



Furniture—Fixed height chairs

Part 1: Safety and general requirements

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AS 4688.1:2018

This Australian Standard® was prepared by CS-088, Furniture – Domestic & Commercial. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 23 November 2018.

This Standard was published on 21 December 2018.

The following are represented on Committee CS-088:

- Australasian Furnishing Association (AFA)
- Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Australian Industry Group
- Furniture Industry Association of Australia (FIAA)
- Furntech-AFRDI
- Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia
- National Retail Association

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS 4688.1:2018.

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ISBN 978 1 76072 324 8



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Originates as AS/NZS 4688.1:2000.
Previous edition 2007.
Revised and redesignated as AS 4688.1:2018.

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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS-088, Furniture — Domestic and Commercial, to supersede AS/NZS 4688.1:2007, *Furniture—Fixed height chairs, Part 1: Human interface and general requirements*.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The 2007 edition of this Standard was withdrawn in 2009. The objective of this edition is to reinstate and revise AS/NZS 4688.1 to provide safety and general requirements for fixed height chairs.

This Standard is Part 1 of a series for fixed height chairs and sets out safety and general requirements. Other Parts in this series are as follows:

AS/NZS 4688.2, *Furniture — Fixed height chairs, Part 2: Determination of strength and durability*

AS/NZS 4688.3, *Furniture — Fixed height chairs, Part 3: Determination of stability — Upright chairs*

AS/NZS 4688.4, *Furniture — Fixed height chairs, Part 4: Determination of stability — Chairs with tilting or reclining mechanisms when fully reclined, and rocking chairs*

In this Standard the test levels and applications have been revised to reflect their suitability for a current population of users that is generally larger and heavier than in the past.

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®

Furniture—Fixed height chairs

Part 1: Safety and general requirements

1 Scope

This Standard sets out the safety and general requirements, and recommendations, for freestanding fixed height seating with either fixed, swivel or rocking bases and upright, reclined or reclinable backrests intended to seat one or more persons. Bases may incorporate wheels, castors or glides.

The following are not covered by this Standard:

- (a) Seating permanently attached to the floor or similar structures such as in theatres or stadiums.
- (b) Height adjustable swivel chairs (see AS/NZS 4438).
- (c) Plastic monobloc chairs (see AS/NZS 3813).
- (d) Student chairs used in school and educational environments (see AS/NZS 4688.2).

ISO/IEC 17025 requirements for measurement uncertainty do not apply to this suite of Standards.

NOTE 1 In the case of multiple seating, the tests in this suite of Standards may be applied using the methods of test in EN 1728 and the loads and forces specified in AS/NZS 4688.2.

NOTE 2 For the purpose of this Standard the word “chair” is used as a collective term for any of the fixed height seating types, including stools and recliners.

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 information purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

AS 2282.3, *Methods for testing flexible cellular polyurethane, Method 3: Determination of apparent density*

AS/NZS 1957, *Textiles — Care labelling*

AS/NZS 4088.1, *Specifications for burning behaviour of upholstered furniture, Part 1: Upholstery materials for domestic furniture — Smouldering ignitability*

AS/NZS 4688.2, *Furniture — Fixed height chairs, Part 2: Determination of strength and durability*

AS/NZS 4688.3, *Furniture — Fixed height chairs, Part 3: Determination of stability—Upright chairs*

AS/NZS 4688.4, *Furniture — Fixed height chairs, Part 4: Determination of stability—Chairs with tilting or reclining mechanisms when fully reclined, and rocking chairs*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this Standard the terms and definitions below apply.

3.1

accessible to the user

features to which access can be easily gained by the user when the seating is in its intended configuration for use and for which the probability of unintentional contact is high