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# Australian Standard 1841—1983

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## PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS WATER (GAS CONTAINER) TYPE



**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**  
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This Australian standard was prepared by Committee FP/3, Fire Extinguishers. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 22 February 1983 and published on 6 June 1983.

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The following interests are represented on Committee FP/3:

Attorney-General's Department  
Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales  
Building Owners and Managers Association of Australia  
Commonwealth Fire Board  
Department of Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.  
Department of Defence  
Department of Industrial Relations, N.S.W.  
Department of Transport and Construction  
Fire Protection Industry Association of Australia  
Insurance Council of Australia  
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, Melbourne  
Telecom Australia

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**AUSTRALIAN STANDARD**

**PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS  
WATER (GAS CONTAINER)  
TYPE**

**AS 1841—1983**

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## PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Fire Extinguishers to supersede AS 1841—1976. Formerly, this standard was published under the one cover with AS 1840, Water (Soda Acid) Type, which is now obsolescent, and AS 1842, Water (Stored Pressure) Type. A new edition of AS 1842 is being issued concurrently with this edition of AS 1841.

Among the changes in this edition are the deletion of reference to swaged construction, as this is an outmoded technique, the inclusion of a new performance requirement for extinguishers designed for intermittent use, a revised colour identification requirement which coincides with the revision of AS 1849—1976, Identification Colours for Portable Fire Extinguishers, an expanded list of relevant Australian standards in Appendix A and the consequent deletion of Appendix E of the previous edition. Other changes are of an editorial nature, including the updating of references to British standards in the appendices.

Some purchasers may require evidence from manufacturers or suppliers that their product complies with the provisions of the relevant standard. The 'AS' certification trademark of the Association (see Note to marking clause) on an extinguisher is an independent assurance of such compliance.

Other Australian standards dealing with portable fire extinguishers are—

AS 1844	Foam (Gas Container) Type
AS 1845	Foam (Stored Pressure) Type
AS 1846	Dry Chemical Type
AS 1847	Carbon Dioxide Type
AS 1848	Halogenated Hydrocarbon Type
AS 1850	Classification, Rating and Fire Testing
AS 1851	Maintenance of Fire Protection Equipment Part 1—Portable Fire Extinguishers
AS 2444	Selection and Location

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## STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

for

## PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS—WATER (GAS CONTAINER) TYPE

## SECTION 1. SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

**1.1 SCOPE.** This standard specifies requirements for metal-bodied portable fire extinguishers of the water type in which the water is expelled by pressure of gas released from a compressed gas container. It refers to materials, methods of manufacture and performance of the extinguisher and the compressed gas container.

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

- AS 1849 Identification Colours for Portable Fire Extinguishers
- AS 1850 Portable Fire Extinguishers—Classification, Rating and Fire Testing
- AS 2030 SAA Gas Cylinders Code
- AS K185 Colours for Specific Purposes

Standards for materials and for welding or brazing methods are listed in Appendix A and in Appendices B and D, respectively.

**1.3 DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this standard the following definitions apply:

**1.3.1 Portable fire extinguisher**—a first-aid fire-fighting appliance which is designed to be carried and operated by hand and which in working order has a mass not greater than 23 kg.

NOTE: This limit of 23 kg may be reconsidered internationally and could be reduced to 20 kg.

**1.3.2 Water (gas container) type portable fire extinguisher**—a portable fire extinguisher which relies on compressed gas from a container to expel the water.

NOTE: The water (gas container) type portable fire extinguisher is generally referred to in this standard as 'an extinguisher' or 'the extinguisher'.