

Australian Standard™

**Packaging—Pictorial marking for the
handling of packages**

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Australian Paints Manufacturers' Federation
Canmakers Institute of Australia
Department of Defence
Printing Industries Association of Australia
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by Standards Australia Committee PK-025, Packaging Code to supersede AS 2852—1986, *Packaging—Pictorial marking for the handling of packages*.

This Standard is identical with and has been reproduced from ISO 780:1997, *Packaging—Pictorial marking for handling goods*.

The objective of this revision is to include new and revise the current symbols for packaging as to ISO 780:1997.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

- (a) Its number does not appear on each page of the text and its identify is shown only on the cover and title page.
- (b) In the source text, 'this International Standard' should read 'this Australian Standard'.
- (c) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

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

INTRODUCTION

Packages are often marked with handling instructions in the language of the country of origin. While this may safeguard the consignment to some extent, it is of little value for goods consigned to, or through, countries using different languages, and of no value at all if people handling the packages are illiterate.

Pictorial symbols offer the best possibility of conveying the consignor's intention and their adoption will, therefore, undoubtedly reduce loss and damage through incorrect handling.

The symbols specified are in accordance with the rules of ISO/TC 145, *Graphical symbols*.

The use of pictorial symbols does not provide any guarantee of satisfactory handling; proper protective packaging is therefore of primary importance.

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Packaging—Pictorial marking for the handling of packages**1 Scope**

This International Standard specifies a set of symbols conventionally used for marking of transport packages in their physical distribution chain to convey handling instructions. The symbols should be used only when necessary.

This International Standard is applicable to packages containing any kind of goods, but does not include instructions specific to the handling of dangerous goods.

2 Symbols**2.1 Display of symbols**

Symbols should preferably be stencilled directly on the package or may appear on a label. It is recommended that the symbols be painted, printed or otherwise reproduced as specified in this International Standard. They need not be framed by border lines.

The graphical design of each symbol shall have only one meaning; symbols are purposely designed so that they can also be stencilled without changing the graphics.

2.2 Colour of symbols

The colour used for symbols shall be black.

If the colour of the package is such that the black symbol would not show clearly, a panel of a suitable contrasting colour, preferably white, shall be provided as a background.

Care shall be taken to avoid the use of colours which could result in confusion with the labelling of dangerous goods. The use of red, orange or yellow shall be avoided unless regional or national regulations require such use.

2.3 Size of symbols

For normal purposes, the overall height of the symbols shall be 100 mm, 150 mm or 200 mm.

The size or shape of the package may, however, necessitate use of larger or smaller sizes for the symbols.

2.4 Number, location and position of symbols

2.4.1 The number of identical symbols to be used for any one package depends on its size and shape.

For symbols No. 1, 3, 7, 11 and 16 (see table 1), the following rules shall be applied.

- a) **Symbol No. 1**, "Fragile", shall be shown near the left-hand upper corner on all four upright sides of the packages (see example of application under No. 1 in table 1).