

WITHDRAWN

DECEMBER 1994

AS 3866 (Int)—1991  
(Expires 4 March 1992)

~~3~~  
4

Interim Australian Standard®

---

**Re-usable plastics cookware for  
microwave ovens**

---



**STANDARDS AUSTRALIA** 

This Interim Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CS/74, Plastics for Microwave Cooking. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 24 October 1990 and published on 4 March 1991.

---

The following interests are represented on Committee CS/74:

Australian Consumers Association  
Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations  
Composites Institute of Australia  
Consumer Affairs Bureau, Qld  
Department of Community Services and Health  
Department of Public and Consumer Affairs, S.A.  
Federal Bureau of Consumer Affairs  
Microwave Information Council of Australia  
Pigment Ecological and Toxicological Technical Committee of Australia  
The Plastics Industry Association

---

*Review of Australian Standards.* To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian Standards are subject to periodic review and are kept up-to-date by the issue of amendments or new editions as necessary. It is important therefore that Standards users ensure that they are in possession of the latest edition, and any amendments thereto.

Full details of all Australian Standards and related publications will be found in the Standards Australia Catalogue of Publications; this information is supplemented each month by the magazine 'The Australian Standard', which subscribing members receive, and which gives details of new publications, new editions and amendments, and of withdrawn Standards.

Suggestions for improvements to Australian Standards, addressed to the head office of Standards Australia, are welcomed. Notification of any inaccuracy or ambiguity found in an Australian Standard should be made without delay in order that the matter may be investigated and appropriate action taken.

---

Interim Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

---

**Re-usable plastics cookware for  
microwave ovens**

---

First published as AS 3866 (Int)—1991.

## PREFACE

This Interim Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee for Plastics for Microwave Cooking, under the direction of the Consumer Standards Advisory Board.

Although the requirements specified in this document are believed to be practicable, there has been a lack of available verification data. As a consequence, it is released as only an Interim Standard.

Standards Australia invites comment on this Interim Standard from persons and organizations concerned with the subject. The date for expiry of comment is 4 March 1992, at which time (or earlier) this Interim Standard will be either withdrawn or revised in the light of comments received.

During the life of this document, the committee will monitor all comment on the use of the document.

Attention is drawn to the fact that this document is an Interim Australian Standard only and should be regarded as a draft Standard and hence liable to alteration after the expiry date.

This document is not to be regarded as an Australian Standard until issued as such by Standards Australia.

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE .....	3
2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS .....	3
3 MATERIALS .....	3
4 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS .....	3
5 LABELLING .....	3
<b>APPENDICES</b>	
A DIMENSIONAL STABILITY .....	5
B IMPACT .....	8
C THERMAL SHOCK .....	10
D ACCELERATED AGEING .....	11

### © Copyright — STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Users of Standards are reminded that copyright subsists in all Standards Australia publications and software. Except where the Copyright Act allows and except where provided for below no publications or software produced by Standards Australia may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system in any form or transmitted by any means without prior permission in writing from Standards Australia. Permission may be conditional on an appropriate royalty payment. Requests for permission and information on commercial software royalties should be directed to the Head Office of Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will permit up to 10 percent of the technical content pages of a Standard to be copied for use exclusively in-house by purchasers of the Standard without payment of a royalty or advice to Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will also permit the inclusion of its copyright material in computer software programs for no royalty payment provided such programs are used exclusively in-house by the creators of the programs.

Care should be taken to ensure that material used is from the current edition of the Standard and that it is updated whenever the Standard is amended or revised. The number and date of the Standard should therefore be clearly identified.

The use of material in print form or in computer software programs to be used commercially, with or without payment, or in commercial contracts is subject to the payment of a royalty. This policy may be varied by Standards Australia at any time.

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

## Re-usable plastics cookware for microwave ovens

**1 SCOPE** This Interim Standard specifies requirements and test procedures for substantially rigid re-usable plastics cookware intended for use in microwave ovens.

**2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS** The following documents are referred to in this Interim Standard:  
AS

2070 Plastics materials for food contact use

2070.1 Polyethylene

2070.2 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) compound

2070.3 Styrene plastics materials

2070.4 Acrylonitrile plastics materials

2070.5 Polypropylene

2070.6 Colourants

2070.7 Polyvinylidene chloride (PVDC)

**3 MATERIALS**

**3.1 General** Plastics cookware shall *not* include any substance in such a quantity or in such a manner that would be hazardous to health when the cookware is used in its intended manner.

**3.2 Specific materials** If the plastics cookware is made from—

(a) polyethylene;

(b) polyvinyl chloride (PVC);

(c) styrene;

(d) acrylonitrile;

(e) polypropylene; or

(f) polyvinylidene chloride (PVDC),

the material shall comply with the appropriate part of AS 2070.

**3.3 Colourants** The colourants and quantities used in the manufacture of plastics cookware shall comply with AS 2070.6.

**4 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**4.1 Dimensional stability** When tested in accordance with Appendix A, the maximum percentage permanent dimensional distortion of the test sample, after heating and cooling, shall not exceed 2%, and the maximum percentage deflection, when hot, shall not exceed 5%.

**4.2 Impact** When tested in accordance with Appendix B, the test sample shall show no breaks or cracks which extend through its entire thickness.

**4.3 Thermal shock** When tested in accordance with Appendix C, the test sample shall show no breaks or cracks which extend through its entire thickness.

**4.4 Accelerated ageing** When tested in accordance with Appendix D, the test sample shall show no breaks or cracks which extend through its entire thickness.

**5 LABELLING**

**5.1 Package** The primary display panel of the package containing plastics cookware shall indicate the following, if appropriate:

(a) Not suitable for use with high sugar content foods, fats or oils, if the cookware does not comply with Clause 4.1 at the  $195 \pm 10^\circ\text{C}$  oven temperature.

(b) Not suitable for freezer-to-microwave use, if the cookware does not comply with Clause 4.3.

The wording shall be in letters that are—

(i) not less than 1.5 mm in height; and

(ii) in red, if red contrasts with the colours on the primary display panel; or

(iii) in any primary colour that contrasts with the colours on the primary display panel, if red does *not* contrast with the colours on the primary display panel.