405, which is a Technical Report of type 2, was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 38, *Textiles*.

Annex A forms an integral part of this Technical Report.

© ISO 1990

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from the publisher.

International Organization for Standardization  
Case Postale 56 • CH-1211 Genève 20 • Switzerland

Printed in Switzerland

## Introduction

In 1980, a number of areas of work for improving the methods of assessing changes in appearance of textile floor coverings were agreed, including experiments aimed at developing the use of sets of fatigued specimens as reference scales to assist in the assessment of the changes.

Since then, an ad hoc group has developed a succession of reference scales and procedures which formed the basis for round-robin trials to evaluate their usefulness.

The conclusion that could be drawn from these results was that carefully selected reference scales did indeed aid the assessment of appearance changes in textile floor coverings.

However, members expressed concern over the widespread introduction of procedures based on reference scales because of possible problems such as constancy of production and stability in use.

For this reason, further work is required before the publication of an International Standard.

It was decided therefore that a Technical Report (type 2) describing the procedures for using reference scales to assist in the overall assessment of appearance change should be prepared, with the following provisos:

- a) although development work has shown that the use of reference scales assists in assessing appearance changes in textile floor coverings, and results in good agreement between experienced assessors, it does not obviate the need for experienced assessors;
- b) care should be taken in the handling and storage of the reference scales to ensure that they are not subject to any further compression, flexing or contamination;
- c) it has been found that, even with care, the higher-grade scales (3 and 4) made from highly resilient pile material may change with time.

Details of the reference scales are given in annex A. Information about the suppliers of scales and advice on the production of scales specific to a purpose or textile floor covering may be obtained through the Secretariat of ISO/TC 38/SC 12 (BSI).