

# Brake Lining Quality Control Test Procedure — SAE J661a

SAE Recommended Practice  
Editorial Change September 1971

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SAE J661a  
21 September 1979

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Title of Document: Brake Lining Quality  
Control Test Procedure

Date of Specific Issue Adopted: April 1967

Releasing Industry Group: Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc.

Custodian:  
Army - AT

Military Coordinating Activity:  
Army - AT

Review Activity:  
DLA-CS

Project Number 2530-0270

User activities:  
Air Force - 99  
Navy - YD

# BRAKE LINING QUALITY CONTROL TEST PROCEDURE—SAE J661a

## SAE Recommended Practice

Report of Brake Committee approved May 1958 and last revised April 1967. Editorial change September 1971.

**1. Purpose**—The purpose of this SAE Recommended Practice is to establish a uniform laboratory procedure for securing and reporting the friction and wear characteristics of brake linings. The performance data obtained can be used for in-plant quality control by brake lining manufacturers and for the quality assessment of incoming shipments by the purchasers of brake linings.

**2. Equipment**—A typical, commercially available, machine as used in the preparation of this test procedure and known as a Friction Materials Test Machine is shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The Friction Materials Test Machine shall be equipped with suitable means for:

1. Measuring the drum temperature.
2. Heating the drum.
3. Controlling the drum heating rate.
4. Cooling the drum.
5. Controlling the drum cooling rate.
6. Measuring friction force.
7. Measuring drum rotational speed.

Means shall be provided for measuring specimen thickness and weight.

The temperature measuring means shall incorporate a welded thermocouple, coin silver slip rings, silver-graphite brushes, and an indicator and/or recorder having a high input impedance.

The drum heating means shall be capable of insuring that the "free-running" temperature rise of the drum follows the heating curve of Fig. 3 within  $\pm 25$  F ( $\pm 14$  C).

The drum cooling means shall be capable of insuring that the maximum drum temperature of 200 F (93 C) specified in paragraph 4.3 is not exceeded, and that the "free-running" cooling curve of the drum follows the cooling curve of Fig. 4 within  $\pm 25$  F ( $\pm 14$  C).

The temperature measuring system shall have  $\pm 2\%$  full scale accuracy.

The friction force measuring system shall have  $\pm 2\%$  full scale accuracy.

The drum speed measuring system shall have  $\pm 2\%$  full scale accuracy.

The drum diameter shall be between the limits of 10.920-11.020 in. (277.4-279.9 mm).

**3. Test Conditions**—Actual tests for performance shall be started when preliminary preparations and lining "break-in" have been completed as given in paragraph 4.

**3.1 Conduct of Test**—All testing shall proceed without interruption.

**3.2 Drum Speeds**—All drum speeds (rpm) are based on a nominal 11 in. (279.4 mm) diameter drum with load applied to the specimen.

