

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Wheelchairs

Part 1: Requirements and test methods for manual wheelchairs



AS/NZS 3695.1:2011

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ME-067, Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 12 December 2011 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 20 October 2011. This Standard was published on 23 December 2011.

The following are represented on Committee ME-067:

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Association of Consultants in Access Australia
Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association
Bus and Coach Association of New Zealand
Consumers Federation of Australia
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-067, Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities to supersede, in part, AS 3695—1992, *Wheelchairs—Product requirements*.

This is the first revision of the Standard, which was originally issued in 1992.

Where this Standard does not apply to particular wheelchairs, contracting parties should consider whether appropriate parts of this Standard can be used as part of the contract.

Manufacturers may also wish to consider if appropriate parts of this Standard can be used to assess the performance of their products against the relevant Essential Principles of the Medical Device from the Australian *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*.

In revising this Standard, it was determined to expand the role and function of AS 3695 in line with the ISO series of test methods for wheelchairs and, where possible, to align with EN 12183:2009, *Manual wheelchairs—Requirements and test methods*, and in so doing, the 1992 publication has been split into three Parts as follows:

Part 1: Requirements and test methods for manual wheelchairs (this Standard).

Part 2: Requirements for electrically powered wheelchairs (excluding scooters).

Part 3: Motorized mobility scooters (*to be published*).

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix 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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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

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Part 1: Requirements and test methods for manual wheelchairs

1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies requirements and test methods for manual wheelchairs intended to carry one person.

This Standard does not apply in total to wheelchairs designed for special purposes such as those listed in (a) to (c) below. Specific elements of the Standard may be relevant to such wheelchairs.

- (a) Sports wheelchairs.
- (b) Stand-up wheelchairs.
- (c) Add on power kits for the propulsion of manual wheelchairs.

This Standard does not apply in total to custom-made wheelchairs.

However, where custom-made wheelchairs are—

- (i) constructed on the basis of a standardized design;
- (ii) using structural members of common technical specification; and
- (iii) with primarily dimensional variations between users,

the Standard may be applied to the base design.

In such circumstances the test sample needs to be constructed in accordance with the base design, to a specification that is representative of common prescriptions giving consideration to the set up requirements specified in AS/NZS 3696.22.

NOTE: Appendix F provides, for information only, a list of changes made to AS 3695—1992 in this edition and reference to relevant parts of EN 12183:2009, which informed those changes.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard.

AS

- 3696* Wheelchairs
- 3696.11 Part 11: Test dummies

AS/NZS

- 3696* Wheelchairs
- 3696.1 Part 1: Determination of static stability
- 3696.3 Part 3: Determination of effectiveness of brakes
- 3696.8 Part 8: Requirements and test methods for static, impact and fatigue strengths
- 3696.19 Part 19: Wheeled mobility devices for use as seats in motor vehicles (ISO 7176-19:2008, MOD)
- 3696.22 Part 22: Set-up procedures

* The AS and AS/NZS 3696 series is progressively being revised as adoptions of the ISO 7176 series. As part of this process the 3696 series is being redesignated as the AS/NZS ISO 7176 series.