

## SUDAS Revision Submittal Form

**Status Date:** As of 4/8/2026      **Topic:** Grooving for pavement markings  
**Manual:** Specifications      **Manual Location:** Section 8020, 3.02, J

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### Requested Revision:

#### 3.02 CONSTRUCTION

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- J. Grooving for Pavement Markings:** When specified in the contract documents, place pavement markings in a groove cut into the pavement surface. Dry or wet cut the groove in a single pass. If dry cutting, use equipment that is self-vacuuming with polycrystalline disk cutting heads mounted on a floating head with controls capable of providing uniform depth and alignment. Use the equipment according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
1. **Groove Depth:**
    - a. **Paint:** Minimum groove depth of ~~60~~ 70 mils +/- 10 mils.
    - b. **Tape:** Minimum groove depth of 100 mils +/- 10 mils. If a different groove depth is recommended by the pavement marking manufacturer, the Engineer will determine the depth.
  2. **Groove Width:** Marking width plus 1 inch with a tolerance of minus 0.0 inches and plus 0.2 inches.
  3. **Groove Length:** Full length of tape plus 3 inches minimum grooving transition on either end. Do not use a continuous groove for dash markings. When replacing existing dash markings, start cycle so most of the existing marking is removed with the groove. No additional removal of existing markings is required.
  4. **Groove Position:** Locate grooves a minimum of 2 inches from edge of longitudinal joints.
  5. **Finished Surface:** Ensure the bottom of the groove has a fine corduroy-like texture. The maximum allowable rise between the high and low points across the width of the groove is 10 mils.
  6. **Groove Cleaning:** Ensure the surface to receive the marking is free from dust, dirt, or other contaminants that may interfere with the marking properly bonding.
    - a. **Dry Cutting:** Vacuum and broom grooves using a high pressure air blast for the final cleaning.
    - b. **Wet Cutting:**
      - 1) Immediately flush the groove with high pressure water and recover the removed material.
      - 2) Allow the surface to dry a minimum of 24 hours to a visibly dry condition.

**Reason for Revision:** User request.

**Comments:** Iowa DOT uses 80 mils + 10 mils.