association for contract textiles

# Colorfastness to Light
## ACT Voluntary Performance Guidelines
## Test Method Descriptions for Knit Fabrics – Indoor

ACT Voluntary Performance Guidelines for Flammability and four aspects of fabric durability—Wet & Dry Crocking, Colorfastness to Light, Physical Properties, and Abrasion—make fabric specification easier.

To give architects, designers, and end-users a vast amount of performance information in a succinct visual way, ACT developed icons to indicate that a fabric meets or exceeds guideline requirements. Look for these Registered Certification Marks on ACT Member Company sampling to assure that the fabrics you specify perform up to contract standards and pass all applicable testing.

ACT Guidelines are based on a fabric's construction (woven, coated, knit), its intended application (upholstery, direct glue wallcovering/adhered panels, wrapped panels/upholstered walls, drapery), and where it will be used (indoor, outdoor). The application and usage parameters are set by the fabric supplier. All three parameters determine which set of ACT Voluntary Performance Guidelines applies.

This specific set of guidelines applies to knit fabrics for indoor use and all applications. "Knit Fabrics" are made by interlocking loops of one or more yarns.

Test methods included in the Guidelines measure fabric performance under standard laboratory conditions and are intended to represent the most current test version. Note: Individual ACT Member product information may represent a different version of a test method depending on the date the product was introduced to market.

**Important:** These tests represent minimum requirements, which are subject to change without notice and may not reflect requirements or laws in all locations. See information and disclaimer on page 3.

## Colorfastness to Light — KNIT FABRICS, INDOOR USE

A material's degree of resistance to the fading effect of light.

### ACT GUIDELINES

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| **Upholstery** | |
| AATCC 16.2 Option 1 or 16.3 Option 3 | Grade 4 minimum at 40 hours* |
| **Direct Glue Wallcoverings and Adhered Panels** | |
| AATCC 16.2 Option 1 or 16.3 Option 3 | Grade 4 minimum at 40 hours* |
| **Wrapped Panels and Upholstered Walls** | |
| AATCC 16.2 Option 1 or 16.3 Option 3 | Grade 4 minimum at 40 hours* |
| **Drapery** | |
| AATCC 16.2 Option 1 or 16.3 Option 3 | Grade 4 minimum at 60 hours* |

**Note: There is no direct correlation between the numbers of testing hours and hours of service in the field.*

## TEST METHODS

### AATCC 16.2 Option 1 or 16.3 Option 3*

The AATCC 16 is a test method of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC). ACT recognizes two methods where the only difference is the light source being used. In AATCC 16.2 Option 1 a Carbon-Arc lamp is used as the light source, and in AATCC 16.3 Option 3 a Xenon-Arc lamp is used. Under both methods a strip of fabric (part of which is protected by a special paper card) is placed in a fadeometer and exposed to the test conditions for the required number of hours (AATCC accelerated fading units). After the exposure the difference in color between the exposed and protected parts of the fabric are compared to the AATCC gray scale for color change and the degree of fading is rated.

Grade 5 = no fading
Grade 4 = slight fading
Grade 1 = high degree of fading

* For complete technical details about AATCC 16.2 Option 1 or 16.3 Option 3: http://www.aatcc.org

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMERS REGARDING ACT'S VOLUNTARY PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

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Neither the Guidelines, nor the Marks constitute any promise, representation or warranty that a product or sample that bears or to which a Mark is referenced will in fact comply with applicable federal, state, or municipal laws, codes, rules and regulations concerning the intended use of such product ("Laws"), nor any assurance, representation or guarantee regarding or relating in any manner to the safety of any product or sample that bears or, to which a Mark is referenced.

Whenever appropriate, specifiers and end users should seek the advice of professionals or other knowledgeable persons to ascertain whether a product will in fact comply with applicable Laws.

Understand that the testing and standards ("Standards") referenced in the Guidelines are developed and promulgated by third parties not associated with ACT, and that these Standards often change or are supplemented by such third parties. Accordingly, the fact that a particular Standard is referenced in the Guidelines (and/or associated with any Mark) does not mean, nor is it intended to be a representation that Standard is the most current one.

It is the responsibility of the contract textile vendor and/or the manufacturer (not ACT) to determine in all instances whether or not a textile meets each of the Standards to which a particular Mark is referenced.

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