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MANUAL OF UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES—
Part 1—GENERAL
INTRODUCTION AND INDEX OF SIGNS

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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This Australian standard was prepared by Committee MS/12, Road Signs and Traffic Signals. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 27 February 1986 and published on 13 June 1986.

The following interests are represented on Committee MS/12:

Australian Automobile Association

Australian Council of Local Government Associations

Australian Road Research Board

Confederation of Australian Industry

Department of Transport

Local Government Engineers Association of Victoria

Main Roads Department, Queensland

National Association of Australian State Road Authorities

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New signs included in this standard were issued for comment in DR 83036, DR 83199, DR 83233 and DR 84103.

See also
AS 1742.1 - 1975 +
1742.2 - 1978.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

MANUAL OF UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

Part 1

GENERAL INTRODUCTION AND INDEX OF SIGNS

AS 1742.1—1986

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PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Road Signs and Traffic Signals. It is one of the series of thirteen standards being prepared to supersede AS 1742, Part 1—1975 and AS 1742, Part 2—1978, which were prepared by the Australian Committee on Road Devices (ACORD), endorsed by the Australian Transport Advisory Council and approved by the Council of the Association for publication as an Australian standard.

It has been recognized for many years that the national character of road transportation in Australia makes it necessary to have uniformity in the design and use of signs and other devices for the control of traffic.

The publication in 1935 of an Australian standard code for road signs was a first step towards such uniformity. A revised edition was issued in 1946 to provide for developments over the intervening years and a further revision was issued in 1960.

As a result of the publication of AS 1742, Part 1 in 1975, greater uniformity in the design and use of signs and other traffic control devices throughout Australia was achieved. With the publication of AS 1742, Part 2 in 1978, this progress was extended to the application of the devices.

When the 1975 revision was undertaken a fundamental consideration in the work of the Committee was that there was no world-wide uniformity of traffic signs. However, in 1968 a United Nations Conference on Road Traffic produced a new international 'Convention on Road Signs and Signals' to replace a 'Protocol on Road Signs and Signals' prepared in 1949. The 1968 Convention adopted the colours and shapes used for warning signs in the United States of America and Australia as permissible alternatives to those used in Europe. It also included specific signs such as the STOP sign and RAILWAY CROSSING position signs used in Australia and the US.

To further the aim of greater uniformity, the Association's Committee was re-constituted in 1978 to amend the standard as necessary and to take advantage of new methods of traffic control and management as these were developed.

Several amendments to both parts of the standard were issued. However, publication of a major amendment in May 1983 highlighted the impracticality of issuing further amendments. At that time, the Association also recognized that the standard would be a more practical and convenient document to use if it were divided and each standard was related to a specific situation and made fully self-contained. This proposal was supported by the Committee, endorsed by the National Association of State Road Authorities and overwhelmingly supported by Local Government Authorities when an Australia-wide survey of current users of AS 1742 was undertaken by the Association at the end of 1983.

When work on the standards is completed AS 1742 will comprise the following:

AS 1742	Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices—
AS 1742.1	General Introduction and Index of Signs
AS 1742.2	Traffic Control Devices for General Use (i.e. Regulatory, Warning, Guidance Signs and Devices for Roads other than Freeways)
AS 1742.3	Works on Roads
AS 1742.4	Speed Controls
AS 1742.5	Street Name and Community Facility Name Signs
AS 1742.6	Service and Tourist Signs for Motorists
AS 1742.7	Railway Crossings
AS 1742.8	Freeways
AS 1742.9	Bicycle Facilities
AS 1742.10	Pedestrian Control and Protection
AS 1742.11	Parking Controls
AS 1742.12	Bus, Transit & Truck Lanes
AS 1742.13	Local Area Traffic Management Devices

Each standard will consist of the material in AS 1742, Part 1—1975 and AS 1742, Part 2—1978 relevant to the particular traffic situation and will incorporate any amendments to this material that have been issued for public comment and approved by the Committee for publication.

This standard sets out basic colour and shape codings for each sign classification and overall dimensions of the various sizes of each sign. It also illustrates each

sign in colours which approximate those specified in AS 1743, Road Signs. References are given to those standards where the signs are applicable and where the method of application is given in detail.

Amendments have been made to the design of some signs and these have been incorporated. They include the replacement of a number of legend signs with symbol signs which have been tested in accordance with AS 2342, Part 3,* and the new basic design for temporary signs which incorporates a black border to give greater conspicuity against light backgrounds.

Annex A illustrates a number of signs used quite widely although not in all States. While it was considered that these did not warrant inclusion in the standard the Committee decided that they should be illustrated in an Annex to discourage the development of different signs to deal with similar problems in other States.

A number of new signs have also been added which were necessary to standardize the signing of lanes reserved for special classes of vehicles.

Traffic signals and pavement markings are described in AS 1742.2 and guidelines for their use are also given. Where specific pavement markings are specified, e.g. for bus lanes, these are given in the standard which relates to that particular traffic situation.

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* AS 2342 Design and Use of Graphic Symbols and Public Information Symbol Signs.
Part 3—Test Procedures for Evaluating Graphic Symbols and Symbol Signs.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

for

MANUAL OF UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES—

Part 1—GENERAL INTRODUCTION AND INDEX OF SIGNS

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE. This standard illustrates the signs used for controlling vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the road. It defines the sign classifications, specifies the numbering system used and sets out the basic design of signs in each classification.

Detailed specifications for the design of the signs and the materials to be used in their manufacture are not included in this standard. These are the subject of the following standards:

AS 1743 Road Signs

AS 1744 Forms of Letters and Numerals for Road Signs

AS 2709 Paints for Road Signs

AS 1906 Retroreflective Materials and Devices for Road Traffic Control Purposes
Part 1—Retroreflective Materials

1.2 APPLICATION. Signs applicable to all types of road are illustrated in this standard.

The numbers of the other standards in this series, to which reference is required for the methods and procedures pertaining to the use of each sign in relation to a particular traffic situation, are given in the index for each sign.

NOTE: A list of the other twelve standards in this series is given in the Preface.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS. The following standards are referred to in this standard:

AS 1743 Road Signs.

AS 1744 Forms of Letters and Numerals for Road Signs.

AS 2342 Design and Use of Graphic Symbols and Public Information Symbol Signs
Part 3—Test Procedures for Evaluating Graphical Symbols and Symbol Signs.

1.4 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard the following definition applies:

Traffic Control Device—any sign, signal, pavement marking or other installation placed or erected by a public authority or official body, having the necessary jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding road users.

1.5 CLASSIFICATION OF SIGNS. Signs are divided into the classifications given in Table 1.1 which also describes the function of the signs in each classification.

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