

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Occupational protective gloves**

**Part 1: Selection, use and maintenance**



## **AS/NZS 2161.1:2016**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee SF-023, Occupational Protective Gloves. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 22 April 2016 and by the New Zealand Standards Approval Board on 4 May 2016.  
This Standard was published on 19 May 2016.

---

The following are represented on Committee SF-023:

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Certification Interests (Australia)  
Griffith University, Qld  
National Safety Council of Australia  
Safety Institute of Australia  
University of Otago, New Zealand  
Worksafe, New Zealand

---

### **Keeping Standards up-to-date**

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about joint Australian/New Zealand Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Web Shop at [www.saiglobal.com](http://www.saiglobal.com) or Standards New Zealand web site at [www.standards.govt.nz](http://www.standards.govt.nz) and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

For more frequent listings or notification of revisions, amendments and withdrawals, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand offer a number of update options. For information about these services, users should contact their respective national Standards organization.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Please address your comments to the Chief Executive of Standards Australia or the New Zealand Standards Executive at the address shown on the back cover.

---

# Australian/New Zealand Standard™

## Occupational protective gloves

### Part 1: Selection, use and maintenance

Originated in Australia as AS Z4—1952.  
Previous and first joint edition AS/NZS 2161.1:2000.  
Second edition 2016.

#### **COPYRIGHT**

© Standards Australia Limited/Standards New Zealand

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher, unless otherwise permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (Australia) or the Copyright Act 1994 (New Zealand).

Jointly published by SAI Global Limited under licence from Standards Australia Limited, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001 and by Standards New Zealand, PO Box 10729, Wellington 6011.

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Australia/New Zealand Standards Committee SF-023, Occupational Protective Gloves, to supersede AS/NZS 2161.1:2000.

The objective of this revision was to include a new appendix explaining conformity assessment issues relating to the selection and purchase of gloves, as well as updating text to reflect current practices and terminology.

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

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE.....	4
2 OBJECTIVE .....	4
3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS .....	4
4 DEFINITIONS .....	5
5 HAND AND ARM PROTECTION PROGRAM .....	6
6 HAZARDS, RISKS AND CONTROL .....	6
7 SELECTION OF GLOVES.....	7
8 USE AND MAINTENANCE .....	8
9 DISPOSAL .....	9
 APPENDICES	
A CORRECT FITTING OF GLOVES.....	11
B PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICALS .....	12
C INFORMATION ON THE PURCHASE OF GLOVES .....	13

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

**Australian/New Zealand Standard**  
**Occupational protective gloves**

Part 1: Selection, use and maintenance

**1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out recommendations to achieve hand protection against hazards experienced in the workplace. It gives guidance on the following:

- (a) *Selection* Aspects to be taken into account when determining the type of glove appropriate to the particular usage and the envisaged hazards as well as disposal of the gloves.
- (b) *Use* Practices to be followed for the different types of gloves.
- (c) *Maintenance* Safe and hygienic practices to be followed in the decontamination/cleaning, storage and reissue of gloves to maintain the performance as appropriate.

The Standard does not include requirements for the performance or testing of gloves, as these are specified separately in other parts of the AS/NZS 2161 series, AS 2225, AS/NZS 4011.1, AS/NZS 4011.2 and AS/NZS 4179 as appropriate.

**2 OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this Standard is to enable users of protective gloves to select gloves suitable for their work and to use and maintain them in a manner that ensures the glove's function is not compromised.

**3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

2225 Insulating gloves for electrical purposes

AS/NZS

2161 Occupational protective gloves

2161.2 Part 2: General requirements

2161.3 Part 3: Protection against mechanical risks

2161.4 Part 4: Protection against thermal risks (heat and fire)

2161.5 Part 5: Protection against cold

2161.7.1 Part 7.1: Protection against cuts and stabs by hand knives—Chainmail gloves and arm guards

2161.7.2 Part 7.2: Protection against cuts and stabs by hand knives—Gloves and arm guards made of material other than chainmail

2161.8 Part 8: Protection against ionizing radiation and radioactive contamination

2161.10.1 Part 10.1: Protective gloves against chemicals and micro-organisms—Terminology and performance requirements

2161.10.2 Part 10.2: Protective gloves against chemicals and micro-organisms—Determination of resistance to penetration

2161.10.3 Part 10.3: Protective gloves against chemicals and micro-organisms—Determination of resistance to permeation by chemicals