

Australian Standard[®]

**Jewellery—Fineness of precious metal
alloys**

STANDARDS
Australia



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee CS-030, Precious Metals for Jewellery. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 15 October 2008.

This Standard was published on 14 November 2008.

The following are represented on Committee CS-030:

- Australian Jewellery and Gemstone Industry Council
 - Consumers' Federation of Australia
 - Diamond Guild Australia
 - Gemmological Association
 - Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia
 - Jewellery Association of Australia
 - National Council of Jewellery Valuers
 - Research Interests
-

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 18151.

Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Australian Standards® are living documents that reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued.

Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments that may have been published since the Standard was published.

Detailed information about Australian Standards, drafts, amendments and new projects can be found by visiting www.standards.org.au

Standards Australia welcomes suggestions for improvements, and encourages readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at mail@standards.org.au, or write to Standards Australia, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001.

Australian Standard[®]

Jewellery—Fineness of precious metal alloys

Originally in part as AS 2140—1978 and AS 2141—1978.
Revised, amalgamated and designated as AS 2140—2008.

COPYRIGHT

© Standards Australia

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher.

Published by Standards Australia GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 8948 X

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CS-030, Precious Metals for Jewellery, to supersede AS 2140—1978, *Composition and marking requirements of gold articles* and AS 2141—1978, *Composition and marking requirements of silver articles*, which were previously withdrawn in 1998.

The Standard specifies the composition and marking requirements of articles made from precious metals and the marking requirements for mixed metal articles.

This Standard provides manufacturers with a uniform guide to marking and enabling consumers to recognize the symbols, marks and precious metal composition of an article.

The revision of this Standard reflects the change to fineness designation from the former use of the carat system to the millesimal system expressed in parts per thousand.

The term 'informative' has been used to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE.....	4
2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.....	4
3 DEFINITIONS.....	4
4 COMPOSITION.....	5
5 DESIGNATION OF PRECIOUS METAL CONTENT.....	5
6 BASE METALS.....	6
7 SOLDERS.....	6
8 SYMBOLS.....	7
9 MARKING REQUIREMENTS.....	8
10 DETERMINATION OF PRECIOUS METAL CONTENT.....	9
11 ELEMENTS AND METALS TO BE RESTRICTED IN JEWELRY ALLOYS.....	9
 APPENDICES	
A USE OF SYMBOLS.....	11
B GUIDE TO COMPARING THE MILLESIMAL FINENESS OF GOLD WITH PREVIOUS CARAT DESIGNATION.....	12
C MIXED METAL AND ALLOY MARKING RECOMMENDATIONS.....	13

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
Jewellery—Fineness of precious metal alloys**1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out the composition and marking requirements for precious metal articles, including articles of jewellery.

NOTE: This specification does not apply to articles intended for industrial purposes.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

3515 Gold and gold bearing alloys

3515.1 Part 1: Determination of gold content (less than 30%)—Gravimetric (fire assay) method

3515.2 Part 2: Determination of gold content (30% to 99.9%)—Gravimetric (fire assay) method

3515.3 Part 3: Determination of gold content (greater than 99.5%)—Gravimetric (fire assay) method

5006 Silver and silver bearing alloys

5006.1 Part 1: Determination of silver content (0.1% to 99.9%)—Titrimetric (potentiometric) method

5006.2 Part 2: Determination of silver content (1% to 99%)—Gravimetric (fire assay) method

ISO

11210 Determination of platinum in platinum jewellery alloys—Gravimetric method after precipitation of ammonium hexachloroplatinate

11490 Determination of palladium in palladium jewellery alloys—Gravimetric determination via dimethylglyoxime

3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard the following definitions apply.

3.1 Alloy

An homogeneous mixture of two or more metals which contains not less than the amount of precious metal specified in Table 1.

3.2 Base metal

All metals that are not gold, silver, platinum or palladium.

3.3 Fineness

The minimum content of the specified precious metal, measured in parts per thousand by mass of alloy.

3.4 Precious metal

Gold, silver, platinum or palladium.