

Australian Standard[®]

**Down and/or feather filling materials and
filled products**

STANDARDS
Australia



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee CS-035, Continental Quilts. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 5 September 2007. This Standard was published on 18 October 2007.

The following are represented on Committee CS-035:

- Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 - Australian Consumers' Association
 - Australian Down & Feather Association
 - Australian Industry Group
 - Australian Retailers Association
 - Business New Zealand
 - Consumers' Federation of Australia
 - Council of Textile and Fashion Industries of Australia
 - National Association of Testing Authorities Australia
 - Quilted Products Manufacturers Association of Australia Inc
 - Retail and Wholesale Merchants Association of New Zealand
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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.

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**Down and/or feather filling materials and
filled products**

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee, CS-035, Continental Quilts to supersede AS 2479—1987. After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

This Standard aims to ensure down and/or feather filling, which is intended for use in finished products (e.g. pillows, cushions, comforters, quilts, continental quilts, sleeping bags etc.), as well as that which is already contained in finished products, has an acceptable level of cleanliness and performance. Further, the Standard provides a classification that specifies limits for each of the various components that could reasonably be expected to be included in the filling.

This edition differs from the AS 2479—1987 as test methods have been removed. The test methods are now contained in the AS 4823, *Feather and down—Methods of test* series of standards, which are based on European Standards.

Additionally, the labelling requirements have been modified to ensure that references to composition and species are accurate representations as to the actual composition of the filling. The generous tolerances of the previous edition, while catering for the technical difficulties of producing fully homogenous feather and down product, failed to recognize the consumer requirement that products should be as they are represented on labels and on packaging.

This Standard contains more simple and clear information to benefit all parties involved in the sourcing, supply and purchase of feather and down filled products.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard**Down and/or feather filling materials and filled products****1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies requirements for purity and composition of down and/or feather filling material or down and/or feather filled products. This Standard also provides a classification that is intended to be applied when labelling or verifying a label on such products.

2 APPLICATION

This Standard applies to down and/or feathers contained in filled products such as, but not limited to, pillows, cushions, comforters, quilts, continental quilts, sleeping bags and the like.

3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following Standards are referred to in this Standard:

AS

- 2001 Methods of test for textiles
- 2001.3.1 Method 3.1: Chemical tests—Determination of pH of aqueous extract
- 4823 Feather and down—Methods of test
- 4823.2 Method 2: Determination of the oxygen index number
- 4823.3 Method 3: Determination of the quantitative composition of feather and down (manual method)
- 4823.4 Method 4: Sampling in view of tests
- 4823.5 Method 5: Measuring the sizes of quilts filled with feather and/or down

AS/NZS

- 1957 Textiles—Care labelling

EN

- 1885 Feather and down—Terms and definitions
- 12130 Feather and down—Test methods—Determination of the filling power (massic volume)

4 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions of EN 1885 and those below apply.

4.1 Secondhand filling

Feathers and/or down which have been previously used in another product.

4.2 Small feathers

Feathers of a length no greater than 60 mm.