

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Approval and test specification—Cord
extension sockets**



AS/NZS 3120:2011

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-004, Electrical Accessories. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 24 May 2011 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 15 April 2011.
This Standard was published on 29 August 2011.

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Consumers Federation of Australia
Electrical Compliance Testing Association
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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS 3120.

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Originated in Australia as AS C120—1938.
Final Australian edition 1990.
Jointly revised and redesignated AS/NZS 3120:1993.
Sixth edition 2011.
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (July 2012).

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-004, Electrical Accessories, to supersede AS/NZS 3120:1999 from the date of publication.

This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (July 2012). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.

This Standard is one of a series to be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 3100, *Approval and test specification—General requirements for electrical equipment*. The purpose of the series is to outline the conditions to be met to secure approval for the sale and use of electrical equipment. Only safety matters and related conditions are covered.

The essential safety requirements in AS/NZS 3820, *Essential safety requirements for electrical equipment*, that could be applicable to inlet plugs and cord extension socket-outlets are covered by this Standard, taken in conjunction with any other relevant requirements affecting safety.

A1 | NOTE: Inlet plugs were previously specified in AS/NZS 60320.1 as Group 2 appliance inlets.

This edition of the Standard incorporates changes to the previous edition and includes the following technical and editorial changes to the content of the previous editions:

- (a) Introduction of requirements for Inlet plugs previously covered in Annex ZA of AS/NZS 60320.1, *Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes, Part 1: General requirements (IEC 60320-1, Ed 2.0 (2001) (MOD)*.
- (b) Consequent editorial changes to introduce Sections 1, General, and Section 2, Cord extension sets.
- (c) Removal of the option for shrouds (360 projections) with all future 15 A CES to have shrouds (360 projections) applicable five years after publication.
- (d) Introduction of a test for inlet plugs with covers.

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SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out essential safety requirements for cord extension sockets and inlet plugs, as defined in Clause 1.4, intended for use at extra-low or low voltages, and inlet plugs with rated voltages not exceeding 250 V and current ratings not exceeding 20 A in accordance with the pin configurations given in AS/NZS 3112.

This Standard does not apply to cord extension sockets that are enclosed within an appliance in such a way that they are not exposed to personal contact, or that are intended for use solely where they will be so enclosed.

1.2 APPLICATION**1.2.1 General requirements of AS/NZS 3100**

This Standard shall be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 3100, and the appropriate provisions in AS/NZS 3100 shall apply to the construction of a cord extension socket and an inlet plug, as well as and the insulation and safeguarding of parts that normally carry current.

1.2.2 Specific requirements of this Standard

A cord extension socket and inlet plug shall be deemed to comply with this Standard only if it complies with all the requirements of this Standard and passes the tests specified herein.

NOTE: Plugs, socket-outlets and connectors incorporating retaining means of the type specified in AS/NZS 3123, or similar, need not comply with all general dimensional requirements of this Standard, provided the safe functioning of accessories in a particular system is not impaired. Where appropriate, dimensions relevant to specified pin configurations are applied.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
60529	Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)
AS/NZS	
3100	Approval and test specification—General requirements for electrical equipment
3112	Approval and test specification—Plugs and socket-outlets
3121	Approval and test specification—Insulating mouldings
3123	Approval and test specification—Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for general industrial application
3133	Approval and test specification—Air-break switches