

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

TOTAL EVAPORABLE MOISTURE CONTENT OF AGGREGATE BY DRYING FOP FOR AASHTO T 255

LABORATORY DETERMINATION OF MOISTURE CONTENT OF SOILS FOP FOR AASHTO T 265

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols "P" for passing or "F" for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. Representative sample of appropriate mass obtained?	_____	_____
2. Mass of container determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
3. Sample placed in container and mass determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
4. Test sample mass conforms to the required mass?	_____	_____
5. Wet sample mass determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
6. Loss of moisture avoided prior to mass determination?	_____	_____
7. Sample dried by a suitable heat source?	_____	_____
a. Describe suitable heat sources for aggregate?	_____	_____
b. Describe suitable heat sources for soils?	_____	_____
8. If aggregate heated by means other than a controlled oven, is sample stirred to avoid localized overheating?	_____	_____
9. For microwave, aggregate heaped and covered with a ventilated lid?	_____	_____
10. For aggregate, heated for the additional, specified time?	_____	_____
a. Forced draft, ventilated, convection ovens – 30 minutes;		
b. Microwave – 2 minutes		
c. Other – 10 minutes		
11. For soil:		
a. Heated for at least 1 hour additional drying time using a controlled heat source?	_____	_____
12. Mass determined and compared to previous mass - showing less than 0.10 percent loss?	_____	_____
13. Sample cooled, dry mass determined and recorded to the nearest 0.1 percent?	_____	_____
14. Moisture content calculated correctly and recorded to the nearest 0.1 percent?	_____	_____

OVER

EMBANKMENT AND BASE
IN-PLACE DENSITY

WAQTC

FOP AASHTO T 255/T 265 (18)

Comments: First attempt: Pass____Fail____ Second attempt: Pass____Fail____

Examiner Signature _____ WAQTC #: _____

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

MOISTURE-DENSITY RELATION OF SOILS FOP FOR AASHTO T 99

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols “P” for passing or “F” for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. If damp, sample dried in air or drying apparatus, not exceeding 60°C (140°F)?	_____	_____
2. Sample broken up and an adequate amount sieved over the appropriate sieve (4.75 mm / No. 4 or 19.0 mm / 3/4 in.) to determine oversize (coarse particle) percentage?	_____	_____
3. Sample passing the sieve has appropriate mass?	_____	_____
4. If material is degradable:		
a. Multiple samples mixed with water varying moisture content by 1 to 2 percent, bracketing the optimum moisture content?	_____	_____
5. If soil is plastic (clay types):		
a. Multiple samples mixed with water varying moisture content by 1 to 2 percent, bracketing the optimum moisture content?	_____	_____
b. Samples placed in covered containers and allowed to stand for at least 12 hours?	_____	_____
6. Sample determined to be 4 to 8 percent below expected optimum moisture content?	_____	_____
7. Determine mass of clean, dry mold without collar to nearest 1 g?	_____	_____
8. Mold placed on rigid and stable foundation?	_____	_____
9. Layer of soil (approximately one third compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
10. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
11. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
12. Layer of soil (approximately two thirds compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
13. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
14. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
15. Mold filled with soil such that compacted soil will be above the mold, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____

OVER

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
16. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
17. Collar removed without shearing off sample?	_____	_____
18. Approximately 6 mm (1/4 in.) of compacted material above the top of the mold (without the collar)?	_____	_____
19. Soil trimmed to top of mold with the beveled side of the straightedge?	_____	_____
20. Remove all soil from exterior surface of mold and base plate?	_____	_____
21. Mass of mold and contents determined to appropriate precision (1 g)?	_____	_____
22. Wet density calculated from the wet mass?	_____	_____
23. Soil removed from mold using a sample extruder if needed?	_____	_____
24. Soil sliced vertically through center (non-granular material)?	_____	_____
25. Moisture sample removed ensuring all layers are represented?	_____	_____
26. Moist mass determined immediately to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
27. Moisture sample mass of correct size?	_____	_____
28. Sample dried, and water content determined according to the FOP for T 255/T 265?	_____	_____
29. Remainder of material from mold broken up until it will pass through the sieve, as judged by eye, and added to remainder of original test sample?	_____	_____
30. Water added to increase moisture content of the remaining sample in approximately 1 to 2 percent increments?	_____	_____
31. Steps 7 through 29 repeated for each increment of water added?	_____	_____
32. Process continued until wet density either decreases or stabilizes?	_____	_____
33. Moisture content and dry density calculated for each sample?	_____	_____
34. Dry density plotted on vertical axis, moisture content plotted on horizontal axis, and points connected with a smooth curve?	_____	_____
35. Moisture content at peak of curve recorded as optimum water content and recorded to nearest 0.1 percent?	_____	_____
36. Dry density at optimum moisture content reported as maximum density to nearest 1 kg/m ³ (0.1 lb/ft ³)?	_____	_____
37. Corrected for coarse particles if applicable?	_____	_____

