

Australian Standard[®]

PVC SHEET FLOOR COVERING

Part 1—UNBACKED, FLEXIBLE

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Australian Particleboard Manufactures' Association
Building Owners and Managers Association of Australia Limited
Confederation of Australia Industry
CSIRO, Division of Building Research
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Part 1—UNBACKED, FLEXIBLE

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on PVC Flooring, under the direction of the Plastics Standards Board. It supersedes in part AS 2055—1977, Flexible PVC Floor-covering. It is intended that other standards in the AS 2055 series will encompass different types of backing materials.

The opportunity has been taken to separate the requirements for tiles from sheet floor-covering which were previously published together in AS 2055—1977. The specification for flexible PVC floor tiles is now in AS 1889.2, PVC Floor Tiles, Part 2—Flexible.

This standard applies to PVC sheet floor-covering made up of layers of PVC compounds of substantially the same composition and self-bonded together. It includes embossed materials but excludes floor-covering consisting of layers of plastics and fibrous materials, backed or sandwiched, or flooring consisting of a base material laminated with a wear layer which may be plain, patterned, embossed or printed.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
PVC SHEET FLOOR-COVERING
PART 1—UNBACKED, FLEXIBLE

1 SCOPE. This standard specifies requirements for unbacked flexible PVC floor-covering in the form of sheet having a smooth or embossed wearing surface.

It does not apply to floor-covering consisting of layers of plastics and fibrous materials, backed or sandwiched, or flooring consisting of a base material laminated with a wear layer which may be plain, patterned, embossed or printed.

NOTES:

1. Floor-covering having an embossed surface or other design effects penetrating any part of their thickness, may be supplied as agreed between the purchaser and supplier. The permanence of such surfaces will be dependent on the traffic density and this should be a consideration in the choice of these materials.
2. Appendix A sets out a summary of the limits applying to sheet floor-covering tested for compliance with this standard.
3. Advisory information on the determination of compliance of a 'lot' with the standard is given in Appendix B.

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

AS 1199	Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes
AS 1399	Guide to AS 1199, Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes
AS 1821-23	Suppliers Quality Control Systems, Levels 1, 2 and 3
AS 1886	Glossary of Terms Relating to Plastics
AS 2000	Guide to AS 1821-1823 Suppliers Quality Control Systems
AS 2001.4.1	Methods of Test for Textiles, Part 4—Colourfastness Tests—Definitions and General Requirements
AS 2001.4.2	Methods of Test for Textiles, Part 4—Colourfastness Tests—Determination of Colourfastness to Daylight
AS 2103	Dial Gauges and Dial Test Indicators
AS 2193	Methods for Calibration and Grading of Force-measuring Systems of Testing Machines
AS 2490	Sampling Procedures and Charts for Inspection by Variables for Percent Defective.

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

NOTE: The definitions listed below are taken from AS 1886.

3.1 Polymer. A substance consisting of molecules characterized by the repetition (neglecting ends, branch junctions and other minor irregularities) of one or more types of monomeric units.

3.2 Copolymer.

- (a) A polymer consisting of molecules containing large numbers of units of two or more chemically different types of irregular sequence.

NOTE: If this sequence is unknown, it is assumed to be irregular.

- (b) The product of simultaneous polymerization of two different monomers or of the grafting on of one monomer to the polymer of another monomer.

4 MATERIAL. The floor-covering shall consist of a binder, principally vinyl chloride polymer and/or copolymer, compounded with suitable plasticizers and stabilizers. It may be blended with pigments and fillers, evenly distributed throughout, to form a plain homogeneous coloured compound, or it may be blended or laminated with other similar compounds to form regular or variegated patterns, or it may be composed of chips of pigmented materials in a matrix of non-pigmented or lightly pigmented materials.

5 COLOUR AND FINISH. The colouring in the floor-covering may be plain, variegated or patterned. Such colouring and appearance shall be uniform throughout the consignment.

NOTE: In normal manufacture, floor-covering from different batches may vary somewhat in hue and shade and pattern.

6 COLOURFASTNESS TO DAYLIGHT. When determined in accordance with AS 2001.4.2, the colour-fastness of the floor-covering shall be rated not less than Standard 5.

7 DIMENSIONS.

7.1 Thickness. The standard nominal thickness of floor-covering shall be 1.5 mm, 2.0 mm or 2.5 mm.

NOTE: Non-standard thicknesses may be supplied by special arrangement.

When measured in accordance with Appendix C, the thickness of floor-covering shall not vary by more than ± 0.13 mm from the nominal thickness.

7.2 Linear Dimensions.

- (a) *Width.* The standard width of sheet floor-covering in continuous lengths shall be 900 mm or 1200 mm. When measured in accordance with Appendix C, the width shall not be less than the appropriate standard width, designated by the manufacturer.

NOTE: Other widths may be available as agreed between purchaser and supplier.

- (b) *Minimum Length.* When measured in accordance with Appendix C, the minimum length of sheet floor-covering shall be 15 m.

8 DIMENSIONAL STABILITY. When determined in accordance with Appendix D, any change in linear dimensions shall not exceed 0.4 percent.