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# Australian Standard 2055—1977

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## FLEXIBLE PVC FLOOR-COVERING

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**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**  
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THE FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL organizations and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

CSIRO Division of Building Research  
Departments of Public Works  
Plastics Institute of Australia Incorporated

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This standard, prepared by Committee PL/15, Flexible PVC Flooring, was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 17 February 1977, and was published on 1 September 1977.

To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian standards are regularly reviewed. Suggestions for improvement to published standards, addressed to the head office of the Association, are welcomed.

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**AUSTRALIAN STANDARD SPECIFICATION**

**FLEXIBLE  
PVC FLOOR-COVERING**

**AS 2055—1977**

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## P R E F A C E

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Flexible PVC Flooring, under the direction of the Plastics Standards Board, as a revision of AS A180—1968, which it accordingly supersedes.

The revised standard applies to PVC sheet and tile floor-covering made up of layers of PVC compounds of substantially the same composition and self-bonded together. It includes embossed materials but excludes floor-covering consisting of layers of plastics and fibrous materials, backed or sandwiched, or flooring consisting of a base material laminated with a wear layer which may be plain, patterned, embossed or printed.

During the revision the opportunity was taken to metricate the standard using SI units. In addition the standard conditioning and testing temperature of  $23 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$  has been introduced.

The standard sets out requirements for dimensional tolerances and stability, limits for volatile matter and flexibility before and after ageing, and resistance of the floor-covering to indentation and to various materials. In respect of indentation, attention is drawn to the testing machine developed by SAA in order to obtain consistency in test results.

This standard may require reference to the following standards:

AS 1199	Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes
AS 1399	Guide to AS 1199, Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes
AS B80	Dial Gauges for Linear Measurement
AS B128	Verification of Testing Machines
AS L15	Determining the Colour Fastness of Textiles: Part 1 — General Principles of Testing: Use of Grey Scales
ASTM D471	Change in Properties of Elastomeric Vulcanizates Resulting from Immersion in Liquid
BS 2782	Methods of Testing Plastics: Part 5 — Miscellaneous Methods

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## STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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**Australian Standard Specification  
for  
FLEXIBLE PVC FLOOR-COVERING**

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**1 SCOPE.** This specification sets out requirements for flexible PVC floor-covering in the form of tiles or sheet having a smooth or embossed wearing surface.

It does not apply to floor-covering consisting of layers of plastics and fibrous materials, backed or sandwiched, or flooring consisting of a base material laminated with a wear layer which may be plain, patterned, embossed or printed.

**NOTE:** Tiles having an embossed surface or other design effects penetrating any part of their thickness, may be supplied as agreed between the purchaser and supplier. The permanence of such surfaces will be dependent on the traffic density and this should be a consideration in the choice of these materials.

**2 MATERIAL.** The floor-covering shall consist of a binder, principally vinyl chloride polymer and/or copolymer, compounded with suitable plasticizers and stabilizers. It may be blended with pigments and fillers, evenly distributed throughout, to form a plain homogeneous coloured compound, or it may be blended or laminated with other similar compounds to form regular or variegated patterns.

**3 COLOUR AND FINISH.** The colouring in the floor-covering may be plain, variegated or patterned. Such colouring and appearance shall be uniform throughout the consignment.

**NOTE:** In normal manufacture, tiles from different batches may vary somewhat in hue and shade and pattern.

**4 COLOUR FASTNESS TO DAYLIGHT.** When tested by Method 507A of BS 2782\*, the colour fastness of the flooring shall correspond to at least Standard No 5 specified therein.

**5 DIMENSIONS.**

**5.1 Thickness.** The nominal thicknesses of floor-covering shall be 1.5 mm, 2.0 mm or 2.5 mm. Non-standard thicknesses may be supplied by special arrangement.

When measured by the relevant method described in Appendix A, the thickness of floor-covering shall not vary by more than  $\pm 0.13$  mm from the nominal thickness.

**5.2 Linear Dimensions.**

**5.2.1 Tiles.** When measured by the relevant method described in Appendix A, tiles shall be  $300 \pm 0.25$  mm square.

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\* BS 2782, Methods of Testing Plastics: Method 507A—Colour Fastness to Daylight.