

157

SUPPLEMENT BY AS 1957D/1987A

Amendment 1 - July 1983

See also AS 2621-1983
Guide... to AS 1957

AS 1957-1982
UDC 677.027.85

(consider adding)
.004.5
+
677.077.85
USE

Australian Standard 1957-1982

Refer to:
AVA - Trade Practices Commission
Summary No 6

See also - AVST. Trade Practices Commission Core Labelling
Information Standard - a guide note to suppliers
354.94008242
4

CARE LABELLING OF CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES, FURNISHINGS, UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE, BEDDING, PIECE GOODS AND YARNS



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Incorporated by Royal Charter



This Australian standard was prepared by Committee CS/4, Care Labelling of Textiles. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 18 May 1982 and published on 12 July 1982.

The following interests were represented on the committee responsible for the preparation of this standard:

Australian Confederation of Apparel Manufacturers
Australian Consumers Association
Australian Council of Furniture Manufacturers
Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations
Australian Institute of Drycleaning
Australian Institute of Launderers and Linen Suppliers
Australian Knitting Industries Council
Australian Leather Institute
Australian Retailers Association
Australian Wholesale Softgoods Federation
Australian Wool Corporation
Australian Wool Testing Authority
Bureau of Consumer Affairs, W.A.
Consumer Affairs Bureau, A.C.T.
Consumer Affairs Bureau, Queensland
Consumer Affairs Council, Tasmania
Department of Business and Consumer Affairs
Department of Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.
Department of Public and Consumer Affairs, S.A.
Department of Technical and Further Education, N.S.W.
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Victoria
Northern Territory Consumers Protection Council
Textile Council of Australia Limited
Trade Practices Commission
University of New South Wales
Wool Textile Manufacturers of Australia

To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian standards are subject to continuous review and are kept up-to-date by the issue of amendments or new editions as necessary. It is important therefore that standards users ensure that their standards are up-to-date. Full details of all SAA publications will be found in the Annual List of Australian Standards; these details are supplemented by listings in the SAA monthly journal 'The Australian Standard'. Information on the Annual List and 'The Australian Standard' may be obtained from any sales office of the Association, where details are also available of the current status of individual standards. Suggestions for improvements to published standards, addressed to the head office of the Association, are welcomed.

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Incorporated by Royal Charter

AMENDMENT No 1

to

AS 1957-1982

**CARE LABELLING OF CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES,
FURNISHINGS, UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE, BEDDING,
PIECE GOODS AND YARNS**

REVISED TEXT

SUMMARY: The following section of the standard is covered by this amendment: Clause 4.2.3(d).
Published on 4 July 1983.

Page 5. Clause 4.2.3(d).

Delete existing clause and substitute:

- (d) A separate permanent label shall be fixed to those individual components of multiple articles that are drycleanable, or that require different care because of, for example, different fabric or fibre.

AMDT
No 1
JULY
1983

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

CARE LABELLING
OF CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES,
FURNISHINGS, UPHOLSTERED
FURNITURE, BEDDING, PIECE GOODS
AND YARNS

AS 1957—1982

First published (as AS L38)	1966
Revised	1971
Revised and issued as AS 1957, Parts 1 and 2	1976
Revised and issued as AS 1957	1978
Second edition	1982

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

ISBN 0 7262 2605 X

64 JUL 1982



PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Care Labelling of Textiles, to supersede AS 1957—1978. It was first published in 1966 and revised in 1971, as AS L38, Informative Labelling of Textiles and Textile Articles for Laundering and Dry Cleaning, and was revised again in 1976 at the request of the State Ministers for Consumer Affairs and issued in two parts. At that time the scope of the standard was extended to include leather, plastics and plastics-coated articles, and Supplement No 1, Method of Labelling Piece Goods, was published.

The State Consumer Affairs Ministers had requested that the revision include performance tests and criteria which could be used either as a guide in the choice of appropriate phrases or, if necessary, to determine if the care instructions given were appropriate. However, the wide range of textile products marketed meant that the task of developing the tests and of establishing the criteria had to be undertaken as a long-term project.