Comments: First attempt: Pass _____ Fail _____ Second attempt: Pass _____ Fail _____

Examiner Signature _____ WAQTC #: _____

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

**MOISTURE-DENSITY RELATION OF SOILS
FOP FOR AASHTO T 180**

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols “P” for passing or “F” for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. If damp, sample dried in air or drying apparatus, not exceeding 60°C (140°F)?	_____	_____
2. Sample broken up and an adequate amount sieved over the appropriate sieve (4.75 mm / No. 4 or 19.0 mm / 3/4 in.) to determine oversize (coarse particle) percentage?	_____	_____
3. Sample passing the sieve has appropriate mass?	_____	_____
4. If material is degradable:		
a. Multiple samples mixed with water varying moisture content by 1 to 2 percent, bracketing the optimum moisture content?	_____	_____
5. If soil is plastic (clay types):		
a. Multiple samples mixed with water varying moisture content by 1 to 2 percent, bracketing the optimum moisture content?	_____	_____
b. Samples placed in covered containers and allowed to stand for at least 12 hours?	_____	_____
6. Sample determined to be 4 to 8 percent below expected optimum moisture content?	_____	_____
7. Determine mass of clean, dry mold without collar to nearest 1 g?	_____	_____
8. Mold placed on rigid and stable foundation?	_____	_____
9. Layer of soil (approximately one fifth compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
10. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
11. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
12. Layer of soil (approximately two fifths compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
13. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
14. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
15. Layer of soil (approximately three fifths compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
16. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____

OVER

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
17. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
18. Layer of soil (approximately four fifths compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
19. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
20. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
21. Mold filled with soil such that compacted soil will be above the mold, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
22. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
23. Collar removed without shearing off sample?	_____	_____
24. Approximately 6 mm (1/4 in.) of compacted material above the top of the mold (without the collar)?	_____	_____
25. Soil trimmed to top of mold with the beveled side of the straightedge?	_____	_____
26. Remove all soil from exterior surface of mold and base plate?	_____	_____
27. Mass of mold and contents determined to appropriate precision (1 g)?	_____	_____
28. Wet density calculated from the wet mass?	_____	_____
29. Soil removed from mold using a sample extruder if needed?	_____	_____
30. Soil sliced vertically through center (non-granular material)?	_____	_____
31. Moisture sample removed ensuring all layers are represented?	_____	_____
32. Moist mass determined immediately to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
33. Moisture sample mass of correct size?	_____	_____
34. Sample dried, and water content determined according to the FOP for T 255/T 265?	_____	_____
35. Remainder of material from mold broken up until it will pass through the sieve, as judged by eye, and added to remainder of original test sample?	_____	_____
36. Water added to increase moisture content of the remaining sample in approximately 1 to 2 percent increments?	_____	_____
37. Steps 2 through 20 repeated for each increment of water added?	_____	_____
38. Process continued until wet density either decreases or stabilizes?	_____	_____
39. Moisture content and dry density calculated for each sample?	_____	_____
40. Dry density plotted on vertical axis, moisture content plotted on horizontal axis, and points connected with a smooth curve?	_____	_____
41. Moisture content at peak of curve recorded as optimum water content and recorded to nearest 0.1 percent?	_____	_____
42. Dry density at optimum moisture content reported as maximum density to nearest 1 kg/m ³ (0.1 lb/ft ³)?	_____	_____

