

American National Standard

*for Ophthalmics –
Nonprescription Sunglasses and
Fashion Eyewear Requirements*



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ANSI®
Z80.3-2015
Revision of
ANSI Z80.3-2010

American National Standard
for Ophthalmics –

**Nonprescription Sunglasses and
Fashion Eyewear Requirements**

Secretariat
The Vision Council

Approved September 4, 2015
American National Standards Institute, Inc.

American National Standard

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Developed by

The Accredited Committee Z80 for Ophthalmic Standards

The Vision Council
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Contents

Foreword	iii
1 Scope and Purpose	1
2 Normative References	1
3 Definitions	3
4 Requirements	8
4.1 General	9
4.2 Impact resistance	9
4.3 Flammability	9
4.4 Frame finish	9
4.5 Frame corrosion	9
4.6 Frame material safety to health of wearer	9
4.7 Frame deformation and retention of lenses	9
4.8 Cosmetic quality of lenses	10
4.9 Refractive properties	10
4.9.1 Refractive power	10
4.9.2 Astigmatic power	10
4.9.3 Prismatic power imbalance	10
4.10 Transmittance properties	10
4.10.1 Luminous transmittance	10
4.10.2 Transmittance properties related to traffic signal recognition	10
4.10.2.1 Color limits	10
4.10.2.2 Traffic signal transmittance	11
4.10.2.3 Spectral transmittance	12
4.10.3 Ultraviolet mean transmittance	12
4.10.4 Near infrared transmittance	12
4.10.5 Blue light transmittance	12
4.11 Qualification of lens types	12
4.11.1 Polarizing lens	12
4.11.1.1 Type I polarizing lens	12
4.11.1.2 Type II polarizing lens	12
4.11.2 Photosensitive lens	12
4.11.2.1 Type I variable transmittance photosensitive lens	12
4.11.2.2 Type II variable color photosensitive lens	12
4.11.3 Gradient tint lens	12
4.11.4 Uniform tint lens	13
4.12 Tint imbalance between lenses	13
4.13 Axis of polarization	13
4.14 Resistance to radiation	13
5 Test procedures	13
5.1 Impact resistance	13
5.1.1 Lenses or blank only	13
5.1.1.1 Lens or blank on tube	14
5.1.1.2 Lens or blank on block	14
5.1.1.3 Modification of supports	14
5.1.2 Lens in frame	14
5.2 Alternate tests	14
5.3 Ignition test	14
5.3.1 Apparatus	14
5.3.1.1 Steel rod	14
5.3.1.2 Timer	14

5.3.2	Procedure.....	14
5.4	Corrosion resistance test.....	15
5.4.1	Apparatus.....	15
5.4.2	Procedure.....	15
5.5	Cosmetic quality test.....	15
5.6	Refractive properties test.....	15
5.7	Transmittance properties tests.....	15
5.7.1	Luminous transmittance test.....	15
5.7.1.1	Photometric test.....	16
5.7.1.2	Visual method.....	16
5.7.2	Transmittance properties related to traffic signal recognition.....	16
5.7.2.1	Chromaticity coordinates.....	16
5.7.2.2	Traffic signal transmittance.....	17
5.7.3	Ultraviolet mean transmittance test.....	17
5.7.4	Near infrared transmittance.....	18
5.7.5	Solar blue transmittance.....	18
5.8	Photosensitive lens qualification test.....	19
5.9	Resistance to radiation test.....	19
6	Country of origin.....	19
7	Identification of the standard.....	20
Table 1	Computational data for transmittance properties.....	21
Table 2	Reference data for products given in Table 1.....	22
Table 3	Solar irradiation at sea level with surface perpendicular to sun's rays, $m = 2$	23
Table 4	Transmittance properties for nonprescription sunglasses and cosmetic lenses.....	24
Table 5	Data for computing blue light transmittance.....	25
Figure 1	Color limit regions of acceptance.....	26
Figure 2	Lens on tube.....	27
Figure 3	Baseplate.....	28
Figure 4	Lens on block.....	29
Figure 5	Recommended system for visually inspecting lens for defects.....	30
Annex A	Bibliography.....	31

Foreword (This foreword is not part of American National Standard ANSI Z80.3-2015.)

Summary of Changes to ANSI Z80.3 for 2015

This 2015 revision represents the most current consensus of experts in this field. The changes from the 2010 standard are the result of a thorough study by the ANSI Z80.3 committee of the relevance and applicability of its contents.

