

AS 2601:2025



STANDARDS
Australia



The demolition of structures

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AS 2601:2025

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The following are represented on Committee BD-059:

Asbestos & Hazardous Materials Consultants Association
Australian Council of Recycling
Australian Institute of Building Surveyors
Concrete Institute of Australia
Demolition & Asbestos Industry Association (QLD)
Demolition & Asbestos Industry Association of Victoria
Engineers Australia
Facility of Asbestos Management of Australia and New Zealand
Housing Industry Association
Master Builders Australia
SafeWork NSW
Unions NSW
Victorian WorkCover Authority (WorkSafe Victoria)
WorkSafe Division — Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) WA

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The demolition of structures

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How to read this Standard

This page explains the meaning of the language and structure of this Standard.

Refer to Standards Australia's Standardisation Guide 006 for more details about drafting rules.

Australian and Australian/New Zealand Standards are voluntary unless they are referenced in legislation or called up in contracts.

Requirements

To conform to a Standard, all requirements in the Standard need to be met.

A requirement is any statement in the Standard which uses the word "shall".

Recommendations, permissions and possibilities

The following words are commonly used in Standards, but statements using them do not have to be followed to conform to the Standard:

- (a) "should" means that something is recommended.
- (b) "may" means that something is permitted.
- (c) "can" means that something is possible.

Structure of Standards

A Standard always has the following parts:

- (i) The Preface states who developed the Standard, what the Standard is aiming to do, and how it relates to other documents.
- (ii) The Scope states what the Standard is about, what it covers and what it does not cover.
- (iii) The Normative references clause lists other documents that are referenced in the Standard as part of requirements.
- (iv) The Terms and definitions clause defines important terms to help with understanding the Standard.

A Standard may also include other parts, such as the following:

- (1) A normative appendix sets additional requirements that need to be conformed to.
- (2) An informative appendix provides additional information or guidance. They usually do not contain requirements. If an informative appendix does contain requirements, the Standard will explain when those requirements apply.
- (3) A Bibliography lists documents referenced in the Standard but not as part of requirements.

Many Standards include notes. Notes provide recommendations and/or guidance only. They never contain requirements.

Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee BD-059, Demolition of Structures, to supersede AS 2601—2001.

The objective of this document is to provide requirements and recommendations for the demolition of the loadbearing parts of a building.

The major changes in this edition are as follows:

- (a) Restructure of content.
- (b) Increased stringency of requirements.
- (c) Update of public protection requirements.
- (d) Expansion of hazardous materials.
- (e) Enhanced demolition methodologies.

The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in Standards to define the application of the appendices 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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Australian Standard®

The demolition of structures

Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This document sets out requirements and recommendations for the demolition of the loadbearing and non-loadbearing parts of buildings and structures.

This document also provides requirements for a range of controlled demolition methods to minimize risks relating to —

- (a) health and safety of the public, site workers, site visitors and occupiers of adjoining properties;
- (b) damage to the immediate surrounds; and
- (c) damage to adjoining properties.

1.2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document.

NOTE Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

AS 1319, *Safety signs for the occupational environment*

AS 1418 (all parts), *Cranes, hoists and winches*

AS 1674.1, *Safety in welding and allied processes, Part 1: Fire precautions*

AS 1725.1, *Chain link fabric fencing, Part 1: Security fences and gates — General requirements*

AS 1940, *The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids*

AS 2187.2, *Explosives — Storage and use, Part 2: Use of explosives*

AS 2210.2, *Personal protective equipment, Method 2: Test methods for footwear*

AS 2321, *Short-link chain for lifting purposes*

AS 2444, *Portable fire extinguishers and fire blankets — Selection and location*

AS 2550 (all parts), *Cranes, hoists and winches*

AS 2865, *Confined spaces*

AS 3569, *Steel wire ropes — Product specification*

AS 4322, *The storage and handling of gases in cylinders*

AS/NZS 1270, *Acoustics — Hearing protectors*

AS/NZS 1336, *Eye and face protection — Guidelines*

AS/NZS 1337.1, *Personal eye protection, Part 1: Eye and face protectors for occupational applications*

AS/NZS 1576 (all parts), *Scaffolding*

AS/NZS 1715, *Selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective equipment*

AS/NZS 1716, *Respiratory protective devices*