BS 3568 : 1988
UDC [677.31.01 : 541.3]

British Standard Method for

Determination of solubility of wool in alkali

Méthode de détermination de la solubilité de la laine dans l'alcali

Verfahren zur Bestimmung der Löslichkeit von Wolle in Alkalien

1989

British Standards Institution

Foreword

This British Standard has been prepared under the direction of the Textiles and Clothing Standards Committee and is a revision of BS 3568 : 1962, which is withdrawn. The appendix, which described a method for determining acid content, has been omitted and is published separately as BS 6981 : 1988. This is because there may be reasons for wishing to determine acid content other than for correcting alkali solubility values, e.g. when investigating finishing faults, cases of skin irritation, etc.

The solubility of wool in alkali provides a useful index of the extent of the change in its chemical properties brought about by certain agencies. Treatment with acids or with oxidizing or reducing agents, or exposure to heat or light, causes an increase in the solubility, whereas treatment with mild alkali, as used in normal processing, or with cross-linking agents causes the solubility to decrease. The more severe the treatment, the greater is the change in solubility. The test is most useful when an untreated control sample is available and when the nature of the treatment of the sample under test is known.

When the sample has been treated by two agencies having opposite effects on the solubility, the interpretation of the results, even when an untreated control sample is available, is difficult, and other tests are necessary to supplement the information.

This British Standard is technically equivalent to ISO 3072-1975.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.