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# Australian Standard<sup>®</sup> 1660.3—1986

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## METHODS OF TEST FOR ELECTRIC CABLES, CORDS AND CONDUCTORS Part 3—ELECTRICAL TESTS



**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**  
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This Australian standard was prepared by Committee EL/3, Electric Wires and Cables. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 22 July 1986 and published on 5 September 1986.

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The following interests are represented on Committee EL/3:

Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
Department of Aviation  
Department of Defence  
Department of Industrial Relations (New South Wales)  
Electrical Contractors Association of Australia  
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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**METHODS OF TEST FOR ELECTRIC  
CABLES, CORDS AND CONDUCTORS**  
**Part 3**  
**ELECTRICAL TESTS**

**AS 1660.3—1986**

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## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Electric Wires and Cables. It is Part 3 of a four-part standard and is published concurrently with Parts 1, 2 and 4. Overall, all four standards constitute a revision of and replacement for—

AS 1660 Methods of Test for Electric Cables and Flexible Cords (including Conductors, Insulation and Sheath)

Part 1—1974 Test Methods for Conductors

Part 2—1974 Test Methods for Insulation, Sheath and Braid

Part 3—1974 Test Methods for Complete Cable

Part 4—1974 Test Methods for Complete Flexible Cords.

It should be noted that the four Parts of this edition of AS 1660 are not directly equivalent to the four Parts of the 1974 edition.

The four Parts of this new edition of AS 1660 are:

Part 1—Conductors and Metallic Components

Part 2—Insulation, Extruded Semi-conductive Screens and Non-metallic Sheaths

Part 3—Electrical Tests

Part 4—Complete Cable and Flexible Cord.

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## STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

## METHODS OF TEST FOR ELECTRIC CABLES, CORDS AND CONDUCTORS

## PART 3—ELECTRICAL TESTS

## SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS—

**1.1 SCOPE.** This standard sets out electrical tests for component parts and complete cables, cords and conductors.

**1.2 APPLICATION.** The various individual specifications for particular types of cable or cord prescribe the actual tests from the range herein which are applicable and also specify the category of and criteria for such tests.

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

- AS 1018 Recommendations for Partial Discharge Measurements
- AS 1042 Direct-acting Indicating Electrical Measuring Instruments and Their Accessories
- AS 1125 Conductors in Insulated Electric Cables and Flexible Cords
- AS 1660 Methods of Test for Electric Cables, Cords and Conductors  
Part 4—Complete Cable and Flexible Cord

- AS 1931 High Voltage Testing Techniques  
Part 1—General Definitions, Test Requirements, Test Procedures and Measuring Devices  
Part 2—Application Guide for Measuring Devices

- AS 3191 Approval and Test Specification for Electric Flexible Cords

**1.4 TESTING TEMPERATURE.** Unless otherwise specified, all tests shall be conducted in an ambient temperature of  $23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ .

**1.5 SELECTION OF SPECIMENS.** All specimens used for testing shall be taken at least 300 mm from the end of a factory length of finished cable, flexible cable or flexible cord.

**1.6 DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this standard, the definitions given in the relevant cable standard or as given in a clause of this standard apply.