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**Paints, varnishes and printing inks —
Determination of fineness of grind**

*Peintures, vernis et encres d'imprimerie — Détermination de la
finesse de broyage*



Reference number
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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 35, *Paints and varnishes*, Subcommittee SC 9, *General test methods for paints and varnishes* in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 139, *Paints and varnishes*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition (ISO 1524:2013), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- the material of the gauges has been changed from hardened steel only to allow also other materials;
- gauges with three grooves have been added;
- the description of the scraper has been modified;
- a second example of a gauge reading has been added in [Figure 3](#);
- the text has been editorially revised and the normative references have been updated.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Paints, varnishes and printing inks — Determination of fineness of grind

1 Scope

This document specifies a method for determining the fineness of grind of paints, inks and related products by use of a suitable gauge, graduated in micrometres.

It is applicable to all types of liquid paints and related products, except products containing pigments in flake form (e.g. glass flakes, micaceous iron oxides, zinc flakes).

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 1513, *Paints and varnishes — Examination and preparation of test samples*

ISO 4618, *Paints and varnishes — Terms and definitions*

ISO 15528, *Paints, varnishes and raw materials for paints and varnishes — Sampling*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 4618 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

fineness of grind

reading obtained on a standard gauge under specified conditions of test, indicating the depth of the groove(s) of the gauge at which discrete solid particles in the product are readily discernible

4 Apparatus

4.1 Gauge, consisting of a block of a hardened steel or other suitable material, e.g. 175 mm long, 65 mm wide and 13 mm thick.

At least for use with water-dilutable paints, a block of stainless steel should be used.

The top surface of the block shall be both plane and ground smooth and shall contain one, two or three grooves approximately 140 mm long and 12,5 mm wide parallel to the longer sides of the block. The depth of each groove shall be uniformly tapered along its length from a suitable depth (for example 25 µm, 50 µm or 100 µm) at one end to zero at the other end and shall be graduated as specified in [Table 1](#). A diagram showing two typical gauges is given in [Figure 1](#).