

Sewing Loop Specimens for Stretch & Recovery Testing

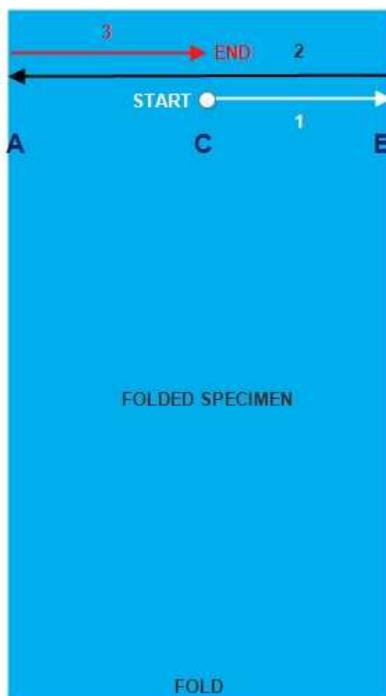
There is a special technique for sewing loop specimens in preparation for stretch & recovery tests.

Standards such as ASTM D4964 and EN 14704-1 Method B require loop specimens prepared from a strip of fabric.

Each standard will define the sewing thread, number of stitches per unit length and the needle size and type.

The dimensions of the strip and subsequent loop specimen will also be defined in the standard.

Technique for Sewing



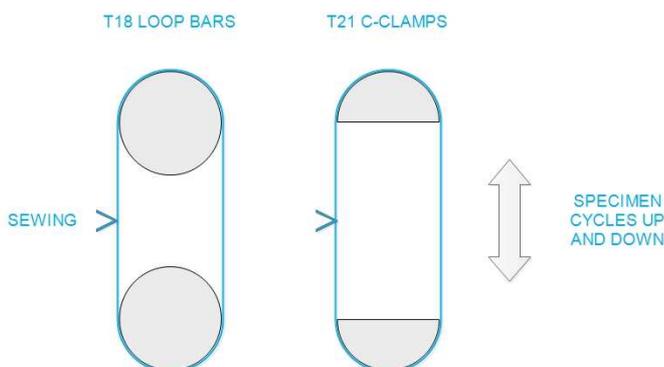
Study the schematic diagram on the left, it represents the folded specimen to be sewn into a loop.

Sewing will be along the line A-C-B.

1. Starting at point C, sew from C to B.
2. At point B, turn the fabric through 180 degrees and sew back from point B, through point C and on to point A.
3. At point A, turn the fabric through 180 degrees and sew back from point A to point C.

Measure the distance from the sewing to the fold and ensure it is as required by the standard.

Because the fabrics used in this type of test are easily distorted, it is extremely important to handle the specimens with great care and attention – do not stretch or extend the specimens during handling and sewing. After sewing and before testing, replace the specimens in the conditioning atmosphere for a period specified in the standard.



When placing the loop specimens on to the Loop Bars or C-Clamps, the loop should be neither taught nor slack.

The sewing should be located mid-way between the upper and lower bars, usually at the back.

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