

Australian Standard™

Hydrotherapy pools

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee MS-051, Hydrotherapy Pools. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 7 March 2006. This Standard was published on 4 April 2006.

The following are represented on Committee MS-051:

Association of Consultants in Access Australia
Australian Physiotherapy Association
Department of Human Services (Victoria)
Prince Henry and The Prince of Wales Hospitals
Royal North Shore Hospital
Swimming Pool and Spa Association of NSW

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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 05261.

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OF

AS 3979–2006

Hydrotherapy pools

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Approved for reconfirmation in accordance with Standards Australia procedures for reconfirmation on 29 August 2018.

NOTES

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Original title: AS 3979—1991.
Third edition: 2006.

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Published by Standards Australia, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 7365 6

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee MS-051, Hydrotherapy Pools, to supersede AS 3979—1993.

The objective of this Standard is to provide designers, specifiers and other interested parties with design, construction and operation information to facilitate the standardization of the hydrotherapy industry in Australia.

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

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FOREWORD

One of the fundamental difficulties in preparing a Standard for the design of purpose-built hydrotherapy pools is to ensure that the pool and its facilities meet the needs of all potential users.

During the development of this Standard it was necessary to consider the general requirements of all public, private and domestic hydrotherapy pools. It was not considered appropriate to nominate specific materials of construction or all design features of the pool as cost considerations, resulting from the insistence on particular materials and some design features, could place unacceptable constraints on the construction of hydrotherapy pools.

Hydrotherapy pools are constructed primarily, for use by persons of all ages suffering from a variety of conditions and disabilities, for the purpose of undertaking hydrotherapeutic exercise. In some cases they may be used for the teaching of swimming to persons with disabilities. These pools may also be utilized for general exercise activities. Due to the temperature at which the water is maintained, they are not recommended for intensive swimming training or high-level fitness activities.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard Hydrotherapy pools

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out requirements and recommendations for the design, construction and operation of pools, and requirements for use by and management of persons whose conditions require hydrotherapy. It does not apply to small tanks that incorporate fixed or rotating water jets with a water capacity of less than 7500 L or to small prefabricated therapy/fitness pools.

NOTE: The recommendation of this Standard may also provide advice for use when designing general purpose pools which from, time to time, may be made available for hydrotherapy purposes.

1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
1428	Design for access and mobility
1428.1	Part 1: General requirements for access—Buildings
1428.2	Part 2: Enhanced and additional requirements—Buildings and facilities
1668	The use of ventilation and air conditioning in buildings
1668.2	Part 2: Ventilation design for indoor air contaminant control
1838	Swimming pools—Pre-moulded fibre-reinforced plastics—Design and fabrication
1839	Swimming pools—Pre-moulded fibre-reinforced plastics—Installation
1926	Swimming pool safety
1926.3	Part 3: Water recirculation and filtration systems
2610	Spa pools
2610.1	Part 1: Public spas
2783	Use of reinforced concrete for small swimming pools
2818	Guide to swimming pool safety
2652	Private swimming pools—Water quality
4276	Water microbiology
4276.3.1	Part 3.1: Heterotrophic colony count methods—Pour plate method using plate count agar
4276.6	Part 6: Thermotolerant coliforms and Escherichia coli—Estimation of most probable number (MPN)
4276.7	Part 7: Thermotolerant coliforms and Escherichia coli—Membrane filtration method
4276.12	Part 12: Pseudomonas aeruginosa—Estimation of most probable number (MPN)
4276.13	Part 13: Pseudomonas aeruginosa—Membrane filtration method