OVER

Procedure Element

Trial 1 Trial 2

43. Corrected for coarse particles if applicable?

Comments: First attempt: Pass _____ Fail _____

Second attempt: Pass _____ Fail _____

Examiner Signature _____ WAQTC #: _____

EMBANKMENT AND BASE
IN-PLACE DENSITY

WAQTC

FOP AASHTO T 99/T 180 (18)

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

**DEVELOPING A FAMILY OF CURVES
FOP FOR AASHTO R 75**

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols “P” for passing or “F” for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. Curves sorted by method and procedure (A, B, C, or D of the FOP for T 99/T 180)?	_____	_____
a. At least three curves per family?	_____	_____
b. Curves within family are similar soil type and from same source?	_____	_____
2. Maximum density and optimum moisture points plotted on the graph?	_____	_____
3. Spine drawn correctly?	_____	_____
4. Maximum density and optimum moisture points removed that were not used for the spine?	_____	_____
5. Moisture/density curves added?	_____	_____
6. Optimum moisture range?	_____	_____
a. 80 percent of optimum moisture calculated for each curve?	_____	_____
b. Curved line through 80 percent of optimum moisture drawn correctly?	_____	_____

Comments: First attempt: Pass_____Fail_____ Second attempt: Pass_____Fail_____

Examiner Signature _____ WAQTC #: _____

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

**ONE-POINT METHOD
FOP FOR AASHTO T 272 (T 99)**

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols “P” for passing or “F” for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. One-point determination of dry density and corresponding moisture content made in accordance with the FOP for AASHTO T 99?	_____	_____
a. Correct size (4.75 mm / No. 4 or 19.0 mm / 3/4 in.) material used?	_____	_____
2. If necessary, sample dried until friable in air or drying apparatus, not exceeding 60°C (140°F)?	_____	_____
3. Sample broken up and an adequate amount sieved over the appropriate sieve (4.75 mm / No. 4 or 19.0 mm / 3/4 in.) to determine oversize (coarse particle) percentage?	_____	_____
4. Sample passing the sieve has appropriate mass?	_____	_____
5. Moisture content adjusted if needed?	_____	_____
6. Determine mass of clean, dry mold without collar to nearest 1 g?	_____	_____
7. Mold placed on rigid and stable foundation?	_____	_____
8. Layer of soil (approximately one third compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
9. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
10. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
11. Layer of soil (approximately two thirds compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
12. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
13. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
14. Mold filled with soil such that compacted soil will be above the mold, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
15. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
16. Collar removed without shearing off sample?	_____	_____
17. Approximately 6 mm (1/4 in.) of compacted material above the top of the mold (without the collar)?	_____	_____
18. Soil trimmed to top of mold with the beveled side of the straightedge?	_____	_____
19. Remove soil from exterior surface of mold and base plate?	_____	_____
20. Mass of mold and contents determined to appropriate precision?	_____	_____

OVER

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
21. Wet density calculated from the wet mass?	_____	_____
22. Soil removed from mold using a sample extruder if needed?	_____	_____
23. Soil sliced vertically through center (non-granular material)?	_____	_____
24. Moisture sample removed ensuring all layers are represented?	_____	_____
25. Moist mass determined immediately to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
26. Moisture sample mass of correct size?	_____	_____
27. Sample dried and water content determined according to the FOP for T 255/T 265?	_____	_____
28. One-point plotted on family of curves supplied?	_____	_____
29. One-point falls within 80 to 100 percent of optimum moisture content in order to be valid?	_____	_____
30. If one-point does not fall within 80 to 100 percent of optimum moisture content, another one-point determination with an adjusted water content is made?	_____	_____
31. Maximum dry density and corresponding optimum moisture content correctly estimated?	_____	_____
32. One-point plotted on a single reference curve?	_____	_____
a. Does one-point plot within 2 lb/ft ³ in order to be valid?	_____	_____
b. Does one-point fall within 80 to 100 percent of optimum moisture content in order to be valid?	_____	_____
c. Maximum dry density and corresponding optimum moisture content determined from single reference curve?	_____	_____

