
Ceramic tiles —

Part 15:

**Determination of lead and cadmium
given off by tiles**

Carreaux et dalles céramiques —

*Partie 15: Détermination de la teneur en plomb et en cadmium
relargués par les carreaux*



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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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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 189, *Ceramic tile*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 67, *Ceramic tiles*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 10545-15:1995), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- addition of [Clause 3](#), subsequent clauses have been renumbered;
- modifications to [Clause 7](#);
- correction of typographical errors from the previous edition;
- application of this test method to all tile surfaces.

A list of all parts in the ISO 10545 series can be found on the ISO website.

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.

Ceramic tiles —

Part 15:

Determination of lead and cadmium given off by tiles

1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the determination of lead and cadmium given off by the ceramic tiles surface.

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 3696:1987, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

ISO 6353-2:1983, *Reagents for chemical analysis — Part 2: Specifications — First series*

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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/>

4 Principle

Exposure of the surface of a ceramic tile to an acetic acid solution. Determination of the amount of lead and cadmium released into the solution by an appropriate method.

5 Reagents

5.1 General

During the analysis, unless otherwise indicated, use only the reagents specified in ISO 6353-2 if indicated, if not, use reagents of recognized analytical grade, and grade 2 complying with ISO 3696:1987.

5.2 Test solution

Prepare acetic acid solution, 4 % (V/V) as follows: add 40 ml of glacial acetic acid (R 1 of ISO 6353-2:1983) to 960 ml of distilled water of grade 2.

6 Apparatus and materials

Atomic absorption spectrometer, or other suitable apparatus for the analysis of lead and cadmium from solution.

Other materials needed are as follows: silicone sealant in a tube or dispenser, enabling a ribbon of clear silicone (neutral cure) sealant approximately 6 mm in diameter to be formed; impervious cover, made of glass or ceramic or rigid plastic; neutral detergent for glassware; white cloth, made of cotton or flax; class A glass measuring cylinder (ISO 4788).

7 Test specimens

The number of tiles and specimens is reported in [Table 1](#).

Table 1 — Number of tiles and specimens

Tile area cm ² (nominal size)	Number of tiles	Number of speci- mens for each tile	Total number of specimens	Minimum area by specimens to be tested cm ²
tile area ≤400	3	1	3	100 ^a
400 < tile area ≤ 3600	3	1	3	100
tile area >3600	1	3	3	100 ^b
^a In case of a tile with an area <100 cm ² , a suitable number of tiles shall be assembled in order to reach 100 cm ² without considering the joints. Joint shall be filled with a silicone sealant.				
^b In case of a tile with an area >3600 cm ² , specimens, being representative of the surface of the whole tile, shall be mandatorily cut from each tile.				

The surface of a specimen to be tested shall be clean and free from grease or other materials that may interfere with the performance of the test. To ensure cleanliness, the specimen shall be thoroughly washed in tap water containing a small amount of neutral detergent, and rinsed with grade 2 water, then dried either by allowing to drain or with a soft clean cloth. After washing, care shall be taken to avoid handling the surface. Apply a ribbon of silicone sealant 6 mm wide, to the surface. Visually ensure that the ribbon has continuous contact with the surface without gaps. The ribbon shall be high enough to allow the required volume of the test solution to be added and the distance between the edge of the ribbon and the solution surface shall be no more than 1 mm. Allow the sealant to dry over-night. Measure and calculate the area *A*, in square decimetres, of the surface to be tested.

8 Procedure

Place each specimen on a flat horizontal surface in a room at a temperature of $(20 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$. Fill the space formed by the ribbon of silicone sealant with a volume, *V*, of the test solution, measured at the same temperature using the measuring cylinder. Place the cover on the specimen to minimize contamination and evaporation. A convenient way of doing this is illustrated in [Figure 1](#). Keep the temperature of the room at $20 \pm 2 ^\circ\text{C}$ during the test and protect the test assembly from sunlight or other thermal sources. After $24 \text{ h} \pm 30 \text{ min}$, remove the cover, stir the acid thoroughly to ensure its homogeneity and remove an aliquot portion of the solution for analysis. Determine the amount of lead and cadmium extracted by an appropriate method: atomic absorption spectrometry is a possible method. Take into account any small amounts of lead and cadmium present in the reagents and water used, for example by a blank determination.