This revision incorporates a continued effort to more properly explain and clarify concepts and principles, and to more closely align requirements of this standard with similar relevant provisions in existing US and international standards. In addition to minor typographical corrections, changes include:

- Prism power and imbalance are now defined only for finished products in the as-worn position, since lenses with high base curves and/or significant wrap angles must include the proper compensating prism in the lens blanks to ensure minimal prism in the final product.
- Luminous transmittance variations and tolerances are now provided in units of percent rather than density.
- Definitions of reference point, special purpose lenses, and polarization axis tolerance are added.
- Minimum luminous transmittance of gradient tint lenses is modified.
- A figure demonstrating assessment of cosmetic lens quality is added.
- Procedure for assessment of frame flammability is amended.
- Finally, new requirements for frame durability, such as corrosion, material safety, and deformation, which already exist in other standards, are added.

Background and summary of past revisions for ANSI Z80.3

Changes made in 2010 were the addition of subclauses addressing resistance to radiation; revision of the photosensitized lens qualification test; addition of the definition of polarizing efficiency; correction of the equations for the calculation of mean transmittance; addition of country of origin labeling; and addition of an equation to the Notes under Table 5.

The purchasers and users of nonprescription sunglasses and fashion eyewear need to be assured of certain minimum levels of performance and quality in these products. These are either implicit expectations in the product performance, or safety. The purchaser of the product does not ordinarily have the means to properly assess these characteristics.

In order to accomplish these goals, it is necessary to establish commonly accepted definitions, equations, sources, and methodology so that manufacturers can produce products to meet the standard.

This American National Standard specifies impact-resistant characteristics; cosmetic, refractive, and transmittance properties of lenses; and the flammability and durability of frames and lenses.

Cosmetic, refractive, transmittance, and frame properties specified herein are intended as guidelines, and therefore they are subject to revision since there is a need to study further the validity of these property specifications as related to actual normal use requirements.

The Z80.3 Subcommittee was organized in December 1970 and had its first meeting on January 7, 1971. The committee usually meets formally twice per calendar year,

and members review material by email, phone, or fax throughout the year. Working groups may be formed to investigate specific projects.

This standard contains one annex, which is informative and is not part of this standard.

Suggestions for improvement of this standard will be welcome. Suggestions should be sent to The Vision Council, 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 700, Alexandria, VA 22314.

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the Accredited Standards Committee Z80 (ASC Z80). Committee approval of this standard does not necessarily imply that all committee members voted for its approval. At the time it approved this standard, ASC Z80 had the following members:

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The Subcommittee on Nonprescription Eyewear, which developed this standard, received input and contributions for this revision from the following members:

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American National Standard
for Ophthalmics –

Nonprescription Sunglass and Fashion Eyewear Requirements

1 Scope and Purpose

1.1 Scope

This standard applies to all nonprescription sunglasses and fashion eyewear, normally used for casual, dress, and recreational purposes, having lenses of substantially plano power. This standard specifically excludes products covered by ANSI Z87.1, ANSI Z80.1, and those covered within the ASTM F08.57 committee. Sunglass needs for aphakics may not be met by this standard.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to establish standards for noncorrective (essentially plano power) lenses that are intended for attenuation of light and for fashion eyewear, and for the flammability and durability of frames and lenses. These products are commonly called sunglasses, and they are not designed to be industrial safety eyewear as defined in ANSI Z87.1, or to provide corrective prescriptions as defined in ANSI Z80.1, or to provide protection for selected sports as defined within ASTM F08.57 committee standards, or to provide protection when making direct observation of the sun, such as for viewing a partial or annular solar eclipse. Lenses covered by this standard are not intended for use under conditions of reduced illumination; however, variable tint lenses that fade to a luminous transmittance greater than 75% are covered. Lenses with less than 75% luminous transmittance anywhere on the lenses are not suitable for driving under low light conditions, such as but not limited to twilight or night.

2 Normative References

The following standards contain provisions that, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this American National Standard. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this American National Standard are encouraged to apply the most recent editions of the standards indicated below.

ANSI Z80.1, *Ophthalmics – Prescription Ophthalmic Lenses – Recommendations*¹

ANSI Z80.5, *Ophthalmics – Requirements for ophthalmic frames*¹

ANSI Z80.17, *Focimeters*¹

ANSI Z87.1, *Occupational and educational eye and face protection devices*¹

¹ Available from the American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036 (Website: webstore.ansi.org).