

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Approval and test specification—Hand-  
held portable electric tools**



## **AS/NZS 3160:2009**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-002, Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances and Small Power Transformers. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 9 September 2009 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 28 August 2009.

This Standard was published on 30 October 2009.

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The following are represented on Committee EL-002:

Australian Industry Group  
Australian Retailers Association  
Business New Zealand  
Consumer Electronic Suppliers Association, Australia  
Consumers' Federation of Australia  
Electrical Regulatory Authorities, Australia  
Electrical Compliance Testing Association  
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*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 09909.*

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## Australian/New Zealand Standard™

# Approval and test specification—Hand-held portable electric tools

Originated in Australia as AS C160—1959.  
Previous Australian edition AS 3160—1989.  
Originated in New Zealand as NZS/AS 3160:1989.  
Jointly revised and redesignated AS/NZS 3160:1993.  
Sixth edition 1996.  
Seventh edition 2001.  
Eighth edition 2009.  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (October 2012).

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-002 - Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances and Small Power Transformers, to supersede AS/NZS 3160:2001 from the date of publication.

A1 | This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (October 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. Where an application date other than immediate is applicable to an amendment the date of application (DOA) is indicated by the marginal bar against the part affected.

This Standard is one of a series of Approval and Test Specifications issued by Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand. These Standards are to be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 3100, *Approval and test specification — General requirements for electrical equipment*. The objective of these Standards is to outline the conditions which must be met to secure approval for the sale and use of electrical equipment. Only safety matters and related conditions are covered.

The term 'normative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

This Standard was revised to incorporate Amendments No's 1 and 2, effect changes to delete the text relating to all tools that are now covered by other standards such as those in the AS/NZS 60745 series. These changes affect clauses, 1, 2.1, 3, 4.3, 5, 7.1, 9, 16, 17, Table 1, Table 2 and Appendix B. Consequential editorial changes have also been incorporated.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

**AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD****Approval and test specification -  
Hand-held portable electric tools****1 SCOPE**

This Standard applies to hand-held portable electric tools as defined in Clause 4.1, which are intended for electrical operation at low voltage operating at not more than 60 Hz.

For the purpose of this Standard, a hand-held portable electric tool is called a 'tool' except where such term is associated with an implement required to remove covers, brush caps and the like which guard live parts.

This Standard does not deal with separate motors with or without capacitors, or with tools covered by separate Standards, or with equipment intended for the control of electric motors other than equipment which is built into the tool.

This standard does not apply to hand-held motor-operated electric tools within the scope of the AS/NZS 60745 series of standards after the dates specified in the parts 2 of that series.

**2 APPLICATION****2.1 General requirements of AS/NZS 3100**

This Standard shall be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 3100, and the appropriate provisions of that Standard shall apply to the construction of the tool and the insulation and safeguarding of parts which normally carry current.

**2.2 Specific requirements of this Standard**

A tool shall be deemed to comply with this Standard only if it complies with all the appropriate provisions of this Standard and passes the relevant tests specified herein.

**2.3 Requirements of other Standards**

Components incorporated in a tool, upon which safety depends, shall comply with the appropriate requirements of any relevant approval and test specification unless such requirements are varied herein.

**3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

NOTE: Where no relevant New Zealand Standard is listed, the referenced Australian Standard is deemed to be appropriate for the purpose of this Standard.

## STANDARDS

## AS

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