

Australian Standard 1647, Part 1—1983

CHILDREN'S TOYS (SAFETY REQUIREMENTS) Part 1—GENERAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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The following interests are represented on Committee CS/18:

- Australian Consumers Association
- Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations
- Australian Retailers Association
- Australian Toy Association
- Australian Toy Manufacturers Association
- Commonwealth and State Consumer Products Advisory Committee
- Confederation of Australian Industry
- Consumer Affairs Council, Tasmania
- Department of Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.
- Department of Health (Commonwealth)
- Department of Home Affairs and Environment (Commonwealth)
- Department of Public and Consumer Affairs, S.A.
- Department of Industrial Relations, N.S.W.
- Department of Science and Technology
- Health Commission of Victoria
- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Victoria
- National Safety Council of Australia (Victorian Division)
- Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**CHILDREN'S TOYS
(SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)
Part 1
GENERAL SAFETY
REQUIREMENTS**

AS 1647, Part 1—1983

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PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Safety of Children's Toys, to supersede AS 1647, Part 1—1980. It relates to the general safety requirements of children's toys.

Except for a small number of clarifications which have been introduced into this edition, this standard is essentially identical to the 1980 edition. Since this standard, which is Part 1 of the complete standard, makes cross-reference to each of the other parts of the standard, this standard constitutes the whole of the toy standard.

The other parts of this standard are as follows:

- Part 2—Constructional Requirements
- Part 3—Toxicological Requirements
- Part 4—Flammability Requirements

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
CHILDREN'S TOYS
(SAFETY REQUIREMENTS)

PART 1—GENERAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

FOREWORD

In view of the vast variety of children's toys available on the market, it was believed that the most comprehensive manner of specifying requirements would be to categorize the hazards. Accordingly, the toy standard has been prepared in four parts wherein Part 1 relates to the general requirements which are common to all toys, and Parts 2 to 4 relate to constructional, toxicological and flammability requirements which are specific hazards of toys. Essentially, Part 1 unites all the Parts of the standard by making a cross-reference to each of the other Parts. As such, in order for a toy to comply with this standard, the toy must satisfy all the relevant requirements specified in each of the Parts. Although the format of the standard as a whole is such as to allow easy reference to a specific hazard, it should be borne in mind that Part 1 specifies requirements common to all toys, and therefore Part 1 must always be read in conjunction with any one or all of the other Parts.

The purpose of the standard is to establish safety requirements for children's toys such that the more obvious hazards associated with them will be eliminated. This Part does not cover performance requirements other than from a safety point of view.

Although it is considered that this Part covers most of the common hazards, including constructional, toxicological and flammability, associated with toys, it should be borne in mind that the standard cannot eliminate all possible hazards from toys, and choice of a suitable toy for a particular child remains the responsibility of the purchaser. In the selection of a toy, it is important that the age of the child and the nature and stage of his or her mental and physical development be considered. Care should also be exercised to ensure that toys which are intended for use by older children do not fall into the hands of much younger children who may not appreciate the consequences of incorrect use, or that children do not play with defective or damaged toys, or that the toys are not used in ways for which they were not intended.

SPECIFICATION

1 SCOPE. This standard specifies general safety, packaging and labelling requirements for toys.

2 APPLICATION. This standard applies to all toys, except the following:

- (a) Bicycles within the scope of AS 1927; however, bicycles having a wheel base of less than 640 mm which are outside the scope of AS 1927 are covered by this standard.
- (b) Decorative lighting outfits, e.g. Christmas lighting, within the scope of AS 3152.
- (c) Fireworks.
- (d) Flotation aids within the scope of AS 1900.
- (e) Hobby or craft items or model kits in which the finished item is not primarily used as a plaything for children.
- (f) Model aircrafts, rockets, boats or land vehicles that are powered by propellants, e.g. solid, liquid or gaseous fuel or compressed gas.
- (g) Playground equipment within the scope of AS 1924.
- (h) Sporting goods including darts, camping goods, athletic equipment; musical instruments and furniture.

3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS. The following standards are referred to in this standard:

| | |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AS 1900 | Children's Swimming Instruction Aids, and Flotation Toys and Rings |
| AS 1924 | Playground Equipment for Parks, Schools and Domestic Use |
| AS 1927 | Pedal Bicycles |
| AS 3152 | Decorative Lighting Outfits |

4 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

Toy means an object or a number of objects manufactured and designed and/or labelled and/or marketed as a plaything for a child or children up to the age of 14 years.

Intended means designed, labelled or marketed.

5 MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS. Toys shall be made from new material or reprocessed material, such as reprocessed plastics, foam scrap, fibrous scrap from textile producers or fabric trimmings from garment manufacturers, which do not present any hazard.

6 CONSTRUCTIONAL, TOXICOLOGICAL AND FLAMMABILITY REQUIREMENTS.

6.1 Constructional Requirements. The construction of toys shall comply with AS 1647, Part 2.

6.2 Toxicological Requirements. The toxicology of toys shall comply with AS 1647, Part 3.

6.3 Flammability Requirements. The flammability of toys shall comply with AS 1647, Part 4.

7 PACKAGING.

NOTE: Packaging means the pack that contains the toy or toys but does not include any wrapping, bag, box, carton or the like, in which the pack may be placed at the time of sale or despatch.

7.1 General. Packages that are intended to be opened by the consumer shall—

- (a) be so constructed as to minimize the hazards from fasteners during the opening process; and
- (b) not contain common pins to position the toy within the package.

7.2 Flexible Plastics Packaging.

7.2.1 Large packaging. Where the flexible plastics packaging is in the form of a bag or in the form of wrapping which when removed from the package is capable of being formed into a bag which has, or is capable of having, an opening with a circumference of 350 mm or more and a depth of 130 mm or more, both dimensions being measured after the packaging has been stretched to its fullest extent, then the packaging shall either—

- (a) be perforated with round holes of at least 5 mm in diameter, or other shaped holes of equivalent area, such that there shall be no area without at least one hole which is not covered by a square template measuring 150 mm along each side, when the whole of the template is placed on the packaging; or
- (b) be made from a plastics material that has a thickness of 38 μm or more and carry a cautionary label similar to the following:

WARNING

TO AVOID DANGER OF SUFFOCATION
TO BABIES AND CHILDREN
DISPOSE OF THIS BAG IMMEDIATELY

NOTES

1. The purpose of this clause is to prevent or at least highlight by way of a warning notice, the possibility of suffocation if a child places the flexible plastics package over its head.
2. Referring to the warning notice in Clause 7.2.1(b), since the wording on the cautionary label is only an example, it is permissible to use other words, e.g. 'CAUTION' in place of 'WARNING'.

In addition to the information on the cautionary label, the following or similar statement may be included:

'Tie into knots or shred plastics before placing into rubbish bin. Do not burn plastics.'

7.2.2 Small packaging. Where the flexible plastics packaging is in the form of a bag or in the form of wrapping which when removed from the package is capable of being formed into a bag, which has, or is capable of having, an opening with a circumference of less than 350 mm and/or a depth of less than 130 mm, both dimensions being measured after the packaging has been stretched to its fullest extent, then it is recommended that the packaging be made from a plastics material that has a thickness of 19 μm or more.

NOTE: A minimum thickness of 19 μm is recommended because the thinner the plastics the greater is its tendency to conform to contours, such as a child's face. Further, thin plastics often has a static charge which causes the plastics to adhere to skin. Accordingly, the combination may present a suffocation danger even though the packaging may be relatively small.

8 LABELLING.

8.1 General. Each toy or package containing one or more toys shall be legibly labelled with either—