

Australian Standard™

**Timber flooring**

**Part 2: Sanding and finishing**



This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee TM-007, Sawn, milled and speciality timber products. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 12 August 2005.  
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Forest Products Commission (WA)  
Forests NSW  
Furntech  
Housing Industry Association  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee TM-007, Sawn, Milled and Speciality Timber Products as a revision of the withdrawn Standards AS CA39—1963, *Sanding of interior wooden floors* and AS CA39 Supp 1—1974, *Sanding of interior wooden floors (Metric units)*.

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 objective of this Standard is to provide specifiers, sanders and finishers of timber flooring with requirements for the sanding and finishing of timber flooring.

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.

Notes to the text contain information and guidance and are not considered to be an integral part of the Standard.

## FOREWORD

Sanding and finishing of floors is a specialist job using specifically designed equipment. It is often carried out towards the end of a building contract. Therefore, the floor should be protected from damage between its installation and the sanding and finishing operation. Construction activities during this period may cause irreversible damage to the floor surface such as staining from spillage (e.g., water or chemicals such as cleaning fluids) or indentations from dropped tools.

Care is needed to ensure that the scheduled time for carrying out the operation of sanding and finishing of a timber floor is appropriate to its moisture content and the equilibrium moisture content expected in the room. Flexibility may be needed in the schedule to allow for unusually damp or dry weather to pass before sanding and finishing.

Where air conditioning is to be installed it may be preferable to have it in working order before procedures are carried out so that the appropriate equilibrium moisture content can be achieved to match conditions during the life of the floor.

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# STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard Timber flooring

### Part 2: Sanding and finishing

## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

### 1.1 SCOPE

This Standard gives requirements for the sanding and finishing of both new and existing timber floors including parquet and strip flooring.

#### NOTES:

- 1 Guidelines for preparing specifications and information on factors affecting finishing and on maintenance are given in Appendix A.
- 2 The quality of finish of a timber floor will depend on the attention to detail and level of experience of the tradesman performing the work.
- 3 Sanding and finishing should be carried out in one smooth operation as, after sanding, with exposure to the atmosphere, the timber surface can be inclined to change.
- 4 Extra care is necessary when sanding and finishing flooring laid directly on heated concrete sub-floors (see Appendix A).

### 1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

#### AS/NZS

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 4491   | Timber—Glossary of terms in timber-related standards                      |
| 4518   | Bonded abrasives—Determination and designation of grain size distribution |
| 4518.1 | Macrogrits F4 to F220   |

### 1.3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS/NZS 4491 and those below apply. Where the definitions in this Standard differ from those in AS/NZS 4491, for the purpose of this Standard, those given below apply.

#### 1.3.1 Basic sanding

A set of sanding procedures intended to result in a surface with an even plane free from irregularities and suitable for finish sanding or for the following purposes:

- (a) For timber sub-floors suitable for parquet, overlay strip flooring or other surface coverings.
- (b) For timber flooring in preparation for finish sanding.

#### 1.3.2 Chatter marks

Ridges on the surface of milled timber caused by the faulty operation of a planing machine.