

Australian Standard™

Paper sizes

[Based on and including the full text of ISO 216:1975 and
ISO 217:1995]

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee IT/8, Paper Stationery. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 29 January 1999 and published on 5 April 1999.

The following interests are represented on Committee IT/8:

Appita
AusInfo
Australia Post
Australian Bankers Association
Envelope Association of Australia
National Office Products Association of Australia
The National Paper Council of Australia
Office Equipment Industry Association of Australia
Printing Industries Association of Australia
Security Printers Association

Review of Australian Standards. *To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian Standards are subject to periodic 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 they are in possession of the latest edition, and any amendments thereto.*

Full details of all Australian Standards and related publications will be found in the Standards Australia Catalogue of Publications; this information is supplemented each month by the magazine 'The Australian Standard', which subscribing members receive, and which gives details of new publications, new editions and amendments, and of withdrawn Standards.

Suggestions for improvements to Australian Standards, addressed to the head office of Standards Australia, are welcomed. Notification of any inaccuracy or ambiguity found in an Australian Standard should be made without delay in order that the matter may be investigated and appropriate action taken.

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 98496.

Australian Standard™

Paper sizes

Originated as AS 1612—1974.
Second edition 1999.

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee IT/8, Paper Stationery, to supersede AS 1612—1974.

The objective of this Standard is to provide uniform designations and sizes for trimmed writing paper for the ISO-A and ISO-B series of paper sizes, and untrimmed sizes for the ISO-A series of paper sizes as described in this Standard.

Section 1 is based on, but not equivalent to, and reproduced from ISO 216:1975, *Writing paper and certain classes of printed matter—Trimmed sizes—A and B series*.

Section 2 is identical with, and reproduced from, ISO 217:1995, *Paper—Untrimmed sizes—Designation and tolerances for primary and supplementary ranges, and indication of machine direction*.

Appendix ZA is based on excerpts of, and reproduced from, ISO 353:1975, *Processed writing paper and certain classes of printed matter—Method of expression of dimensions*. Changes to ISO 353:1975 are indicated by marginal bars.

For the ISO-C series of paper sizes, reference should be made to ISO 269, *Correspondence envelopes—Designation and sizes*.

In the scope and field of application of Section 1, it states that the Standard does not necessarily apply to newspapers, published books, posters or other special items which may be the subject of separate Australian Standards. Due to the increased use of the ISO series of paper sizes, it would be more appropriate to state that the Standard can, but does not necessarily, apply to the items mentioned.

In this Standard, additional Australian requirements and guidelines are included in Appendices ZA, ZB and ZC.

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.

As this Standard is reproduced from international Standards, the following applies:

- (a) The number of this Standard appears on the cover and title page while the International Standard numbers appear only on the cover.
- (b) In the source text, ‘this International Standard’ should read ‘this Australian Standard’.
- (c) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

References to International Standards should be replaced by equivalent Australian Standards as follows:

<i>Reference to International Standard</i>	<i>Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standard</i>	
ISO	AS/NZS	
R 187 Method for the conditioning of paper and board test samples	1301.P415s	Standard atmosphere for testing paper and board and procedure for monitoring the atmosphere
187 Paper board and pulps—Standard atmosphere for conditioning and testing and procedure for monitoring the atmosphere and conditioning of samples	1301.415s	Standard atmosphere for testing paper and board and procedure for monitoring the atmosphere
216 Writing paper and certain classes of printed matter—Trimmed sizes—A and B series	AS 1612	Paper sizes, Section 1 (this Standard)

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
SECTION 1 WRITING PAPER AND CERTAIN SIZES OF PRINTED MATTER—TRIMMED SIZES—A AND B SERIES	1
SECTION 2 PAPER—UNTRIMMED SIZES—DESIGNATION AND TOLERANCES FOR PRIMARY AND SUPPLEMENTARY RANGES, AND INDICATION OF MACHINE DIRECTION	4
APPENDICES	
ZA PROCESSED WRITING PAPER AND CERTAIN CLASSES OF PRINTED MATTER—METHOD OF EXPRESSION OF DIMENSIONS	6
ZB PACKAGING	8
ZC TOLERANCES FOR HIGH SPEED PRINTERS	9

© Copyright — STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Users of Standards are reminded that copyright subsists in all Standards Australia publications and software. Except where the Copyright Act allows and except where provided for below no publications or software produced by Standards Australia may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system in any form or transmitted by any means without prior permission in writing from Standards Australia. Permission may be conditional on an appropriate royalty payment. Requests for permission and information on commercial software royalties should be directed to the head office of Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will permit up to 10 percent of the technical content pages of a Standard to be copied for use exclusively in-house by purchasers of the Standard without payment of a royalty or advice to Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will also permit the inclusion of its copyright material in computer software programs for no royalty payment provided such programs are used exclusively in-house by the creators of the programs.

Care should be taken to ensure that material used is from the current edition of the Standard and that it is updated whenever the Standard is amended or revised. The number and date of the Standard should therefore be clearly identified.

The use of material in print form or in computer software programs to be used commercially, with or without payment, or in commercial contracts is subject to the payment of a royalty. This policy may be varied by Standards Australia at any time.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Paper sizes

Section 1: Writing paper and certain sizes of printed matter—Trimmed sizes—A and B Series

1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard specifies the trimmed sizes of writing paper and certain classes of printed matter.

It applies to trimmed sizes of paper for administrative, commercial and technical use, and also to certain classes of printed matter, such as forms, catalogues, etc.

It does not necessarily apply to newspapers, published books, posters or other special items which may be the subject of separate International Standards.

2 REFERENCE

ISO/R 187, *Method for the conditioning of paper and board test samples*.

3 UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

3.1 Basic principles (regularly derived sizes)

The system of paper sizes is built on the following basis: each normal series (regularly derived sizes) consists of a range of sizes formed in such a manner that each size is achieved by dividing the size immediately above it into two equal parts, the division being parallel to the shorter side (the halving principle). Consequently the areas of two successive sizes are in the ratio 2 : 1 (see figure 1).

All the sizes in each series are geometrically similar to one another (the principle of similarity) (see figure 2). This requirement, combined with that explained in the preceding paragraph, gives the following equation for the sides x and y of a given size (see figure 3):

$$y : x = \sqrt{2} : 1 = 1,414 \quad \dots(1)$$

In other words, the ratio between the sides x and y is equal to the ratio between the side and the diagonal of a square.

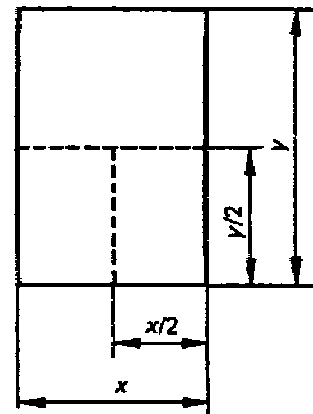


FIGURE 1

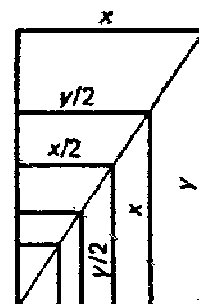


FIGURE 2

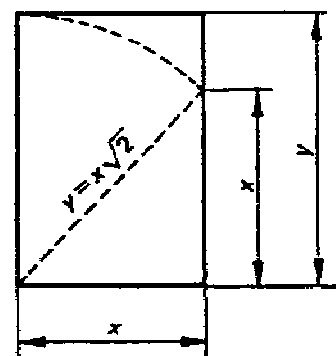


FIGURE 3