Comments: First attempt: Pass_____Fail_____ Second attempt: Pass_____Fail_____

Examiner Signature _____ WAQTC #: _____

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

ONE-POINT METHOD FOP FOR AASHTO T 272 (T 180)

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols "P" for passing or "F" for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. One-point determination of dry density and corresponding moisture content made in accordance with the FOP for AASHTO T 180?	_____	_____
a. Correct size (4.75 mm / No. 4 or 19.0 mm / 3/4 in.) material used?	_____	_____
2. If necessary, sample dried until friable in air or drying apparatus, not exceeding 60°C (140°F)?	_____	_____
3. Sample broken up and an adequate amount sieved over the appropriate sieve (4.75 mm / No. 4 or 19.0 mm / 3/4 in.) to determine oversize (coarse particle) percentage?	_____	_____
4. Sample passing the sieve has appropriate mass?	_____	_____
5. Moisture content adjusted if needed?	_____	_____
6. Determine mass of clean, dry mold without collar to nearest 1 g?	_____	_____
7. Mold placed on rigid and stable foundation?	_____	_____
8. Layer of soil (approximately one fifth compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
9. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
10. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
11. Layer of soil (approximately two fifths compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
12. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
13. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
14. Layer of soil (approximately three fifths compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
15. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
16. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____
17. Layer of soil (approximately four fifths compacted depth) placed in mold with collar attached, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
18. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
19. Material adhering to the inside of the mold trimmed?	_____	_____

OVER

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
20. Mold filled with soil such that compacted soil will be above the mold, loose material lightly tamped?	_____	_____
21. Soil compacted with appropriate number of blows (25 or 56)?	_____	_____
22. Collar removed without shearing off sample?	_____	_____
23. Approximately 6 mm (1/4 in.) of compacted material above the top of the mold (without the collar)?	_____	_____
24. Soil trimmed to top of mold with the beveled side of the straightedge?	_____	_____
25. Remove soil from exterior surface of mold and base plate?	_____	_____
26. Mass of mold and contents determined to appropriate precision?	_____	_____
27. Wet density calculated from the wet mass?	_____	_____
28. Soil removed from mold using a sample extruder if needed?	_____	_____
29. Soil sliced vertically through center (non-granular material)?	_____	_____
30. Moisture sample removed ensuring all layers are represented?	_____	_____
31. Moist mass determined immediately to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
32. Moisture sample mass of correct size?	_____	_____
33. Sample dried and water content determined according to the FOP for T 255/T 265?	_____	_____
34. One-point plotted on family of curves supplied?	_____	_____
a. One-point falls within 80 to 100 percent of optimum moisture content in order to be valid?	_____	_____
b. If one-point does not fall within 80 to 100 percent of optimum moisture content, another one-point determination with an adjusted water content is made?	_____	_____
c. Maximum dry density and corresponding optimum moisture content correctly estimated?	_____	_____
35. One-point plotted on a single reference curve?	_____	_____
a. Does one-point plot within 2 lb/ft ³ in order to be valid?	_____	_____
b. Does one-point fall within 80 to 100 percent of optimum moisture content in order to be valid?	_____	_____
c. Maximum dry density and corresponding optimum moisture content determined from single reference curve?	_____	_____

Comments: First attempt: Pass_____Fail_____ Second attempt: Pass_____Fail_____

Examiner Signature _____ WAQTC #: _____

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

**SPECIFIC GRAVITY AND ABSORPTION OF COARSE AGGREGATE
FOP FOR AASHTO T 85**

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols “P” for passing or “F” for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. Sample obtained by FOP for AASHTO T 2 and reduced by FOP for AASHTO R 76 or from FOP for AASHTO T 99 / T 180?	_____	_____
2. Screened on the appropriate size sieve?	_____	_____
3. Sample mass appropriate?	_____	_____
4. Particle surfaces clean?	_____	_____
5. Dried to constant mass $110 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($230 \pm 9^{\circ}\text{F}$) and cooled to room temperature?	_____	_____
6. Re-screen over appropriate sieve?	_____	_____
7. Covered with water for 15 to 19 hours?	_____	_____
8. Wire basket completely submerged in immersion tank and attached to balance?	_____	_____
9. Immersion tank inspected for proper water height?	_____	_____
10. Balance tared with basket in tank and temperature checked $23.0 \pm 1.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($73.4 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{F}$)?	_____	_____
11. Sample removed from water and rolled in cloth to remove visible films of water?	_____	_____
12. Larger particles wiped individually?	_____	_____
13. Evaporation avoided?	_____	_____
14. Sample mass determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
15. Sample immediately placed in basket, in immersion tank?	_____	_____
16. Entrapped air removed before weighing by shaking basket while immersed?	_____	_____
17. Immersion tank inspected for proper water height?	_____	_____
18. Immersed sample weight determined to 0.1 g?	_____	_____
19. All the sample removed from basket?	_____	_____
20. Sample dried to constant mass and cooled to room temperature?	_____	_____

