

Australian Standard[®]

**Children's toys (safety
requirements)**

Part 1: General requirements

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CS/18, Safety of Children's Toys. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 27 June 1990 and published on 17 September 1990.

The following interests are represented on Committee CS/18:

Attorney-General's Department
Australian Consumers Association
Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations
Australian Government Analytical Laboratories
Australian Retailers Association
Australian Toy Manufacturers Association.
Business and Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.
Confederation of Australian Industry
Department of Community Services and Health
Department of Public and Consumer Affairs, S.A.
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Vic.
National Acoustics Laboratories
National Safety Council of Australia
Office of Consumer Affairs, T.S.
Pigment Ecological and Toxicological Technical Committee of Australia
Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children

Revision of Australian Standards. To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian Standards are subject to periodic review and are kept up to date by the issue of amendments or new editions as necessary. It is important therefore that Standards users ensure that they are in possession of the latest edition, and any amendments thereto.

All details of all Australian Standards and related publications will be found in the Standards Australia Catalogue of Publications; this information is supplemented each month by the magazine 'The Australian Standard', which subscribing members receive, and which gives details of new publications, new editions and amendments, and of withdrawn Standards.

Suggestions for improvements to Australian Standards, addressed to the head office of Standards Australia, are welcomed. Notification of any inaccuracy or ambiguity found in an Australian Standard should be made without delay in order that the matter may be investigated and appropriate action taken.

Australian Standard[®]

**Children's toys (safety
requirements)**

Part 1: General requirements

AS 1647.1 first published as part of AS 1647—1974.
AS 1647—1974 revised and redesignated in part as
AS 1647.1—1980.
Second edition 1983.
Third edition 1990.

PUBLISHED BY STANDARDS AUSTRALIA
(STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA)
1 THE CRESCENT, HOMEBUSH, NSW 2140

ISBN 0 7262 6417 2

PREFACE

This edition of this Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Safety of Children's Toys to supersede AS 1647.1 — 1983.

This edition incorporates a number of amendments as well as a guide to appropriate labelling of toys with the actual age or range of ages of children for whom the toys are intended. Essentially, without diminishing safety aspects, the amendments incorporated modify the requirements in the Standard to accord with current local and overseas practices as well as international Standards.

In preparing this Standard, the committee took into account the work of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as well as that of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).

CONTENTS

| | <i>Page</i> |
|---|-------------|
| FOREWORD | 3 |
| 1 SCOPE | 4 |
| 2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS | 4 |
| 3 DEFINITIONS | 4 |
| 4 MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS | 4 |
| 5 CONSTRUCTION, TOXICOLOGICAL AND FLAMMABILITY REQUIREMENTS | 4 |
| 6 PACKAGING | 5 |
| 7 LABELLING | 6 |
| APPENDIX A GUIDELINES FOR AGE GRADING | 6 |

© Copyright — STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Users of Standards are reminded that copyright subsists in all Standards Australia publications and software. Except where the Copyright Act allows and except where provided for below no publications or software produced by Standards Australia may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system in any form or transmitted by any means without prior permission in writing from Standards Australia. Permission may be conditional on an appropriate royalty payment. Requests for permission and information on commercial software royalties should be directed to the head office of Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will permit up to 10 percent of the technical content pages of a Standard to be copied for use exclusively in-house by purchasers of the Standard without payment of a royalty or advice to Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will also permit the inclusion of its copyright material in computer software programs for no royalty payment provided such programs are used exclusively in-house by the creators of the programs.

Care should be taken to ensure that material used is from the current edition of the Standard and that it is updated whenever the Standard is amended or revised. The number and date of the Standard should therefore be clearly identified.

The use of material in print form or in computer software programs to be used commercially, with or without payment, or in commercial contracts is subject to the payment of a royalty. This policy may be varied by Standards Australia at any time.

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 the various 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 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 as such, Part 1 must always be read in conjunction with any one or all of the other Parts.

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

Although it is considered that this Part of the Standard 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.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Children's toys (safety requirements)

Part 1: General requirements

1 SCOPE This Standard specifies general safety, packaging and labelling requirements for toys. This Standard applies to all toys, except the following:

- (a) Bicycles covered by AS 1927; however, bicycles having a wheel base of less than 640 mm which are outside the ambit of AS 1927 are covered by this Standard.
- (b) Flotation aids covered by AS 1900.
- (c) Model kits, hobby or craft items, in which the finished items are not primarily used as playthings for children.
- (d) Playground equipment covered by AS 1924.
- (e) Powered models of aircraft, rockets, boats and land vehicles; however, counterparts of variations of those powered models that are toys are covered by this Standard.
- (f) Sporting goods including darts, camping goods, athletic equipment, music instruments and furniture; however, counterparts that are toys are covered by this Standard.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

| | |
|--------|--|
| 1647 | Children's toys— Safety requirements |
| 1647.2 | Part 2: Constructional requirements |
| 1647.3 | Part 3: Toxicological requirements |
| 1647.4 | Part 4: Flammability requirements |
| 1900 | Children's flotation toys and swimming aids |
| 1924 | Playground equipment for parks, schools and domestic use |
| 1927 | Pedal bicycles for normal road use— Safety requirements |

3 DEFINITIONS For the purpose of this Standard, the following definitions apply:

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

3.2 Intended—designed, labelled or marketed.

4 MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS Toys shall be made from new material or from reprocessed material, such as reprocessed plastics, foam scrap, fibrous scrap from textile producers or fabric trimmings from garment manufacture, that has been so treated that the reprocessed material will not present any hazard.

5 CONSTRUCTION, TOXICOLOGICAL AND FLAMMABILITY REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Constructional requirements The construction of toys shall comply with AS 1647, Part 2.

5.2 Toxicological requirements The toxicology of toys shall comply with AS 1647, Part 3.

5.3 Flammability requirements The flammability of toys shall comply with AS 1647, Part 4.

6 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.

6.1 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.

6.2 Flexible plastics packaging

6.2.1 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,