

Australian/New Zealand Standard[®]

**Textile products—Fibre content
labelling**

AS/NZS 2622:1996

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CS/4, Care Labelling of Textiles. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 14 May 1996 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 24 June 1996. It was published on 5 September 1996.

The following interests are represented on Committee CS/4:

Apparel & Textile Federation of New Zealand
Apparel Importers Association of Australia
Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Australian Wool Processors Council
Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation
AWTA Textile Testing
Commerce Commission, New Zealand
Council of Textile and Fashion Industries of Australia
Department of Fair Trading N.S.W. Consumer Protection Agency
Drycleaning Institute of Australia
Federal Bureau of Consumer Affairs (Commonwealth of Australia)
Furnishing Industry Association of Australia
Melbourne Institute of Textiles
Ministry of Consumer Affairs (New Zealand)
New South Wales Guild of Furniture Manufacturers
New South Wales TAFE Commission
New Zealand Furniture Manufacturers Federation
Office of Consumer Affairs, Qld
Queensland University of Technology
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Soft Furnishings Industry Association of Australia
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Textile Rental & Laundry Association (Australia)
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PREFACE

This edition of this Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS/4 on Care Labelling of Textiles to supersede AS 2622—1987. The first edition of the Standard was developed at the request of the Commonwealth, State and Territory Consumer Affairs authorities. The changes in the present edition were made at the request of these authorities.

The Standard sets out two methods, either of which may be used to designate the fibre content of textile products as well as specifying the manner in which the products shall be labelled. It also prescribes the method to be used for assessing fibre content and indicates the tolerances that apply. The generic names to be used are those listed in AS/NZS 2450, *Textile—Natural and Man-made Fibres—Generic Names*, which follows closely ISO 2076, *Textiles—Man-made Fibres—Generic Names* and ISO 6938, *Textiles—Natural fibres—Generic names and definitions*.

Changes to this edition include the removal of the allowance for products described as ‘pure wool’, ‘all wool’ or any similar term to contain up to 20% of certain other animal fibres.

Additions include tolerances for technical and decorative effect, plus labelling requirements for products containing reclaimed fibre.

In developing this Standard the Committee considered current State and Federal legislation relating to fibre content labelling, the EEC Directive on Fibre Content Labelling published in 1971 (71/307/EEC) and modifications 75/36/EEC; 83/623/EEC and 87/140/EEC.

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FOREWORD

The committee recognizes that for various technical reasons, it is difficult in some cases to designate the fibre content of made-up textile products accurately in percentage terms. It was therefore decided that the two methods for labelling blended fibre textile products should be set out so that either method could be used as appropriate.

The generic names to be used are those specified in AS/NZS 2450, *Textiles—Natural and Man-made Fibres—Generic Names*. In line with ISO 2076, *Textiles—Man-made Fibres—Generic names*, the name ‘rayon’, which is used in some countries for regenerated cellulose fibres, was not included in AS/NZS 2450 because it does not have the same meaning everywhere. However, the committee responsible for this Standard decided to allow the use of the name ‘rayon’, provided it is used in conjunction with the generic name of the relevant regenerated cellulose fibre, e.g. viscose rayon. Similarly, as the name ‘linen’ is widely used internationally on consumer goods to describe yarns and fabrics made from ‘flax’, the committee decided to allow its use for fibre content labelling of consumer goods.

The committee wishes to emphasize that in order to avoid confusion, no abbreviations or any alternative fibre names to the fibre generic terms in AS/NZS 2450 (such as ‘poly’) shall be used.

As stated in Clause 8.1.3, the terms ‘pure’, ‘all’ or ‘100%’ should not be used unless the textile product is composed entirely of one fibre type.

Use of any adjectives such as ‘pure’, ‘all’, ‘100%’, ‘clean’ or ‘microfibre’ preceding the name of the fibre type should not be used unless the correctness of the term can be verified.

In cases where a component fibre exists in an amount less than 5 percent (see Clause 8.1.4) and therefore labelling is not compulsory for compliance with the Standard, the manufacturer should consider labelling with the generic name especially if the component is likely to cause an allergic reaction.

This Standard is to be used in conjunction with New Zealand and Australian Commonwealth, Territory and State textile labelling legislation. For information regarding textile products exempted from fibre content labelling, reference is required to relevant legislation. At the time of preparation of this Standard legislation exists which requires percentage labelling of wool in certain Australian states.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

Australian/New Zealand Standard

Textile products—Fibre content labelling

1 SCOPE This Standard sets out two methods for designating the fibre content of textile products and for supplying this information on made-up products, piece goods and yarns. It also specifies the method to be used for determining the fibre content of a product.

2 APPLICATION The Standard is applicable to all textile products and it is to be used in conjunction with New Zealand and Australian Commonwealth and State textile labelling legislation which lists products exempted from fibre content labelling.

3 OBJECTIVE The objective of this Standard is to provide manufacturers, educational institutions and consumers with information on how to label a product with fibre content information. For commercial purposes this is used in conjunction with AS/NZS 2450 and existing textile labelling legislation, in order to ensure correct labelling of textile articles.

4 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

2001 Methods of test for textiles

2001.7 Part 7: Quantitative analysis of fibre mixtures*

2392 Labelling of clothing, household textiles and furnishings

AS/NZS

2450 Textiles—Natural and man-made fibres—Generic names

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

5.1 Permanent label—a label which will withstand the cleaning instructions given for the article to which it is attached and which will remain legible and attached to the article throughout its useful life.

5.2 Textile fibre—a unit of matter characterized by its flexibility, fineness and high ratio of length to thickness, which together render it suitable for textile applications, e.g. wool, hair, silk, cotton, flax and any other fibrous material whether natural or artificial, including glass fibre where this is used in household textiles or apparel.

5.3 Textile product—a manufactured, or semi-manufactured product made from textile fibre by spinning, weaving, knitting, felting, bonding, tufting or other process, e.g. thread, cord, rope, braids, lace, embroidery, nets, carpet, clothing and fabrics.

6 METHODS OF DESIGNATING FIBRE CONTENT The two methods of designating the fibre content, either of which may be used, are as follows:

Method A— by listing, in descending order of dominance by mass, the generic name of each fibre type preceded by its percentage of the total mass of the textile product.

* This reference applies to any current Standard from AS 2001.7.1 to AS 2001.7.20 (and any future parts). The selection of the applicable Standard from this series depends on the fibre mixtures to be analysed.



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