

**Standard Method of Test for
Method of Quartering Asphalt Mixtures**
SCDOT Designation: SC-T 72 (rev. 6/2021)

1. SCOPE

- 1.1. This method is for use in obtaining the required size asphalt mixture sample for split samples and QC/QA testing. In most instances, mixture samples obtained in buckets-pails, or in bags are too large in size and must be reduced to obtain the proper quantity for testing.

2. REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

- 2.1. SC-T 62, SC-T 101.

3. SIGNIFICANCE AND USE

- 3.1. The purpose of this procedure is to properly reduce asphalt mixture samples to an appropriate testing size to ensure consistency and repetition of test results.

4. APPARATUS

- 4.1. Clean, smooth metal table; trowel; 5-gallon bucket-pail, sample bag, or sample boxes (2 or 4)*.

5. TEST SPECIMEN

- 5.1. 5-gallon pail or sample bag or box of asphalt mixture.

6. PROCEDURE

- 6.1. Obtain a sample of the asphalt mixture for a random tonnage, as determined using SC-T-101, by following the sampling method in SC-T-62.
- 6.2. Invert the sample bucket-pail (or bag) containing the mixture on a clean, smooth metal table.
- 6.3. Using a trowel, gently slice into the mixture so the mixture spreads into a near circular layer with uniform thickness and with as little segregation as possible. Divide the mixture into quarters by two lines intersecting at right angles at the center.
- 6.4. Place the diagonally opposing quarters (i.e., 2 and 3 or 1 and 4) in a sample bag immediately, or discard as required. Clean and discard all fines from the trowel.

- 6.5. The remaining opposing quarters should be pulled together. DO NOT remix to avoid segregation. Quarter the mixture again until the required sample size is obtained.
- 6.6. Once the proper sample size is obtained, clean both sides of the trowel with the edge of the table or a straight edge, and place a quarter of the fines in the sample to be tested.
- 6.7. Place a large representative portion on the split sample testing for SCDOT in a sample bag according to SC-T-62. If sample boxes are used for SCDOT split sample testing, reduce samples to desired test size and place in sample boxes*. Use coated-wax paper or pre-coated boxes to prevent material loss, seal and secure boxes with tape or other means to prevent contents from being lost during transport.

**Tech Note: Four boxes are required for any asphalt mixture that Maximum Specific Gravity testing is required in the field, and two boxes for any other mixture.*

7. CALCULATION

None

8. REPORT

None