



METHOD OF SAMPLING COMPACTED ASPHALT MIXTURES

SCOPE

This IM provides the procedures used for sampling compacted asphalt mixtures.

REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

[IM 204](#), Inspection of Construction Project Sampling & Testing

APPARATUS

- Core drill suitable for cutting a sample from the mat
- Core tongs if a core drill is used to cut the sample
- Hammer
- Steel plate 4 in. (100 mm) wide, 4 in. (100 mm) long, 1/8 in. (3.175 mm) thick and curved to fit firmly around the core being taken. A piece of core bit will serve this purpose.
- Wedge – A small cold chisel makes a suitable wedge.

PROCEDURE

1. Unless otherwise specified, sampling frequency shall comply with [IM 204](#) and sample sites shall be randomly located by the Engineer.

NOTE: Exercise care during sampling, handling, transporting and testing to minimize possibility of damaging the specimens.

2. Drill completely through the layer being sampled.

NOTE: If samples are to be cut from compacted mixtures that are still warm, it may be necessary to subject the sample site to artificial cooling equivalent to surface contact with ice for approximately 20 minutes.

3. Use the curved steel plate for protection of sample. Then place the wedge behind the plate and strike it with a sharp blow from the hammer. This will snap the sample loose.

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4. If a layer being sampled adheres to a lower layer such that it is necessary to remove two or more layers during the sampling process, cool the composite sample and remove the extraneous material before testing by sawing or other suitable methods.

NOTE: Under no circumstances shall the cores be submerged in water before testing.
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5. All samples shall be carefully inspected for damage before testing. Samples that are damaged shall be replaced by additional samples obtained as outlined above.
6. Mark the core for later identification.

DOCUMENTATION

Assign a number to each core and record the core number, date sampled, station, and transverse position on the appropriate form.