

Australian Standard[®]

Saddle trees

This Australian Standard was prepared by committee CS/69, Saddles, Tack and Harness. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 12 June 1992 and published on 14 September 1992.

The following interests are represented on Committee CS/69:

Australian Harness Racing Council
Australian Pony Club Council
Australian Retailers Association
Collingwood College of Technical and Further Education
Equestrian Federation of Australia
Principal Racing Clubs Committee
Saddle Tree Manufacturers
Saddlers and Harness Makers Association of Australia
Victorian Horse Council

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Saddle trees

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Saddles, Tack and Harness at the request of the Victorian Horse Council. The Council was concerned about horse riding accidents caused by faulty equipment. Saddle trees which, through the stirrup bars or bearers, bear the full weight of a rider were considered to be particularly important. This Standard is, therefore aimed at protecting the consumer, who, when buying a saddle is not always able to determine the quality of the tree within.

The aim of the Standard is not to limit the materials or design of trees but to establish performance levels for different types of tree, regardless of construction. The performance levels set in this Standard are not intended to literally reflect the stresses on a saddle during horseriding. Rather, they have been set as a result of testing of trees known to be at either end of the performance spectrum, in order to discriminate between trees known to be satisfactory or unsatisfactory. However, there has been only limited testing of trees which might be regarded as middle of the range.

In the preparation of this Standard, the Committee also considered BS 6635:1995, *Saddle trees made from wood*.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
Saddle trees

1 SCOPE This Standard specifies performance requirements for saddle trees for general purpose, stock, and western style saddles and for racing and exercise saddles. Requirements are set out for dynamic tests of the durability of the tree and the stirrup attachments.

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

2.1 General purpose saddle tree—an English style tree used in the construction of saddles for general riding, jumping and dressage.

2.2 Shall—the use of the word ‘shall’ indicates that a requirement is mandatory.

2.3 Should—the use of the word ‘should’ indicates that the relevant sentence is not a requirement, but is optional.

2.4 Saddle tree parts—a typical saddle tree is illustrated in Figure 1.

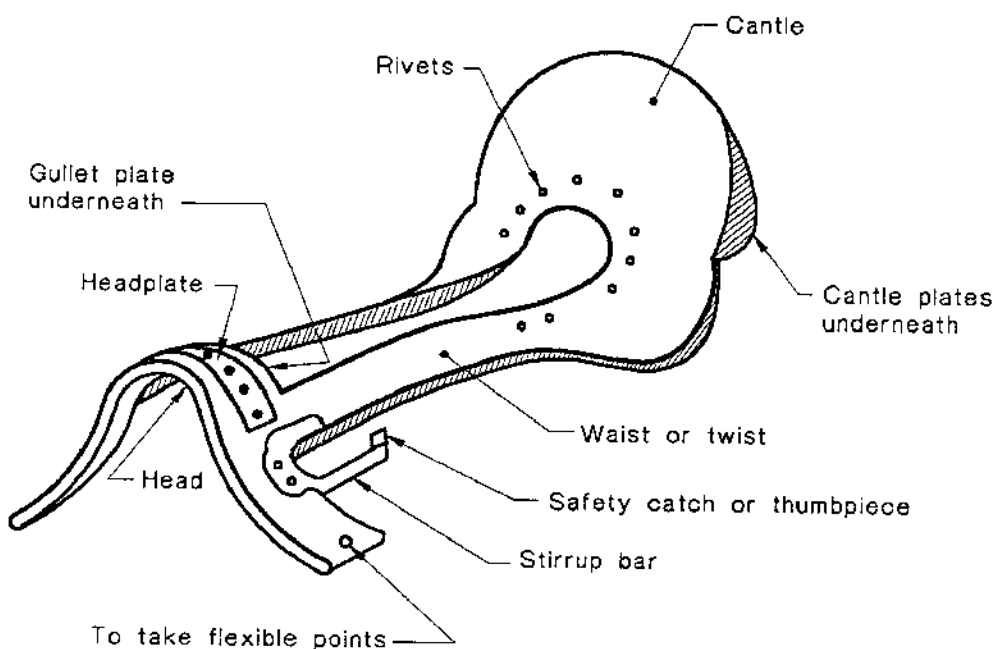


FIGURE 1 DIAGRAM OF TYPICAL SADDLE TREE, SHOWING COMMON PARTS

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

AS
2210 Safety footwear

4 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Durability When tested in accordance with Appendix A, the saddle tree shall show no visible sign of splitting, cracking, warping, shearing or breaking.

4.2 Joint separation When tested in accordance with Appendix A, a joint shall be considered to have failed if—

- (a) it was originally open and has separated by greater than 50% of the separation present before testing; or
- (b) it was originally closed and has —
 - (i) for a general purpose, stock and western saddle tree, separated by greater than 2 mm; or
 - (ii) for a racing and exercise saddle tree, separated by greater than 10 mm.



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