

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Water safety signs and beach safety  
flags**

**Part 3: Guidance for use**



### **AS/NZS 2416.3:2010**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CS-093, Water Safety Signs and Symbols. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 8 November 2010 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 12 November 2010.  
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The following are represented on Committee CS-093:

A1 | Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Australian Professional Ocean Lifeguards Association  
Consumers Federation of Australia  
Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, NSW  
Local Government and Shires Association, NSW  
Marine Safety Victoria  
Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council  
Queensland Transport  
Royal Life Saving Society Australia  
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Surf Life Saving Australia  
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Swimming Pool and Spa Association of NSW  
University of New South Wales  
Water Safety New Zealand

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## Australian/New Zealand Standard™

# Water safety signs and beach safety flags

## Part 3: Guidance for use

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS-093, Water Safety Signs and Symbols to supersede (in part) AS 2416—2002, *Design and application of water safety signs* and (in part) NZS 8690:2003, *Water safety signage*.

*This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (March 2011). 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.*

This Standard is one of a series of three Standards as follows:

## AS/NZS

2416 Water safety signs and beach safety flags

2416.1 Part 1: Specifications for water safety signs used in workplaces and public areas (ISO 20712-1:2008, MOD)

2416.2 Part 2: Specifications for beach safety flags—Colour, shape, meaning and performance (ISO 20712-2:2007, MOD)

2416.3 Part 3: Guidance for use (this Standard)

It is identical with, and has been reproduced from, ISO 20712-3:2008, *Water safety signs and beach safety flags*, Part 3: *Guidance for use*.

Additional guidance, for application in Australia and New Zealand only, is set out in Appendix ZA.

The number of this Standard is not reproduced on each page. Its identity is shown only on the cover and the title page.

For the purposes of this Standard, the text of ISO 20712-3:2008 should be modified as follows:

- (a) Substitute ‘Australian/New Zealand Standard’ for ‘part of ISO 20712’ wherever it occurs.
- (b) Substitute a full point (.) for a comma (,) as a decimal marker.

References to International Standards should be replaced by references to the following Australian/New Zealand Standards:

ISO	AS/NZS
20712 Water safety signs and beach safety flags	2416 Water safety signs and beach safety flags
20712-1 Part 1: Specifications for water safety signs used in workplaces and public areas	2416.1 Part 1: Specifications for water safety signs used in workplaces and public areas (ISO 20712-1:2008, MOD)
20712-2 Part 2: Specifications for beach safety flags—Colour, shape, meaning and performance	2416.2 Part 2: Specifications for beach safety flags—Colour, shape, meaning and performance (ISO 20712-2:2007, MOD)

The term ‘informative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the annex or appendix to which it applies. An ‘informative’ annex or appendix is only for information and guidance.

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## INTRODUCTION

This part of ISO 20712 reflects good practice in the use of water safety signs and beach safety flags. The illustrations show examples of the selection and location of water safety signs and beach safety flags designed to provide information about aquatic hazards and the action necessary to avoid those hazards.

A standardized method of signing with the use of appropriate supplementary text throughout the working and public environment assists the process of education and instruction on the meaning of water safety signs and beach safety flags, and the appropriate actions to take. The intention of this part of ISO 20712 is to ensure a uniformity of application of water safety signs and beach safety flags which leads to increased familiarity, and therefore improved safety, for the users including visitors and for the general public.

The illustrations within this part of ISO 20712 are based on assumptions that some of the people may be unfamiliar with the features of the indoor or outdoor swimming pools or of the beach. The illustrations are not intended to cover every potentially hazardous situation and they should be interpreted as recommendations and not as minimum requirements.

The use of water safety signs and beach safety flags does not replace the need for proper working methods and safety instruction or for training in accident prevention and the actions to be taken in the event of an emergency, or for the provision of lifeguards.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

NOTE 1 Some countries' statutory regulations may differ in some respect from those given in this part of ISO 20712.

NOTE 2 Some countries may differ in some respect from the requirements given in this part of ISO 20712 where they use the diamond geometric shape for warning signs.

## AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

**Water safety signs and beach safety flags**

## Part 3: Guidance for use

**IMPORTANT** — The colours represented in the electronic file of this part of ISO 20712 can be neither viewed on screen nor printed as true representations. Although the copies of this part of ISO 20712 printed by ISO have been produced to correspond (with an acceptable tolerance as judged by the naked eye) to the requirements of ISO 3864-1, it is not intended that these printed copies be used for colour matching. Instead, consult ISO 3864-1, which provides colorimetric and photometric properties, together with, as a guideline, references from colour order systems.

**1 Scope**

This part of ISO 20712 gives guidance for the selection and use of water safety signs as specified in ISO 20712-1 and beach safety flags as specified in ISO 20712-2, in aquatic environments. It provides guidance on their location, mounting positions, lighting and maintenance. It also provides guidance on the design and location of multiple signs.

This part of ISO 20712 does not apply to traffic signs for use on the public highway or maritime signalling. It is not applicable to flags for use on firing ranges or to flags used to indicate water quality. It does not cover means of escape signs and their illumination which may be present.

NOTE The illustrations in this part of ISO 20712 are as accurate as possible within the limitations of the printing process.

**2 Normative references**

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 7001, *Graphical symbols — Public information symbols*

ISO 17724, *Graphical symbols — Vocabulary*

ISO 20712-1, *Water safety signs and beach safety signs — Part 1: Specifications for water safety signs used in workplaces and public areas*

ISO 20712-2, *Water safety signs and beach safety signs — Part 2: Specifications for beach safety flags — Colour, shape, meaning and performance*

**3 Terms and definitions**

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 17724 and the following apply.

**3.1****beach**

area forming a shoreline or sloping bank at the edge of the sea or a river estuary or lake

[ISO 20712-2:2007, 3.1]