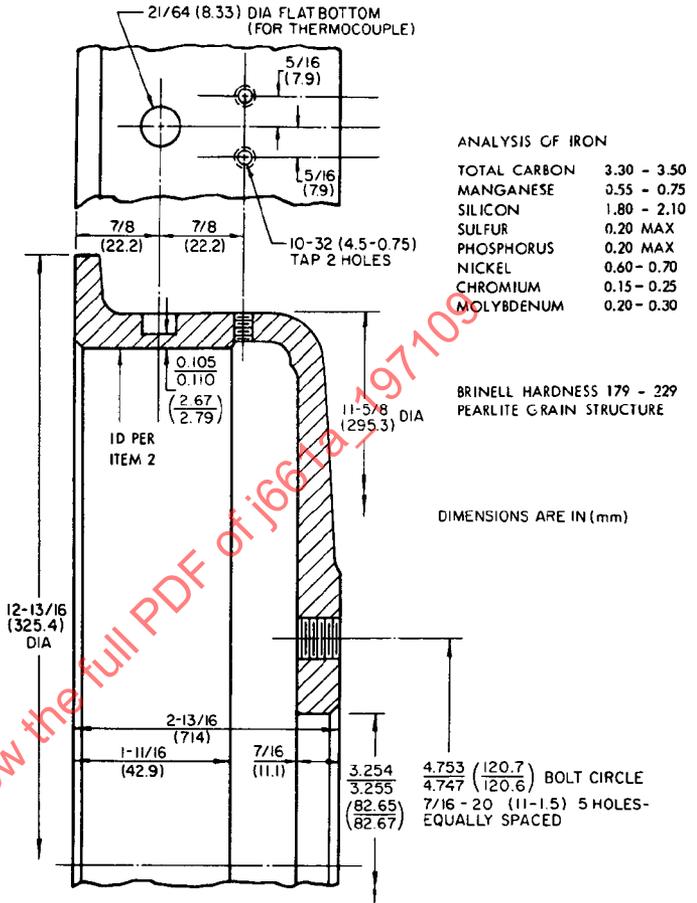


FIG. 2—FRICTION MATERIALS TEST MACHINE DRUM

### 4. Procedure

**4.1 Preparation of Test Specimen**—The test specimen shall be taken from the center of the friction material approximately equidistant from each end.

The specimen shall be 1 in. (25.4 mm) square, flat on the bottom, and the radius of the working surface shall conform to the radius of the test drum. Remove a minimum of material (but not less than 0.010 in. (0.254 mm)) from the working surface of the specimen. Specimen thickness (or specimen plus shim) must be approximately 0.240 in. (6.10 mm) measured in the center of specimen. Excess of material must be removed from the bottom side of the specimen cut from 0.250 in. (6.35 mm) or greater nominal thickness linings. In cases where nominal lining thickness is less than 0.210 in. (5.33 mm), remove minimum amount of material from the bottom to produce flatness.

The working surface of the specimen shall not be handled and shall be kept free from foreign material.

### 4.2 Preparation of Test Drum Surface

**4.2.1 NEW OR RESURFACED DRUM**—After grinding the drum surface on the test machine, remove all grinder marks by polishing with abrasive paper or cloth. Final polishing shall be with 320 grit. Remove dust from drum with clean dry air and/or with clean cheesecloth or equivalent. Complete the surface preparation by running a reference specimen continuously at 100 psi (689 kPa), 417 rpm (20 ft/s (6.10 m/s)), and not over 200 F (93 C) until coefficient of friction has stabilized.

**4.2.2 PRIOR TO EACH TEST**—Polish the drum surface with abrasive paper or cloth. Final polishing shall be with 320 grit. Remove dust from the drum with clean dry air and/or with clean cheesecloth or equivalent.

**4.3 Conditioning of Test Specimen**—The specimen is run-in at 312 rpm (15 ft/s (4.57 m/s)), 100 psi (689 kPa), and a maximum temperature of 200 F (93 C), for a minimum of 20 min, to obtain at least 95% contact.

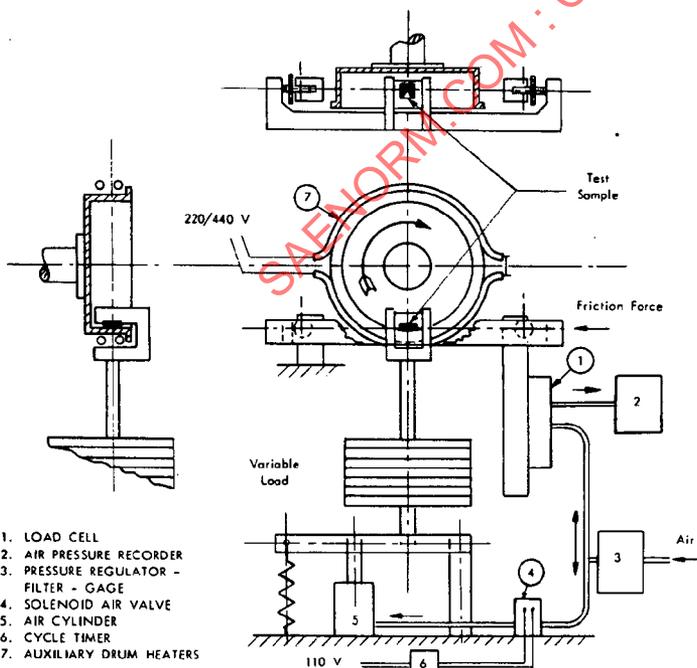


FIG. 1—SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF FRICTION MATERIALS TEST MACHINE