It was therefore decided to develop the guide as a separate document. This will contain, in addition to the performance tests and criteria for colourfastness and shrinkage, information to assist manufacturers in the choosing of drying, ironing, and drycleaning instructions.

In December 1977 it was decided to adopt the international symbols (ISO) for drycleaning and an amendment was published to this effect. In 1978 a further edition was published and the scope was extended to include furs, and Parts 1 and 2, Supplement No 1 and Amendment No 1 were incorporated into the one standard. Several additional care phrases and a requirement that both washing and drycleaning instructions must be given where both are appropriate to an article were also added.

In the present edition the application of the standard has been extended, at the request of the manufacturers of sheepskin products, to include skins and hides. Upholstered furniture and bedding which incorporate a textile, plastics or plastics-coated fabric, leather or sheepskin are also dealt with by the standard and this is now clearly stated in the scope and title. The standard now contains two tables of care phrases, one for articles which can be laundered or drycleaned and the other for articles which cannot.

Amendments in the wording of certain sections have also been made in the light of experience gained through mandatory use of the standard under Section 63 of the Trade Practices Act and similar State regulations, to eliminate ambiguities which had become apparent.

Further information to assist manufacturers of clothing, household textiles and furnishings to label for care, size, brand and fibre content can be obtained by reference to the following standard:

AS 2392 Labelling of Clothing, Household Textiles and Furnishings.

An Australian standard guide to the selection of correct care labelling phrases is in the course of preparation.

© Copyright — STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA 1982

Users of standards are reminded that copyright subsists in all SAA publications. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system in any form or transmitted by any means without prior permission in writing of the Standards Association of Australia.

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**Australian Standard**

for

**CARE LABELLING OF CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES, FURNISHINGS,
UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE, BEDDING, PIECE GOODS AND YARNS****FOREWORD**

The developments in fibres, blends and finishes for textile articles have made it difficult, if not impossible, for the housewife and the laundering and drycleaning industries to determine appropriate cleaning procedures from the mere appearance of the article, or even from a description of its fibre content.

The purpose of this standard is to establish a concise, uniform system of care labelling for clothing, household textiles, furnishings, upholstered furniture, bedding, piece goods and yarns.

The standard specifies the use of phrases and a number of symbols relating to drycleaning which have a clearly established meaning. The proper use of these phrases and symbols is a means of informing the consumer of the laundering, drycleaning, maintenance or other care procedures to be followed in order to avoid damaging the article.

The standard does not prevent a manufacturer either from supplying additional information if this is considered desirable, or from using phrases not included in the standard when none of the 'stock' phrases are appropriate, provided that they accurately describe the required care procedure.

The following are some of the causes of damage to textile, leather, plastics and plastics-coated articles that were considered by the committee in developing the care instructions:

- (a) Laundering hazards
 - Washing when the article should not be washed
 - Rough handling, twisting, or rubbing
 - Washing at too high a temperature
 - The use of bleach on an article which should not be bleached
 - The use of soap, starch, or other finishing agent on a leather article or one which has a flame-resistant or other special finish
 - Drying in direct sunlight or close to direct sources of heat
 - Drying in a tumble dryer where the fabric or garment construction is not appropriate to this treatment
- (b) Drycleaning hazards
 - Drycleaning when the article should not be drycleaned
 - The use of an inappropriate drycleaning solvent
- (c) Pressing and ironing hazards
 - Ironing at too high a temperature
 - Steam pressing when the article should not be steam pressed
- (d) Spot cleaning and sponge cleaning
 - The use of inappropriate cleaning fluids
 - The use of too much moisture

It is recognized that the consumer and the manufacturer of made-up articles are entitled to information on how to care for garments or articles she or he may make from piece goods, yarns and other textiles. The standard requires that this information be made available at the point of purchase in one of the following ways:

- (i) By supply of a care label which can be sewn onto the made-up article.
- (ii) By a care instruction ticket attached to the roll of fabric for perusal by the prospective purchaser.
- (iii) By a pamphlet which is given to the consumer or manufacturer of made-up articles when the purchase is made.

SPECIFICATION

1 SCOPE. This standard sets out words, phrases and symbols to be used for giving care instructions for clothing, household textiles, furnishings, upholstered furniture, bedding, piece goods and yarns. It also specifies the methods by which these goods shall be labelled or supplied with the appropriate instructions.

