

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

**Jewellery—Fineness of precious metal alloys**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee CS-030, Precious Metals for Jewellery. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 15 October 2008.

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The following are represented on Committee CS-030:

- Australian Jewellery and Gemstone Industry Council
  - Consumers' Federation of Australia
  - Diamond Guild Australia
  - Gemmological Association
  - Gold and Silversmiths Guild of Australia
  - Jewellery Association of Australia
  - National Council of Jewellery Valuers
  - Research Interests
- 

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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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**Jewellery—Fineness of precious metal alloys**

Originated in part as AS 2140—1978 and AS 2141—1978.  
Revised, amalgamated and designated as AS 2140—2008.

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CS-030, Precious Metals for Jewellery, to supersede AS 2140—1978, *Composition and marking requirements of gold articles* and AS 2141—1978, *Composition and marking requirements of silver articles*, which were previously withdrawn in 1998.

The Standard specifies the composition and marking requirements of articles made from precious metals and the marking requirements for mixed metal articles.

This Standard provides manufacturers with a uniform guide to marking and enabling consumers to recognize the symbols, marks and precious metal composition of an article.

The revision of this Standard reflects the change to fineness designation from the former use of the carat system to the millesimal system expressed in parts per thousand.

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

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard**  
**Jewellery—Fineness of precious metal alloys****1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out the composition and marking requirements for precious metal articles, including articles of jewellery.

NOTE: This specification does not apply to articles intended for industrial purposes.

**2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

## AS

3515 Gold and gold bearing alloys

3515.1 Part 1: Determination of gold content (less than 30%)—Gravimetric (fire assay) method

3515.2 Part 2: Determination of gold content (30% to 99.5%)—Gravimetric (fire assay) method

3515.3 Part 3: Determination of gold content (greater than 99.5%)—Gravimetric (fire assay) method

5006 Silver and silver bearing alloys

5006.1 Part 1: Determination of silver content (0.1% to 99.9%)—Titrimetric (potentiometric) method

5006.2 Part 2: Determination of silver content (1% to 99%)—Gravimetric (fire assay) method

## ISO

11210 Determination of platinum in platinum jewellery alloys—Gravimetric method after precipitation of diammonium hexachloroplatinate

11490 Determination of palladium in palladium jewellery alloys—Gravimetric determination with dimethylglyoxime

**3 DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Standard the following definitions apply.

**3.1 Alloy**

An homogeneous mixture of two or more metals which contains not less than the amount of precious metal specified in Table 1.

**3.2 Base metal**

All metals that are not gold, silver, platinum or palladium.

**3.3 Fineness**

The minimum content of the specified precious metal, measured in parts per thousand by mass of alloy.

**3.4 Precious metal**

Gold, silver, platinum or palladium.