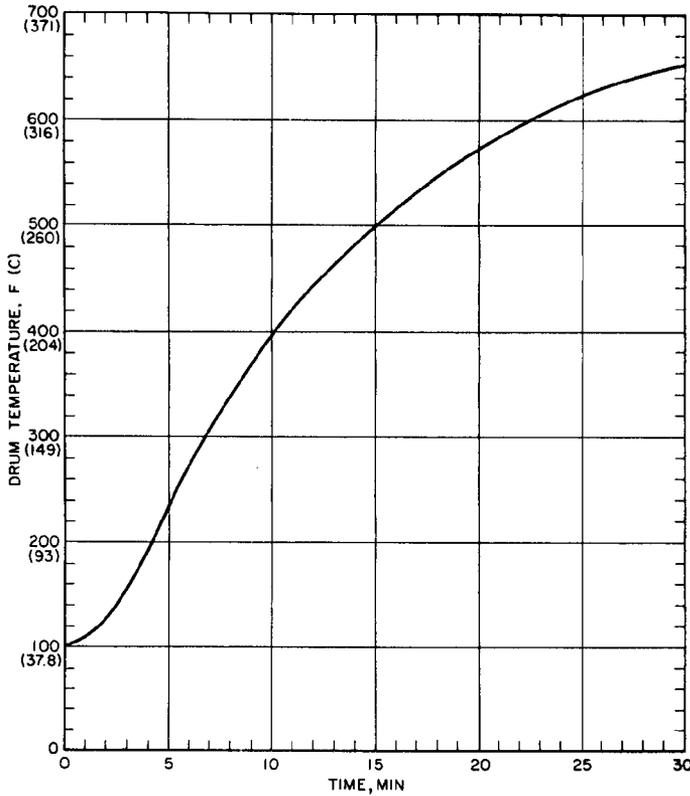


FIG. 3—STANDARD DRUM HEATING CURVE, FRICTION MATERIALS TEST MACHINE

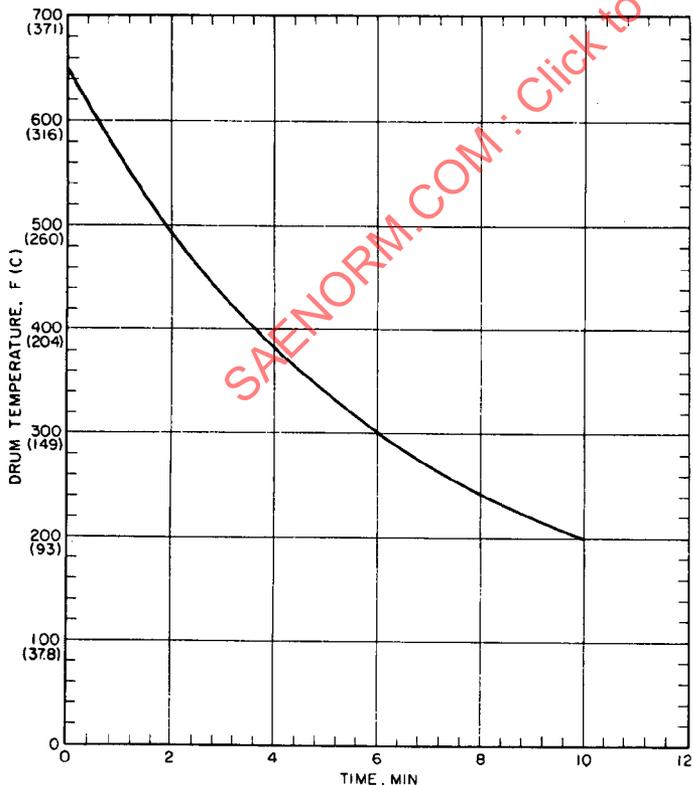


FIG. 4—STANDARD DRUM COOLING CURVE, FRICTION MATERIALS TEST MACHINE

**4.4 Initial Thickness and Weight Measurements**—Specimen thickness measurement is taken in three places along the axis parallel to the drum axis (open, center, and closed edges) and recorded. Weigh (in grams) to third decimal place and record. Reseat specimen by running continuously for 5 min at 50 psi (344 kPa) and 208 rpm (10 ft/s (3.05 m/s)). Initial clearance between specimen and drum should be 0.010–0.015 in. (0.245–0.381 mm) in the “OFF” position.

