

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Shower/toilet chairs (mobile and static)**



## **AS/NZS 3973:2009**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ME-067, Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 19 May 2009 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 29 May 2009. This Standard was published on 17 June 2009.

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The following are represented on Committee ME-067:

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Australian Association of Occupational Therapists  
Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association  
Consumer's Federation of Australia  
Engineers Australia  
Independent Living Centres Australia  
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# Australian/New Zealand Standard™

## Shower/toilet chairs (mobile and static)

Originated in Australia as AS 3973—1991.  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee ME-067, Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities. In Australia, the Standard supersedes AS 3973—2005, *Shower/toilet chairs (mobile and static)*.

The previous edition has been revised to rectify some inconsistencies in the requirements and related test methods plus the inclusion of methodology for testing masses greater than 100 kg.

Included as an appendix to the Standard is a list of information to be requested by the manufacturer/retailer from the purchaser ordering a chair or stool. This information will assist in the purchase of a product that is most suited to the needs of the intended user or users.

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.

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**1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies materials, construction, performance and labelling requirements for chairs that are intended for use in showers and toilets. It covers requirements for mobile shower/commode chairs, static commode chairs and stools, and static chairs and stools for use in showers. It does not cover use in pools or other similarly corrosive environments.

The materials requirements cover two types of chairs, as follows:

- (a) *Type A*: High usage, e.g. institutions and equipment loan schemes.
- (b) *Type B*: Limited usage, e.g. domestic.

**2 OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this Standard is to provide manufacturers, suppliers, purchasers, specifiers and users with minimum safety requirements for chairs and stools for use by people with limited mobility in showers and toilets.

**3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

## AS

- 1192 Electroplated coatings—Nickel and chromium
  - 1428 Design for access and mobility
  - 1428.1 Part 1: General requirements for access—New building work
  - 1580 Paints and related materials—Methods of test
  - 1580.408.4 Method 408.4: Adhesion (crosscut)
  - 1683 Methods of test for elastomers
  - 1683.15.1 Method 15.1: International rubber hardness
  - 2281 Flexible cellular polyurethane for seat cushioning and bedding
  - 2282 Methods for testing flexible cellular polyurethane
  - 2282.3 Part 3: Determination of apparent density
  - 2282.8 Part 8: Determination of force deflection
  - 2331 Methods of test for metallic and related coatings
  - 2331.3.1 Method 3.1: Corrosion and related property tests—Neutral salt spray (NSS) test
  - 2706 Numerical values—Rounding and interpretation of limiting values
  - 3696 Wheelchairs
  - 3696.11 Part 11: Test dummies
- AS/NZS
- 2088 Prams and strollers—Safety requirements
  - 3696 Wheelchairs
  - 3696.1 Part 1: Determination of static stability
  - 3696.3 Part 3: Determination of effectiveness of brakes
  - 3696.8 Part 8: Requirements and test methods for static, impact and fatigue strengths