

Australian Standard® 1851.1—1985

**MAINTENANCE OF FIRE PROTECTION
EQUIPMENT**

**Part 1—PORTABLE FIRE
EXTINGUISHERS**



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Incorporated by Royal Charter

This Australian standard was prepared by Committee FP/3, Fire Extinguishers. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 18 April 1985 and published on 10 May 1985.

The following interests are represented on Committee FP/3:

Commonwealth Fire Board
Department of Defence
Department of Home Affairs and Environment
Experimental Building Station
Telecom Australia
Trade Practices Commission
Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales
Department of Consumer Affairs, New South Wales
Department of Industrial Relations, New South Wales
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, Melbourne
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This standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 83287.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**MAINTENANCE OF FIRE PROTECTION
EQUIPMENT**

Part 1

**PORTABLE FIRE
EXTINGUISHERS**

AS 1851.1—1985

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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AMENDMENT No 2
to
AS 1851.1—1985
MAINTENANCE OF FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

PART 1—PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

REVISED TEXT

SUMMARY: This amendment applies to Tables 3.9 and 3.10.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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AMENDMENT No 1
to
AS 1851.1—1985
MAINTENANCE OF FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT
PART 1—PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

CORRECTION

SUMMARY: This amendment applies to Table 3.9 and Table 3.10.

Published on 12 July 1985.

PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Fire Extinguishers, to supersede AS 1851, Part 1—1976.

This standard refines the concept of levels of inspection and servicing. These levels are on a time-elapsd basis and range, depending on the extinguisher type, from 6-monthly inspections (Level 1) to 6-yearly inspections (Level 4).

Requirements for the charging of new extinguishers shipped empty, installation procedures and requirements, and signs, are now specified in AS 2444, Portable Fire Extinguishers—Selection and Location.

The requirements for maintenance in this standard have been expanded or amended to include more systematic inspection procedures, full discharge tests and revised recharging requirements.

The periods for pressure testing have been amended to 6-year intervals for all extinguishers.

Each type of extinguisher has been treated separately for ease of reference, and all maintenance procedures are set out in separate tables relevant to each type of extinguisher.

This standard also introduces changes to the recording of all work by the use of metal tags and records to ensure that more accurate data are kept on inspection and servicing procedures. Moreover, a site plan may be necessary to indicate the type and location of all extinguishers on the premises.

All maintenance work carried out is to be done by experienced personnel in accordance with recognized safety procedures. Pressure testing or charging of any unit is to be done only in designed safety cages of a strength sufficient to contain all fragments given off by possible vessel rupture or failure.

It should be noted that the waste products of the servicing of fire extinguishers, and particularly from discharge testing, will generally be the subject of State legislation dealing with the disposal of trade wastes. In disposing of material such as acids, sulphates and powder chemicals, individuals or organizations servicing fire extinguishers should familiarize themselves with the applicable legislation and ensure that this is complied with.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
MAINTENANCE OF FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

PART 1—PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE. This standard sets out requirements for the regular inspection, pressure testing, recharging and general servicing of portable fire extinguishers that at the time of manufacture complied with the contemporary edition of the relevant standard listed in Table 1.1. This standard is not applicable to fire extinguishers which are used for demonstration or practice purposes.

TABLE 1.1
RELEVANT AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS*

Extinguisher type	Expellant		
	Gas container	Stored pressure	Chemical
Water	AS 1841 (AS A31.2)	AS 1842 (AS A31.3)	AS 1840 (AS A31.1)
Foam	AS 1844 (AS A32.2)	AS 1845 (AS A32.3)	AS 1843 (AS A32.1)
Powder (dry chemical)	AS 1846 (AS A137)	AS 1846 (AS A137)	—
Carbon dioxide	—	AS 1847 (AS A138)	—
Halon	—	AS 1848 (AS A163)†	—

* Australian standard numbers appearing in parentheses refer to superseded standards.

† BCF and BTM types only.

NOTE: For portable fire extinguishers manufactured before the alpha-numeric series of Australian standards were applicable, the Regulatory Authority may prescribe such inspections, tests and corrective actions that are required.

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

AS 1840	Water (Soda Acid) Type Portable Fire Extinguishers
AS 1841	Portable Fire Extinguishers—Water (Gas Container) Type
AS 1842	Portable Fire Extinguishers—Water (Stored Pressure) Type
AS 1843	Foam (Chemical) Type Portable Fire Extinguishers
AS 1844	Portable Fire Extinguishers—Foam (Gas Container) Type
AS 1845	Portable Fire Extinguishers—Foam (Stored Pressure) Type
AS 1846	Portable Fire Extinguishers—Dry Chemical Type
AS 1847	Carbon Dioxide Type Portable Fire Extinguishers
AS 1848	Portable Fire Extinguishers—Halogenated Hydrocarbon Type
AS 2030	SAA Gas Cylinders Code
AS 2337	Gas Cylinder Test Stations
AS K185	Colours for Specific Purposes
AS XXXX	Servicing of Portable Fire Extinguishers*
Attention is drawn to the following related documents:	
AS 1849	Identification Colours for Portable Fire Extinguishers
AS 1850	Portable Fire Extinguishers—Classification, Rating and Fire Testing
AS 2444	Portable Fire Extinguishers—Selection and Location

* In course of preparation.