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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA~~

AS 2335—1980
UDC 671.12

Australian Standard 2335—1980

WITHDRAWN:

19990701

ROLLED GOLD, GOLD- PLATED AND SILVER- PLATED JEWELLERY— COMPOSITION AND MARKING



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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THE FOLLOWING INDUSTRIAL, CONSUMER AND GOVERNMENTAL organizations and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Australian Consumers Association

Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations

Australian Jewellers Association

Confederation of Australian Industry

Department of Business and Consumer Affairs

Department of Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.

Manufacturing Jewellers and Silversmiths Association

Metal Trades Industry Association of Australia

This standard, prepared by Committee CS/30, Precious Metals for Jewellery, was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 7 January 1980, and was published on 1 March 1980.

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This standard was issued in draft form for public review as DR 78130.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**ROLLED GOLD, GOLD-
PLATED AND SILVER-
PLATED JEWELLERY—
COMPOSITION AND
MARKING**

AS 2335—1980

First published 1980

**PUBLISHED BY THE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
STANDARDS HOUSE, 80 ARTHUR ST, NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W.**

ISBN 0 7262 1855 3



23 FEB 1980

PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Precious Metals for Jewellery, under the direction of the Consumer Standards Advisory Committee.

Terms such as 'rolled gold', 'gold-plated' and 'silver-plated' have been widely and sometimes loosely used for a number of years in the description of jewellery. It is believed that confusion exists in the market-place and that consumers may have difficulty in interpreting the various descriptions and markings that are used.

Consequently, this standard defines the above terms in accordance with the pure gold or pure silver content and thickness of the applied coatings. It also provides a means for the consumer to trace the manufacturer responsible for the quality of a particular article.

In addition, it is important that the consumer can readily distinguish between gold or silver articles and rolled gold or plated articles. Two existing standards, AS 2140 and AS 2141, describe the composition and marking requirements of gold and silver articles respectively, and make use of a system of symbols. To avoid possible confusion, this standard does not use symbols but designates rolled gold or plated articles by means of words or simple abbreviations.

Attention is drawn to the definition of 'gold alloy coatings' given in AS 1902, Electroplated Coatings of Gold and Gold Alloys for Decorative Applications. This definition requires the same criteria as the term 'gold-plated' as used in this standard, in regard to the thickness and pure gold content of the applied layer. In addition, the 'gold-plated' layer may also meet the requirements of a 'gold coated' layer (see also definition in AS 1902), depending on its pure gold content.

The committee recommends that articles of jewellery that do not meet the requirements of this standard be stamped with the word 'metal' or with the specific designation of the metal. Other terms including 'gold-lined', 'gold-clad', 'gilt' and 'silver-lined' are considered meaningless by the committee and should not be used under any circumstances in relation to articles of jewellery.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

for

ROLLED GOLD, GOLD-PLATED AND SILVER-PLATED JEWELLERY—COMPOSITION AND MARKING

1 SCOPE. This standard specifies the composition and marking requirements of articles of jewellery that consist essentially of base metal, silver or non-metallic substances that are—

- (a) gold-plated or silver-plated; or
- (b) manufactured from rolled gold.

This standard does not apply to filled gold articles or to watch cases and watch bands.

NOTE: The requirements of filled gold articles are described in AS 2140.

2 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

Rolled gold—a laminated material comprising pure gold or gold alloy bonded to another metal and subsequently rolled or drawn (see Clause 3.1).

Gold-plated—a layer of gold (see Clause 3.2) applied to the surface of an article by electrolytic or chemical processes.

Silver-plated—a layer of silver (see Clause 3.3) applied to the surface of an article by electrolytic or chemical processes.

3 PURE GOLD OR SILVER CONTENT.

3.1 Rolled Gold. The pure gold or gold alloy layer of rolled gold shall contain not less than 375 parts per thousand by mass of pure gold.

3.2 Gold-plated. The gold-plated layer shall contain not less than 600 parts per thousand by mass of pure gold.

3.3 Silver-plated. The silver-plated layer shall contain not less than 950 parts per thousand by mass of pure silver.

4 THICKNESS.

4.1 Rolled Gold. The pure gold or gold alloy layer of rolled gold shall have a minimum thickness of 3 μm .

4.2 Gold-plated. The gold-plated layer shall have a minimum thickness of 0.5 μm .

4.3 Silver-plated. The silver-plated layer shall have a minimum thickness of 2 μm .