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Australian Standard®

**Approval and test specification—
Socket-outlet adaptors**

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA



This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee EL/4, Electrical Accessories. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 20 April 1989 and published on 14 July 1989.

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Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association
Confederation of Australian Industry
Department of Defence
Department of Public Works, N.S.W.
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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA



Amendment No 1
to
AS 3122—1989

Approval and test specification—Socket-outlet adaptors

REVISED TEXT

The 1989 edition of AS 3122 is amended as follows; the amendment should be inserted in the appropriate place.

SUMMARY: This Amendment applies to Clauses 2.2 and 11.

Published on 6 August 1990.

Page 4. Clause 2.2.

Delete the existing Clause and *insert* the following:

2.2 Plug portion—the portion of the socket-outlet adaptor which carries the pins intended for making a detachable connection with the contacts of a socket-outlet. For socket-outlet adaptors incorporating flat-pins, the 'plug portion' includes all parts dimensioned in accordance with Clause 2.8 of AS 3112.

This amendment forms part of the Specification 2 years from publication.

Page 5. Clause 11.

1. *Retitle* as 'MEANS OF ENTRY AND CORD ANCHORAGE FOR FLEXIBLE CORD'.

2. *Delete* the existing last paragraph of Clause 11.2.

3. *Add* a new Clause 11.3 as follows:

11.3 Side-entry (of the flexible cord) socket-outlet adaptors. In addition to complying with the requirements of Clauses 11.1 and 11.2, side-entry socket-outlet adaptors shall comply with Figure 2.1(d) of AS 3112.

This amendment forms part of the Specification 2 years from publication.

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**Approval and test specification—
Socket-outlet adaptors**

First published as AS C122—1939.
Second edition 1964.
Revised and redesignated AS 3122—1981.
Second edition 1985.
Third edition 1989.

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Electrical Accessories to supersede AS 3122—1985.

It is one of a series of Approval and Test Specifications issued by the organization. These Specifications are accompanied by a general Specification AS 3100, containing definitions and general requirements for electrical materials and equipment. The purpose of these Specifications is to outline conditions which must be met to secure approval for the sale and use of electrical equipment in Australia. Only safety matters and related conditions are covered.

This Standard was revised to:

- Retitle the Standard 'socket-outlet adaptors' in lieu of the former 'plug socket adaptors' in line with the recent terminology change in AS 3112, *Approval and test specification—Plugs and socket-outlets*.
- Effect changes to Clauses 8.2 (regarding terminals), 9.3 (regarding guidance for pins during entry into a socket-outlet), 9.4 (regarding assembly of pins), 14 (regarding internal connections), 15 (regarding the earthing pin aperture), 18 (regarding switches), 20 (regarding marking requirements) and deletion of the mechanical endurance test (formerly Clause 21) so that the tumbling barrel test of AS 3112 is applicable instead.
- Update the cross-references to referred Standards.

This Standard supersedes AS 3122—1985 from date of publication.

Standards Australia desires to call attention to the fact that this Specification does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract.

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Australian Standard

Approval and test specification—Socket-outlet adaptors

This Specification shall be read in conjunction with AS 3100.
(See also Clause 3, below).

1 SCOPE AND REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.

1.1 Scope. This Specification applies to socket-outlet adaptors, as defined in Clause 2, and intended for use at low or extra-low voltage.

1.2 Referenced documents. The Approval and Test Specifications below are referred to in this Standard.

- AS
3100 Definitions and general requirements for electrical materials and equipment
3112 Plugs and socket-outlets
3120 Cord extension sockets
3121 Insulating mouldings
3145 Radio interference suppression devices
3199 Cord extension sets

2 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this Specification, the definitions below apply.

2.1 Socket-outlet adaptor—an accessory for insertion into a socket-outlet and containing metal contacts, to accommodate two plugs, or a flexible cord and one plug.

2.2 Plug portion—the portion of the socket-outlet adaptor which carries the pins intended for making a detachable connection with the contacts of a socket-outlet. > SEE AMENDMENT (1)

2.3 Socket portion—the portion of the socket-outlet adaptor which carries the contacts intended for making a detachable connection with the pins of a plug.

2.4 Rewirable socket-outlet adaptor—a socket-outlet adaptor so constructed that any flexible cable or cord can be replaced.

2.5 Non-rewirable socket-outlet adaptor—a socket-outlet adaptor so constructed that it forms an integral unit with any flexible cable or cord, such that—

- (a) any flexible cable or cord cannot be detached from the accessory without making the accessory useless;
- (b) any flexible cord cannot be replaced by hand or by using a general purpose tool.

COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIFICATIONS.

3.1 General requirements of AS 3100. This Specification shall be read in conjunction with AS 3100 and the appropriate provisions of AS 3100 shall apply to the construction of a socket-outlet adaptor and the insulation and safeguarding of parts which normally carry current.

3.2 Specific requirements of this Specification. A socket-outlet adaptor shall be deemed to comply with

this Specification only if it complies with all requirements of this Specification and passes the tests specified herein.

4 PROHIBITED TYPES. Socket-outlet adaptors shall not—

- (a) have more than two outlets, the term 'outlet' being deemed to include facilities for the connection of a flexible cord;
- (b) have more than one outlet for a flexible cord;
- (c) have an outlet in the form of a lampholder;
- (d) be capable of insertion in a lampholder;
- (e) incorporate a plug portion having only two pins and an outlet providing for the connection of other than a 2-pin plug or a 2-core flexible cord;
- (f) incorporate a plug portion having an earthing pin and an outlet not provided with an earthing terminal or earthing contact;
- (g) incorporate any fuse or thermal overload device;
- (h) have an outlet providing for the connection of a plug having a current rating exceeding that of the plug portion of the adaptor;
- (i) have an outlet with a current rating exceeding 20 A;
- (j) have an outlet with a voltage rating exceeding low voltage; and
- (k) have an outlet with polarity differing from that of the plug portion of the adaptor.

5 EXTRA-LOW VOLTAGE TYPES. Extra-low voltage socket-outlet adaptors shall not be required to comply with Clauses 14 and 16.

6 PLUG AND SOCKET PORTIONS. The plug portion and any socket portion incorporated in a socket-outlet adaptor shall each comply with the appropriate requirements of AS 3112.

7 INSULATING MATERIALS. The insulating portions of a socket-outlet adaptor shall consist of—

- (a) insulating material having properties not inferior to those of Class 80 mouldings complying with AS 3121; or
- (b) ceramic material of a type such that, after immersion in water for 48 h and after all visible drops of water have been removed from the surface by means of a clean dry cloth, it shall not have increased in mass by more than 2 percent.

In addition, all insulating portions, except ceramic, of a socket-outlet adaptor shall comply with the requirements of Clause 3.16.9 of AS 3112.