

Specific Test List: Carpeting

Test	No. of Pieces of Each Product Required	Performance Time
WHEN USED ON FLOORS:		
16 CFR 1630: ⁽¹⁾		
Carpet	12 pieces: 9" x 9"	5 – 7 days
Underlayment	12 pieces: 9" x 9"	5 – 7 days
Composite (Carpet + Underlayment)	12 pieces: 9" x 9"	5 – 7 days
16 CFR 1631: ⁽¹⁾		
Carpet	12 pieces: 9" x 9"	5 – 7 days
Underlayment	12 pieces: 9" x 9"	5 – 7 days
Composite (Carpet + Underlayment)	12 pieces: 9" x 9"	5 – 7 days
ASTM E 648:		
Carpet	5 pieces: 9" x 41"	7 – 10 days
Underlayment	5 pieces: 9" x 41"	7 – 10 days
Composite (Carpet + Underlayment)	5 pieces: 9" x 41"	7 – 10 days
NFPA 253:		
Carpet	5 pieces: 9" x 41"	7 – 10 days
Underlayment	5 pieces: 9" x 41"	7 – 10 days
Composite (Carpet + Underlayment)	5 pieces: 9" x 41"	7 – 10 days
WHEN USED ON WALLS OR CEILINGS:		
ASTM E 84 ⁽²⁾	Carpet: 23±1 inches x 24 feet	3 to 4 weeks
NFPA 265	Carpeting sufficient to cover: 2 sections: 2 ft. x 8 ft. and 8 sections: 4 ft. x 8 ft.	3 to 4 weeks

Notes:

(1) 16 CFR 1630/1631 is the minimum mandatory test standard for carpets and rugs used in residential and/or public buildings. In most instances 16 CFR 1630/1631 is the only test that applies to area rugs, even when used in public buildings. Most building codes do specify a more stringent test for "interior floor finish." Area rugs really do not normally fall within this category. This "interior floor finish" category is meant to encompass wall-to-wall carpeting. If, perchance, the rug/carpeting is placed on the wall of a public building, other tests do apply. The other possible tests are: ASTM E 84 and NFPA 265.

(2) Most of the building codes permit ASTM E 84 testing of carpeting used on walls, provided that the occupancy is sprinklered. NFPA 265 would apply if the occupancy is not sprinklered. Due to the potential significant heat release that might result from carpeting, Govmark strongly recommends NFPA 265 whether the building is sprinklered or not sprinklered.

The tests contained in this list are not to be considered all-inclusive. Other tests not listed might apply. In order to assure that you are considering the proper test, please contact us or complete a "Request for Quote" form.