

AS 1884—1985

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**Floor coverings—Resilient sheet  
and tiles—Laying and  
maintenance practices**

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This Australian standard was prepared by Committee PL/15, PVC Flooring. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 16 April 1985 and published on 12 July 1985.

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The following interests are represented on Committee PL/15:

Adhesives and Sealants Manufacturers' Association  
Australian Particleboard Manufacturers' Association  
Building Owners and Managers Association of Australia Limited  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
CSIRO, Division of Building Research  
Department of Public Works, N.S.W.  
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*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 83102.*

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**FLOOR COVERINGS—  
RESILIENT SHEET  
AND TILES—  
LAYING AND MAINTENANCE  
PRACTICES**

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First published (as AS CA37) .....	1966
AS 1884 first published .....	1976
AS 1884 second edition .....	1985

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

ISBN 0 7262 3806 6

## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on PVC Flooring, under the direction of the Plastics Standards Board, as a proposed new edition of AS 1884—1976.

Whilst appropriate standard specifications may assure satisfactory quality of a floor covering, unsatisfactory service may still occur through faulty laying techniques or misunderstanding of the various factors which this standard is designed to counter. The standard sets out precautions to be taken before laying the floor covering, preparation and treatment of various types of subfloor, conditioning requirements, and the procedure to be used in the application of the floor covering to the subfloor.

The standard is presented in a form intended to make it suitable for use by architects and others as a means of specifying how a floor covering should be laid. In addition Appendix A covers three methods of test for determining the dryness of concrete subfloors.

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## STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

for

**FLOOR COVERINGS—RESILIENT SHEET AND TILES—  
LAYING AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES**

(Revision of AS 1884-1976)

## SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE.** This standard sets out recommendations for the laying, fixing and maintenance of resilient sheet and tile floor coverings in all forms including flexible PVC, semi-rigid PVC, linoleum, cork and rubber. It also applies to self-adhesive tiles.

It gives details of the work necessary to prepare subfloor surfaces, together with procedures that should be adopted for laying the floor covering.

It does not apply to the laying of synthetic or natural fibre carpet or carpet tiles or backed resilient floor coverings.

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

AS 1080	Methods of Test for Timber Part 1—Moisture Content
AS 1510	Code of Practice for Control of Concrete Surfaces Part 1—Formwork
AS 1684	SAA Timber Framing Code
AS 1859	Flat Pressed Particleboard
AS 1860	Code of Practice for Installation of Particleboard Flooring
AS 2098	Methods of Test for Veneer and Plywood 2098.1—Moisture Content of Veneer and Plywood
AS 2269	Structural Plywood
AS 2458	Hardboard
CSIRO	Trade Circular No. 100 Testing Timber for Moisture Content*
CSIRO	Floor Covering on Concrete Slabs on Ground*

Building Research Establishment—Digest 102  
(March 74) Drying Out Buildings

AS XXXX Adhesives for Floor Coverings—  
Resilient Sheet and Tile—Interior  
and Exterior Use†

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

**1.3.1 Subfloor**—the surface on which the floor covering or the underlay is to be laid (see Fig. 1.1).

**1.3.2 Screed topping**—a bed of concrete with a small maximum sized aggregate or other suitable material applied to a subfloor and brought to a defined level (see Fig. 1.1).

**1.3.3 Underlay.** A layer of sheet material or in situ filling on the subfloor or the screed topping to provide a smooth level surface to receive the floor covering. Underlay may be in the form of sheet underlay or trowelled underlay (see Fig. 1.1).

**1.3.4 Purchaser**—the principal to the contract or the person authorized by the principal to superintend the work on his behalf.

**1.3.5 Floor-laying contractor**—the firm or person authorized by the purchaser to carry out any necessary preparation of the subfloor surface and the laying of the floor covering.

\* Available from The Chief, Division of Building Research, CSIRO, PO Box 56, Highett, Vic., 3190.

† In course of preparation.

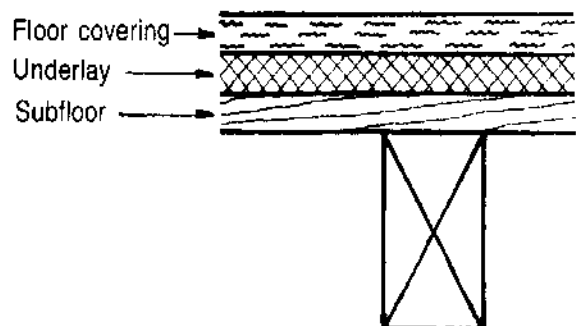
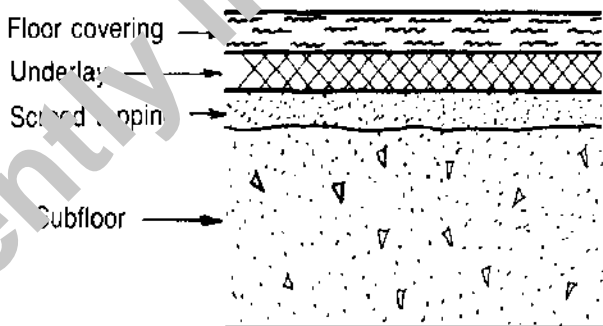


Fig. 1.1 ILLUSTRATION OF CONCRETE AND WOOD FLOORS AND EXPLANATION OF TERMS