

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**Size coding scheme for infants' and  
children's clothing—Underwear and  
outerwear**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CS/92, Sizing Systems for Clothing. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 15 November 1996 and published on 5 March 1997.

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The following interests are represented on Committee CS/92:

Australian Bureau of Statistics  
ACT Consumer Affairs Bureau  
Apparel Importers Association of Australia  
Australia Post  
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Australian Council of State School Organisations  
Australian Pre-School Association  
Canberra Institute of Technology  
Consumers Federation of Australia  
Council of Textile and Fashion Industries of Australia  
Ergonomics Society of Australia  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS/92 Sizing Systems for Clothing at the request of manufacturers, retailers and consumers to supersede AS 1182—1980.

This Standard is the result of a consensus among representatives on the Joint Committee to produce it as an Australian Standard.

The first edition of AS 1182 was prepared in 1972 at the request of the committee on Quality of School and College Wear. The document has undergone several revisions, the first of which was a metric conversion of the original AS L50—1971 reviewed in 1972, to AS 1182. The next revision of AS 1182 in 1980 incorporated amendments to labelling requirements and changes to the body dimension tables to include infants under 18 months as well as the larger school sizes 16 and 18 and adding alternative methods of designating size, one of which was the ISO pictogram. This data was based on other similar national Standard schemes and manufacturing practice at the time, as well as a New South Wales Department of Health survey of height and weight characteristics of children carried out in 1970/71 and published in October 1974.

This edition is a confirmation of the data in the previous edition. The experience of retailers has been that the requirements based on height are still of practical use. It should be noted however that height, mainly in the 12 to 14 age bracket, has increased beyond that presented in this Standard. When accomplished, an anthropometric survey will determine if there are differences from the data presented in this Standard.

The ISO clothing committees promote the use of the pictogram as a means of overcoming the problem of labelling garments intended for world markets. It would assist in international understanding in Australia. The pictogram indicates the control dimensions within a circle linked to the particular position on the pictogram.

The control dimensions in this Standard differ from those specified in the ISO Standards in one respect. ISO Standards require the hip measurement to be stated on garments designed for the whole body or the lower body. This Standard leaves the hip measurement as optional if it will assist the consumer in purchasing a garment.

In the preparation of this Standard ISO 3635, *Size designation of clothing—Definitions and body measurement procedure*; ISO 3636, *Size designation of clothes—Men's and boys' outerwear garments*; ISO 3637, *Size designation of clothes—Women's and girls' outerwear garments*; ISO 3638, *Size designation of clothes—Infants' garments*; ISO 4415, *Size designation of clothes—Men's and boys' underwear* and ISO 4416, *Size designation of clothes—Women's and girls' underwear* were consulted.

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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## FOREWORD

This Standard deals with the size designation of garments, both underwear and outerwear, for infants and children.

The sizing scheme is based on the control dimensions of the body, i.e. height, chest and waist, which are critical to the fit of a garment. To assist a prospective purchaser to quickly locate the correctly sized garment, these control dimensions have been related to size code numbers for standard sizes and are set out in size coding charts to assist manufacturers in the preparation of size labels. Reference should be made to [AS 2392](#) for positioning of labels on a garment.

Appendix A contains charts setting out comprehensive body dimensions to assist manufacturers in designing garments.

To eliminate confusion it is stressed that the dimensions in Tables A1, A2, A3 and A4 are body dimensions taken over underclothing; they are not garment dimensions.

The choice of finished garment dimensions is the prerogative of the designer and the manufacturer who are concerned with fabric, style cut and other fashion elements together with the due amount of ease or tolerance required to ensure wearer comfort.

Sizes have been divided into four categories, as follows:

Infants:	Sizes 000 to 1
Childrens:	Sizes 2 to 7
Boys:	Sizes 8 to 18
Girls:	Sizes 8 to 18

These categories were selected because infants' and children's garments are sold in different departments and because anthropometric data indicated that the same body dimensions can be used for the designing of garments for boys and girls up to the age of approximately 7 or 8 years.

To clearly identify the larger sized garments for boys and girls from those intended for men and women, it was decided that the size code number should be followed by the word 'boys' or 'girls', whichever is relevant.

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

### Australian Standard

## Size coding scheme for infants' and children's clothing— Underwear and outerwear

**1 SCOPE** The Standard sets out a system of designating and labelling the sizes of infants' and children's clothing. The control dimensions on which the size designation is based and the method of indicating these dimensions on the label are specified.

The Standard also includes body measurement tables for standard coded sizes which meet the needs of a very high proportion of Australian infants and children. The size code number is linked with the control dimensions on the label and is a means of quickly identifying individual sizes.

Size designation charts which specify the control dimensions related to each Standard size are also included.

NOTE: To cover the complete range of schoolwear for girls and boys up to school leaving age, sizes 8 to 18 are included in the Standard.

**2 OBJECTIVE** The objective of this Standard is to provide manufacturers, educational institutions, retailers and consumers with information on the control dimensions of the body and their relationship to the size coding scheme given, as well as ways of including this information on a garment label in order to indicate the body size of the person that the garment is intended to fit.

**3 APPLICATION** The Standard applies to underwear and outerwear. It does not apply to hosiery.

**4 REFERENCED DOCUMENT** The following document is referred to in this Standard:

[AS 2392](#) Labelling of clothing, household textiles and furnishings

**5 GARMENT CATEGORIES** Garments are divided into four categories, each linked with a size designation chart (Charts 1, 2, 3 and 4), as follows:

- (a) *Infants' wear*—garments designed to fit sizes 000 to 1.
- (b) *Children's wear*—garments designed to fit sizes 2 to 7.
- (c) *Boys' wear*—garments designed to fit sizes 8 to 18.
- (d) *Girls' wear*—garments designed to fit sizes 8 to 18.

**6 DEFINITIONS** For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

**6.1 Australian Standard pictogram\***—a pictorial symbol which may be used on the label to indicate the position on the body of the relevant control dimension (see Figure 1).

**6.2 Control dimensions**—those body dimensions on which the sizing system is built, and used on a label to assist the consumer in identifying his/her correct size.

**6.3 Size code number**—a number linked to the control dimensions for quick identification of the garment size.

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\* This pictogram is identical to that adopted by the International Organization for Standardization.



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