



## WIDE WORLD OF ABRASION TESTING

For manufacturers supplying hospitality, healthcare, or commercial businesses, abrasion testing is one piece of an important safety and security puzzle. Without it, if materials don't hold up, suppliers could end up facing costly lawsuits—and nobody wants that. However, the world of abrasion testing is vast. There are three primary methods, and good reasons to use each depending on your needs. Let's break it down.

### THE THREE METHODS

**Wyzenbeek:** For decades in the US, the Wyzenbeek test has served as the litmus for abrasion resistance of textiles. The Wyzenbeek method uses test samples cut from the warp and weft, which are pulled tight and then rubbed back and forth using an approved abradant. The fabric rating is determined by the number of "double rub" cycles that occur before two yarns break or noticeable wear appears. Designers will typically specify a fabric for an environment based upon how many "double rubs" the material has achieved, assuming that the higher the number, the better it will perform.

## WHAT'S NEW

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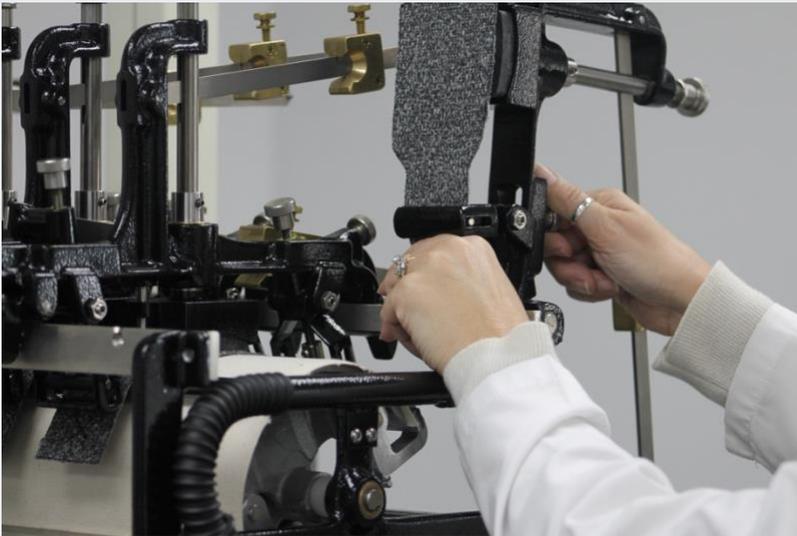


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**Martindale:** In 1940 Dr. J.G. Martindale developed a new method of abrasion testing in an effort to more accurately and realistically predict abrasion resistance. At the time, this was more important than ever before because they were testing materials used to protect against gas attacks in World War II. The Martindale test is similar to the Wyzenbeek method, but utilizes shifting ellipse movements to measure yarn breakage and visible signs of wear, depending on the material being tested. Today, a number of Martindale methods exist to test not only apparel, but also upholstery, shoes, luggage, and even flooring.

**Taber:** Taber abrasion tests are performed on both textiles and flooring. With this method, the test sample sits on a rotating platform while wheels made of various materials abrade it, which results in visible signs of wear. For example, in woven fabric we look for signs of broken yarn, in pile fabrics we look for piles being pulled out, and in coated fabrics and flooring we look for coating removal and scratching.



## HOW TO CHOOSE

Each method—Wyzenbeek, Martindale, and Taber—are all valid and reliable, even if they don't produce correlating results. So, when it comes to meeting ACT requirements, you get to choose the method that best reflects the true performance of your material. And the best part is, you don't have to figure it out on your own. Our team of experts is eager to answer any questions and help you make the right decision for your business.



## LET'S CONNECT

To get started, give us a call at 616-369-0522, or submit your sample to us at [info@flooralytics.com](mailto:info@flooralytics.com).

Or, for a complete list of Flooralytics tests performed in our ANAB-accredited lab, visit our website <https://flooralytics.com/tests/>.