

Australian Standard[®]

**DECORATIVE THERMOSETTING
LAMINATED SHEETS**

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Confederation of Australian Industry
CSIRO, Division of Building Research
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PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Laminated Sheet, acting under the authority of the Plastics Standards Board, as a replacement for AS K130—1962, Decorative Thermosetting Laminated Sheet.

This standard has been based on ISO 4586/1-1981, Plastics -Decorative Laminated Sheets Based on Thermosetting Resins — Part 1: Specification. The sheets are classified according to application characteristics as well as special characteristics such as postformability or defined reaction to fire.

This standard is to be used in conjunction with AS 2925 Methods of Testing Thermosetting Laminated Sheet which outlines methods of determining the minimum performance properties set in this standard. Where alternative methods are provided, a referee method has been nominated.

 CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE	3
2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS	3
3 DEFINITION	3
4 CLASSIFICATION	3
5 FIRE PERFORMANCE	3
6 PROPERTIES	4
7 MARKING	4

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
DECORATIVE THERMOSETTING LAMINATED SHEETS

1 SCOPE. This standard specifies requirements for thermosetting laminated sheet intended for decorative purposes.

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

AS 1530 Methods for Fire Tests on Building Materials, Components and Structures
Part 3 — Test for Early Fire Hazard Properties of Materials

AS 2925 Methods of Testing Thermosetting Laminated Sheet.

3 DEFINITION. For the purpose of this standard, the following definition applies:

Decorative thermosetting laminated sheet — a laminated plastics sheet consisting essentially of layers of fibrous sheet material such as paper, impregnated with a thermosetting condensation resin, and consolidated under heat and pressure, the outer layer or layers on one or both sides having decorative colours or designs.

4 CLASSIFICATION.

4.1 Application characteristics. Materials are available in the classes defined in Table 1. The list of typical applications given for each class is for guidance only and is not intended to be comprehensive.

4.2 Special characteristics. The classes of material listed in Table 1 are all available as standard type decorative laminated sheet (type S).

In some classes of material, additional types (type P and type F) are also available, possessing the special properties described below:

- (a) Type P — Postformable decorative laminated sheet. Type P sheet is similar to type S, but it can also be formed under controlled temperature in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- (b) Type F — Decorative laminated sheet having defined reaction to fire. Type F sheet is similar to type S, but it also meets special requirements of specified fire tests, which may vary according to the application of the material.

4.3 Nomenclature. The symbols for classes and types are combined in describing the materials covered by this standard; for example, horizontal general purpose postformable laminate is described as type 'HGP'.

5 FIRE PERFORMANCE. Where a fire performance test is required, the sheet shall be tested in accordance with AS 1530, Part 3, and the following indexes shall be reported:

- (a) Ignitability index.
- (b) Spread of flame index.
- (c) Heat evolved index.
- (d) Smoke developed index.

NOTE: Reference should be made to State legislation for any mandatory requirements in relation to the indexes obtained from this test.

TABLE 1
APPLICATION CHARACTERISTICS

Class	Performance category	Typical applications
HD (Heavy duty)	Materials with greater resistance to abrasion than Class HG	Flooring, and supermarket checkout counters
HG (Horizontal, general purpose)	Materials of high performance for general use in horizontal applications, and for use in vertical applications, requiring particularly high performance	Kitchen working surfaces; restaurant and hotel tables; heavy-duty doors and wall coverings; interior walls of public transport vehicles
VG (Vertical, general purpose)	Materials of less high performance than Class HG, for general use in vertical applications, and for use in some horizontal applications where only moderate performance is required	Kitchen front panels; wall coverings; shelves
VL (Vertical, light purpose)	Materials of moderate performance for use in vertical applications where the requirements are less demanding than in Class VG	Exposed side components of cupboards
CL (Cabinet liner)	Materials of moderate performance but with lower standards of surface appearance, colourfastness and resistance to heat and moisture than in Class VL, for use in vertical applications not normally exposed to light or view	Interior components of cupboards