

Australian Standard[®]

**Requirements for rolled gold and plated
jewellery**



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.

This Standard was published on 14 November 2008.

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
-

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 08152.

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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Originated as AS 2335—1980.
Second edition 2008.

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Published by Standards Australia GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 8949 8

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CS-030, Precious Metals for Jewellery, to supersede AS 2335—1980, *Rolled gold, gold-plated and silver-plated jewellery—Composition and marking*, which was withdrawn in 1999.

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 gold or silver content and thickness of the applied coatings.

In addition, it is important that the consumer can readily distinguish between gold or silver articles and rolled gold or plated articles. AS 2140, *Jewellery—Fineness of precious metal alloys* describes the composition and marking requirements of gold and silver articles respectively, and makes 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.

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’ and ‘silver-lined’ are not relevant and should not be used in relation to articles of jewellery.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
Requirements for rolled gold and plated jewellery**1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies the composition and marking requirements for articles of jewellery that consist essentially of:

- (a) Base metal, silver or non-metallic substances that are gold plated or silver plated.
- (b) Base metal, silver or non-metallic articles with a laminated gold layer.
- (c) Filled gold articles or watch cases and watch bands.
- (d) Precious metal articles with a functional or decorative plating.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

2140 Jewellery—Fineness of precious metal alloys

ISO

3160 Watch-cases and accessories—Gold alloy coverings

3160-2 Part 2: Determination of fineness, thickness, corrosion resistance and adhesion

3497 Metallic coatings—Measurement of coating thickness—X-ray spectrometric methods

10713 Jewellery—Gold alloy coatings

3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the following definitions apply:

3.1 Filled gold

A gold article with a hollow centre that has been filled by the manufacturer with some other substance.

3.2 Gilt

An article with a thin coating of gold, gold leaf or powder.

3.3 Gold-plated

A layer of gold (see Clause 4.2) applied to the surface of an article by electrolytic, chemical or vapour deposition processes.

3.4 Rhodium-plated

A layer of rhodium applied to the surface of an article by electrolytic process.

3.5 Rolled gold

A laminated material comprising gold or gold alloy bonded to another metal and subsequently rolled or drawn (see Clause 4.1).

3.6 Silver-plated

A layer of silver (see Clause 4.3) applied to the surface of an article by electrolytic or chemical process.