2 APPLICATION. The standard is applicable to textiles, plastics and plastics-coated fabrics, suede and grain leathers, furs, skins and hides.

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

Bleaching—a process carried out in an aqueous medium before, during or after the washing processes using a bleach for the purpose of removing stains and/or improving whiteness.

Drycleaning—a process for cleaning an article by means of organic solvents which may include pre-spotting, cleaning proper, rinsing, spinning, drying and restoring to shape.

Drying (after washing)—a process carried out on an article after washing to remove residual water.

Dry powder cleaning—a process for cleaning an article with powder which is either applied by hand or from a pressure pack.

Ironing—a process using heat and/or steam carried out on an article to restore its shape and appearance.

Laundering—a domestic or commercial activity involving in combination all or any of the washing, bleaching, drying and ironing procedures.

Permanent label—a label which will withstand the cleaning treatment given for the article to which it is attached, and which will remain legible and attached to the article throughout the useful life thereof.

Sponge cleaning—a process for cleaning an article by sponging with a damp cloth to avoid excess moisture.

Washing—a hand or machine process designed to clean an article in an aqueous bath which may include operations of soaking, pre-washing, washing proper, mechanical action, detergent, soap or other products, rinsing, and water extraction.

4 LABELLING.

4.1 General. The label shall include appropriate and adequate instructions for the care of an article. Care encompasses cleaning and maintenance, and appropriate care instructions are those that when followed comply with these requirements without damage to the article. Maintenance instructions are generally necessary only for articles which require a cleaning process other than laundering and/or drycleaning.

Phrases of a general nature and those indicating that a treatment is prohibited or that special care is to be taken shall be used in conjunction with the appropriate care or cleaning instructions. In those rare cases where there is no cleaning technique available, warnings against the use of damaging treatments shall be given.

Where appropriate care instructions are not included in Tables 1 or 2, other phrases may be used, provided that such phrases accurately describe the required care procedure.

For made-up articles the care instructions shall take into account particularly vulnerable components such as trims, unless their removal is advised, or padding in upholstered furniture and bedding if covers are not removable for cleaning.

To assist the consumer, launderer, drycleaner or commercial cleaner, additional instructions beyond those given in Tables 1 and 2 may be included on the label. A manufacturer may also set out additional care instructions on a swing ticket, in a pamphlet, or on a package.

NOTES:

1. Thread, tapes, zippers, facings, etc should have similar dimensional stability and colourfastness as the base fabric for the particular care treatment advised.
2. For guidance on alternative attachment positions for labels and the way in which care information may be combined with other information on a label, e.g. fibre content, reference should be made to AS 2392, Labelling of Clothing, Household Textiles and Furnishings.

4.2 Madeup Articles.

4.2.1 Care instructions for washable and/or drycleanable articles. The care label shall include, where appropriate, adequate instructions from each of the care instruction categories A, B, C, D and E, set out in Table 1 applicable to the particular articles.

Where both laundering and drycleaning treatments are appropriate to the care of an article, the label shall carry adequate instructions for both treatments and both sets of instructions shall be given on the same side of the label (see Note 1).

Where no specific or prohibited drying instruction is necessary for the proper care of an article, a drying instruction is not required (see Note 2).

NOTES:

1. Drycleaning instructions are not considered appropriate for articles such as underclothing and general household linen such as tea towels and tablecloths for which washing is the normal treatment.
2. 'Drip dry' and 'Dry in the shade' are examples of specific treatments and 'Do not tumble dry' an example of a prohibited treatment.

4.2.2 Care instructions for articles requiring treatments other than laundering or drycleaning. In addition to the phrases 'Do not wash' and 'Do not dryclean', the care label shall include accurate phrases which adequately describe the care treatment (see Table 2).

4.2.3 Label. The care instructions shall be given on a permanent label complying with the following requirements:

- (a) The label shall be accessible for examination by a prospective purchaser, or, where this is not possible because of the manner in which the article is packaged, displayed or folded, the same care instructions shall be provided additionally on the package, or on a removable label or ticket attached to the article, or on a pamphlet accompanying the article.