OVER

Procedure Element

Trial 1 Trial 2

21. Sample mass determined to 0.1 g?

22. Proper formulas used in calculations?

Comments: First attempt: Pass_____Fail_____ Second attempt: Pass_____Fail_____

Examiner Signature _____ WAQTC #: _____

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

**IN-PLACE DENSITY AND MOISTURE CONTENT OF SOIL AND SOIL-AGGREGATE BY NUCLEAR METHODS (SHALLOW DEPTH)
FOP FOR AASHTO T 310**

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols “P” for passing or “F” for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. Gauge turned on 10 to 20 minutes before use?	_____	_____
2. Calibration verified?	_____	_____
3. Standard count taken and recorded in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions?	_____	_____
4. Test location selected appropriately 10 m (30 ft.) from other radioactive sources, 3 m (10 ft.) from large objects, 150 mm (6 in.) away from vertical projections?	_____	_____
5. Loose, disturbed material removed?	_____	_____
6. Flat, smooth area prepared?	_____	_____
7. Surface voids filled with native fines (-No. 4) to 3 mm (1/8 in.) maximum thickness?	_____	_____
8. Hole driven 50 mm (2 in.) deeper than probe depth?	_____	_____
9. Gauge placed, probe placed, and source rod lowered without disturbing loose material?	_____	_____
10. Method A:		
a. Gauge firmly seated, and gently pulled back so that the source rod is against the side of the hole toward the scaler / detectors?	_____	_____
b. Two, one-minute reading taken; wet density within 32 kg/m ³ (2.0 lb/ft ³)?	_____	_____
c. Density and moisture data averaged?	_____	_____
11. Method B:		
a. Gauge firmly seated, and gently pulled back so that the source rod is against the side of the hole toward the scaler / detectors?	_____	_____
b. A minimum of a one-minute reading taken; density and moisture data recorded?	_____	_____
c. Gauge turned 90° or 180° (180° in trench)?	_____	_____

OVER

PERFORMANCE EXAM CHECKLIST

**IN-PLACE DENSITY OF ASPHALT MIXTURES BY NUCLEAR METHOD
FOP FOR AASHTO T 355**

Participant Name _____ Exam Date _____

Record the symbols "P" for passing or "F" for failing on each step of the checklist.

Procedure Element	Trial 1	Trial 2
1. Gauge turned on approximately 10 to 20 minutes before use?	_____	_____
2. Gauge calibrated, and standard count recorded?	_____	_____
3. Test location selected appropriately [600 mm (24 in.) from vertical projections or 10 m (30 ft.) from any other radioactive sources]?	_____	_____
4. Filler spread evenly over test site?	_____	_____
5. Excess filler material removed by striking off the surface?	_____	_____
6. Gauge placed on pavement surface and footprint of gauge marked?	_____	_____
7. Probe extended to backscatter position?	_____	_____
8. Method A:		
a. One-minute count taken; gauge rotated 90°, reseated, and another one-minute count taken?	_____	_____
b. Densities averaged?	_____	_____
c. If difference of the wet densities is greater than 40 kg/m ³ (2.5 lb/ft ³), retest conducted in both directions?	_____	_____
9. Method B:		
a. One four-minute count taken?	_____	_____
10. Core correlation applied if required?	_____	_____
11. Percent compaction calculated correctly?	_____	_____

Comments: First attempt: Pass____Fail____ Second attempt: Pass____Fail____

Examiner Signature _____ WAQTC #: _____