**4.5 Initial Wear Measurement**—With drum stationary and at 200 F (93 C) with 150 psi (1032 kPa) on specimen, obtain indicator reading of height of specimen holder and record.

**5. Test Runs**

**5.1 Baseline Run**—Run 10 s “ON” (load applied) and 20 s “OFF” (load removed) at 150 psi (1032 kPa) and 417 rpm for 20 applications.

Start run at a drum temperature of 200 ± 20 F (93 ± 11 C) and maintain the temperature within these limits throughout this portion of the test.

**5.2 First Fade Run**—With the heater voltage adjusted so that the “free running” temperature rise curve of the drum follows the heating curve of Fig. 3 within ±25 F (±14 C), run continuous drag at 150 psi (1032 kPa) and 417 rpm with the heater “ON” and cooling means “OFF.” Start run at 200 F (93 C) and run for either 10 min or until 550 F (288 C) is attained, whichever occurs first. Take simultaneous readings of friction force and drum temperature at 30 s intervals. Record time required to reach 550 F (288 C).

**5.3 First Recovery Run**—Immediately following completion of First Fade Run (paragraph 5.2), turn off heater and turn on cooling means (adjusted so that the “free running” cooling curve of the drum follows the cooling curve of Fig. 4 within ±25 F (±14 C)) and make a 10 s application at each 100 F (37.8 C) interval during cooling from 500 to 200 F (288 to 93 C).

**5.4 Second Wear Measurement**—Repeat Initial Wear Measurement (paragraph 4.5).

**5.5 Wear Run**—Run 20 s “ON,” 10 s “OFF,” at 150 psi (1032 kPa) and 417 rpm for 100 applications. Start run at a drum temperature of 400 ± 20 F (204 ± 11 C) and maintain the average of the maximum and minimum temperature for each application at 400 ± 20 F (204 ± 11 C).

**5.6 Third Wear Measurement**—Immediately upon completion of Wear Run (paragraph 5.5), cool to 200 F (93 C) and repeat Initial Wear Measurement (paragraph 4.5).

**5.7 Second Fade Run**—Immediately upon completion of Third Wear Measurement (paragraph 5.6) and with the heater voltage adjusted as specified in First Fade Run (paragraph 5.2), run continuous drag at 150 psi (1032 kPa) and 417 rpm with the heater “ON” and the cooling means “OFF.” Start run at 200 F (93 C) and run for either 10 min or until 650 F (343 C) is

MATERIAL				JOB NO.											
LOT				TEST NO.											
REFERENCE				DATE											
				OPERATOR											
		WEIGHT		THICKNESS		INDICATOR READING									
INITIAL															
FINAL															
LOSS															
BASELINE				REMARKS:				BASELINE							
APPL. NO.	GAGE	C OF F						APPL. NO.	GAGE	C OF F					
1								1							
5								5							
10								10							
15								15							
20								20							
FIRST FADE								SECOND FADE							
MIN.	TEMP	GAGE	C OF F					MIN.	TEMP	GAGE	C OF F				
0								0							
0.5								0.5							
1.								1.							
1.5								1.5							
2.								2.							
2.5								2.5							
3.								3.							
3.5								3.5							
4.								4.							
4.5								4.5							
5.								5.							
5.5								5.5							
				INDICATOR READING											
6.								6.							
6.5								6.5							
				WEAR TEST											
7.								7.							
7.5								7.5							
8.								8.							
8.5								8.5							
9.								9.							
9.5								9.5							
10.								10.							
FIRST RECOVERY								SECOND RECOVERY							
TEMP. F(C)	GAGE	C OF F						TEMP. F(C)	GAGE	C OF F					
500								600							
400								500							
300								400							
				INDICATOR READING											
200								300							
								200							

\*C OF F - COEFFICIENT OF FRICTION

FIG. 5—MASTER FORM LOG SHEET