BS 1363-3:2016+A1:2018

BSI Standards Publication

13 A plugs, socket-outlets, adaptors and connection units

Part 3: Specification for adaptors

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Date	Text affected
28 February 2018	A1: see Foreword

Contents

Summary of pages
This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i to vi, pages 1 to 101, an inside back cover and a back cover.

Foreword

Publishing information

This part of BS 1363 is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 August 2016. It was prepared by Technical Committee PEL/23, *Electrical accessories*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

Supersession

BS 1363-3:2016+A1:2018 supersedes BS 1363-3:2016, which is withdrawn.

BS 1363-3:2016 superseded BS 1363-3:1995+A4:2012, which remains current and will be withdrawn on 31 August 2019.

Information about this document

BS 1363 comprises five parts covering the following:

- *Part 1: Specification for rewirable and non-rewirable 13 A fused plugs;*
- *Part 2: Specification for 13 A switched and unswitched socket-outlets;*
- *Part 3: Specification for adaptors;*
- *Part 4: Specification for 13 A fused connection units switched and unswitched;*
- *Part 5: Specification for fused conversion plugs.*

NOTE In order to prevent confusion with BS 1363:1984, the figure and clause numbers have been retained.

The structure of BS EN 50525 and its derivation from British Standards and HD 21 and HD 22 is set out in BS EN 50525-1:2011, National Annex NA. This is reproduced in Annex I for the convenience of users of this part of BS 1363.

BS 1363-3 was a new edition, which incorporated technical changes only. It did not represent a full review or revision of the standard, which will be undertaken in due course.

Text introduced or altered by Amendment No. 1 is indicated in the text by tags 〈A1〉 〈A1〉. Minor editorial changes are not tagged.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is "shall".

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Requirements in this standard are drafted in accordance with *Rules for the structure and drafting of UK standards*, subclause **G.1.1**, which states, "Requirements should be expressed using wording such as: 'When tested as described in Annex A, the product shall ...'". This means that only those products that are capable of passing the specified test will be deemed to conform to this standard.

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

Particular attention is drawn to the following specific regulations:

- The Plugs and Sockets etc. (Safety) Regulations 1994. SI No. 1768.[1]

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1 Scope

This part of BS 1363 specifies requirements for adaptors having insulating sleeves on the line and neutral plug pins and suitable for use with socket-outlets conforming to BS 1363-2:2016, with particular reference to safety in normal use. Adaptors specified in this part of BS 1363 are intended for household, commercial and light industrial purposes. The adaptors are suitable for the connection of portable appliances, sound-vision equipment, luminaires, etc., in a.c. circuits only, operating at voltages not exceeding 250 V r.m.s. at 50 Hz. Adapters incorporating electronic components detailed in Annex H are included within this part of BS 1363.

This standard also applies to shaver adaptors which have the earth pin replaced with a similarly dimensioned protrusion made of insulating material designated as an insulated shutter operating device (ISOD) designed to operate the shutter mechanism of a socket-outlet conforming to BS 1363-2:2016.

Adaptors conforming to this standard are shuttered and therefore do not require the use of additional means to shield the current-carrying contacts when no plug is present in the adaptor socket-outlets.

Assemblies comprising a plug and one or more portable socket-outlets connected together by a flexible cable are not considered to be adaptors according to this part of BS 1363. Devices incorporating, transformers, timers, thermostats or other control means are outside the scope of this part of BS 1363.

NOTE 1 The titles of the publications referred to in this standard are listed in the bibliography.

NOTE 2 In order to maintain safety and interchangeability with plugs and socket-outlets it is necessary that these products conform to the requirements of Clause 9, Clause 12 and Clause 13, however their body outline need not be limited at a distance of 6.35 mm from the plug engagement surface.

An adaptor is mechanical by nature of construction. The product is therefore immune from electromagnetic interference.

An adaptor that does not incorporate electronic devices does not emit intolerable electromagnetic interference since significant electromagnetic disturbances are only generated during insertion and withdrawal which are not continuous.

This British Standard does not cover travel adapters.

NOTE 3 Attention is drawn to BS 8546:2016, which covers travel adapters.

2 Conditions of use

Adaptors shall be suitable for use under the following conditions:

a) an ambient temperature in the range −5 °C to +40 °C, the average value over 24 h not exceeding 25 °C;

NOTE Under normal conditions of use, the available cooling air is subject to natural atmospheric variations of temperature and hence the peak temperature occurs only occasionally during the hot season, and on those days when it does occur it does not persist for lengthy periods.

b) a situation not subject to exposure to direct radiation from the sun or other source of heat likely to raise temperatures above the limits specified in a);

c) an altitude not exceeding 2 000 m above sea level;

d) an atmosphere not subject to abnormal pollution by smoke, chemical fumes, rain spray prolonged periods of high humidity or other abnormal conditions. This is the equivalent to pollution degree 2, see Annex E, and Overvoltage Category III, see Annex D.

