



**ISO 13909-4**

**Coal and coke — Mechanical  
sampling —**

Part 4:  
**Preparation of test samples of coal**

*Charbon et coke — Échantillonnage mécanique —  
Partie 4: Préparation des échantillons de charbon pour essai*

**Third edition  
2025-07**

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 27, *Coal and coke*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Sampling*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 13909-4:2016), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the title has been modified and aligned with the rest of the ISO 13909 series;
- the scope has been revised to specifically refer to coal;
- the references have been updated;
- the legend for [Formula \(3\)](#) has been updated.

A list of all parts in the ISO 13909 series can be found on the ISO website.

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The objective of sample preparation is to prepare one or more test samples from the primary increments for subsequent analysis. The requisite mass and particle size of the test sample depend on the test to be carried out.

The process of sample preparation may involve constitution of samples, reduction, division, mixing and drying, or all or a combination of these.

Primary increments may be prepared individually as test samples or combined to constitute samples either as taken or after having been prepared by reduction or division, or both. Samples can either be prepared individually as test samples or combined on a weighted basis to constitute a further sample.

When difficulty in handling the coal or coals being sampled is expected at a particular stage in sample preparation, or if there is a likelihood of losing moisture by evaporation, it is necessary to withdraw the sample or increment from the on-line system at the stage immediately prior to the point of difficulty and proceed off-line.