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Australian Standard®

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**Wheelchairs—Type classification  
based on appearance  
characteristics**

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The following interests are represented on Committee ME/67:

ACROD

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Australian Association of Occupational Therapists  
Canberra College of Advanced Education  
Commercial Vehicle Industry Association of Australia  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared on behalf of the Standards Australia Committee on Mobility Appliances for People with Disabilities. It is identical with and has been reproduced from ISO 7930-1986, *Wheelchairs—Type classification based on appearance characteristics*.

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# Wheelchairs—Type classification based on appearance characteristics

## 1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies a method for classifying and designating different types of wheelchairs and is based on readily evident or easily measured features of a wheelchair.

## 2 Description of the classification

The classification uses a five-digit code in which each digit specifies particular types within each group. Each classification position shall be separated by a hyphen (e.g. 1-1-1-1-1).

The classification is intended to give a general indication of the wheelchair in terms of its most important features. By the addition of further digits, the classification may be extended to cover additional features or to include test data, as desired.

NOTE — The need to extend the classification may arise in certain countries.

### 2.1 First digit: Means of propulsion/steering

The means of propulsion/steering of the wheelchair shall be designated according to the following types:

**Type 1** Attendant controlled — non-powered

**Type 2** Non-powered direct drive on rear wheels, bimanual

**Type 3** Non-powered direct drive on front wheels, bimanual

**Type 4** Non-powered lever drive, bimanual

**Type 5** Non-powered single-sided drive

**Type 6** Non-powered foot propulsion

**Type 7** Attendant controlled — powered

**Type 8** Electromotor for drive, manual steering

**Type 9** Electromotor for drive, power steering

**Type 0** Others

### 2.2 Second digit: Area of use based on overall width and wheel diameters

The wheel diameter and overall chair width combination shall be designated as given in table 1.

NOTE — The second digit gives an overall indication of the suitability of a wheelchair for use on any given terrain and the suitability for any given activity of the occupant. Other digits may also have a bearing on these. The number 0 for the second digit shall indicate any special design such as a wheelchair having an overall width exceeding 700 mm.

### 2.3 Third digit: Seat and backrest adjustments

The combination of seat and backrest adjustments shall be designated as given in table 2.

Table 2

Backrest inclination \ Seat inclination	Seat inclination		
	Not adjustable	Manually adjustable	Power adjustable
Not adjustable	1	4	7
Manually adjustable	2	5	8
Power adjustable	3	6	9

The number 0 for the third digit shall indicate either that the wheelchair is supplied without a seat or a backrest, or that the wheelchair features a fixed angle between seat and backrest, the whole body support system being adjustable.

Table 1

Overall chair width \ Wheel diameter	Wheel diameter		
	All wheels less than 260 mm or 1 or 2 wheels less than 180 mm	Large wheels greater than 260 mm; small wheels 180 to 260 mm	All wheels greater than 260 mm
Below 550 mm	1	4	7
550 to 660 mm	2	5	8
660 to 700 mm	3	6	9