

Australian Standard™

**Timber—Softwood—Visually graded for
structural purposes**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee TM-003, Timber Grading. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 29 October 2003 and published on 14 April 2004.

The following are represented on Committee TM-003:

Australian Timber Importers Federation
CSIRO, Division of Building Construction and Engineering
Curtin University of Technology
Forest and Forest Products Employment Skills Company
Housing Industry Association
Master Builders Australia
New Zealand Forest Research Institute
New Zealand Timber Industry Federation
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**Timber—Softwood—Visually graded for
structural purposes**

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee TM-003, Timber Grading, to supersede AS 2858—2001, *Timber—Softwood—Visually graded for structural purposes*. After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this Standard as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to provide timber manufacturers, suppliers and users with requirements for visual grading of sawn softwood that is intended for structural purposes.

Changes in this edition include:

- (a) Corewood Stud Grade replaced by Heart-In Stud Grade.
- (b) Tolerances have been changed for cypress and for unseasoned timber up to F7.
- (c) The 150 mm limit for combinations has been re-introduced.
- (d) The grade descriptions for Hoop are noted to be for seasoned timber.
- (e) A list of stress grades for species has been included for seasoned softwood heart-in studs.
- (f) A number of errors have been corrected.

Stress grades for cypress and hoop have been determined from tests on full size scantlings. This has resulted in the separate grade descriptions for those species given in Sections 3 and 4.

Changes for slash pine are based on in-grade testing on full size scantlings. Seasoned softwood species have been limited generally by reducing the higher F ratings by one grade on the basis of the general knowledge developed through in-grade testing programs.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in Notes to Tables are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard**Timber—Softwood—Visually graded for structural purposes**

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies requirements for visual grading of sawn softwood intended for structural purposes.

This Standard does not apply to timber species with an average density at 12 percent moisture content below 360 kg/m³.

NOTES:

- 1 The coverage of softwood species or species mixtures listed in this Standard does not imply their availability or the availability of any particular grade of any species or species mixture.
- 2 This Standard may be used as a basis for certification of conformity under a product certification program.

1.2 APPLICATION

The specification of timber graded to this Standard shall consist of the requirements of this Section, together with the relevant grade description given in Section 2, 3 or 4, as appropriate.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

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| 1604 | Specification for preservative treatment |
| 1604.1 | Part 1: Sawn and round |
| 1684 | National Timber Framing Code (all parts) |
| 1720 | Timber structures |
| 1720.1 | Part 1: Design methods |

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| 1080 | Timber—Methods of test |
| 1080.1 | Part 1: Moisture content |
| 1080.2.1 | Method 2.1: Slope of grain by scribe |
| 1080.2.2 | Method 2.2: Slope of grain by reference to surface checks |
| 1080.2.3 | Method 2.3: Slope of grain by splintering |
| 1148 | Timber—Nomenclature—Australian, New Zealand and imported species |
| 2878 | Timber—Classification into strength groups |
| 4063 | Timber—Stress-graded—In grade strength and stiffness evaluation |
| 4491 | Timber—Glossary of terms in timber-related Standards |