

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Approval and test specification—Plugs  
and socket-outlets for stationary  
appliances**



## **AS/NZS 3131:2001**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-004, Electrical Accessories. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 13 July 2001 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 12 October 2001. It was published on 17 October 2001.

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The following interests are represented on Committee EL-004:

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Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association  
Canterbury Manufacturers Association, New Zealand  
Consumer Electronic Suppliers Association of Australia  
Consumers Federation of Australia  
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Previous edition AS/NZS 3131:1995.  
Jointly revised and redesignated as AS/NZS 3131:2001.

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-004 on Electrical Accessories to supersede AS/NZS 3131:1995, five years from the date of publication. It is issued as a Joint Standard.

This Standard sets out the requirements for plugs and socket-outlets having current ratings not exceeding 32 A, intended for indoor use, and at voltages not exceeding 500 V a.c., for the purpose of enabling connection and disconnection of fixed stationary appliances (such as stoves) to the installation wiring. Some standardized configurations are given in Appendix A.

While this Standard depicts only one standardized configuration, it may be applied to configurations and contact types other than that depicted herein, providing all appropriate requirements of this Standard are complied with.

This Standard has been prepared based on the principles of AS/NZS 3112, *Approval and test specification—Plugs and socket-outlets*.

This Standard is one of a series of approval and test specifications issued jointly by Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand. These specifications are to be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 3100, *Approval and test specification—General requirements for electrical equipment*. The purpose of these specifications is to outline conditions which must be met to secure approval for the sale and use of electrical equipment. Only safety matters and related conditions are covered.

This edition of AS/NZS 3131 contains the following changes from the 1995 edition:

- (a) All requirements applicable to installation couplers have been removed (as these have been incorporated into a new standard AS/NZS 61535:2001 specifically on installation couplers).
- (b) The number of configurations shown in the Standard Sheets has been reduced to that commonly available in Australia and New Zealand.

The term ‘normative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

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## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Standard applies to plugs and socket-outlets having current ratings not exceeding 32 A, intended for indoor use, and at voltages not exceeding 500 V a.c., for the purpose of enabling connection and disconnection of stationary appliances such as cooking ranges, hobs and ovens. Standardized configurations are given in Appendix A.

This Standard does not apply to the following:

- (a) Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes within the scope of AS/NZS 3109.1.
- (b) Plugs and socket-outlets within the scope of AS/NZS 3112.
- (c) Cord extension sockets within the scope of AS/NZS 3120.
- (d) Socket-outlet adaptors within the scope of AS/NZS 3122.
- (e) Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for general industrial application within the scope of AS/NZS 3123.
- (f) Installation couplers within the scope of AS/NZS 61535.

NOTE: This Standard may be applied to configurations and contact types other than those depicted herein providing all appropriate (to that type) requirements of this Standard are complied with.

**1.2 APPLICATION****1.2.1 General requirements of AS/NZS 3100**

This Standard shall be read in conjunction with AS/NZS 3100. The appropriate provisions of AS/NZS 3100 shall apply to the construction of a plug or socket-outlet and the insulation and safeguarding of parts which normally carry current.

**1.2.2 Specific requirements of this Standard**

A plug or socket-outlet shall be deemed to comply with this Standard only if it complies with all the appropriate requirements of this Standard and passes the relevant tests specified herein.

**1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard.

NOTE: Where no relevant New Zealand Standard is listed, the referenced Australian Standard is deemed to be appropriate for the purpose of this Standard.



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