

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Occupational protective gloves**

**Part 1: Selection, use and maintenance**



**S t a n d a r d s** Australia



**STANDARDS**  
NEW ZEALAND  
Pūnaha Aotearoa

## AS/NZS 2161.1:2000

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This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee SF/23, Occupational Protective Gloves. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 14 March 2000 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 5 January 2000. It was published on 13 April 2000.

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# Australian/New Zealand Standard™

## Occupational protective gloves

### Part 1: Selection, use and maintenance

Originated as AS Z4—1952.  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Australia/New Zealand Standards Committee SF/23, Occupational Protective Gloves to supersede in part AS 2161—1978, *Industrial safety gloves and mittens (excluding electrical and medical gloves)*.

This Standard sets out recommended practices aimed at ensuring that gloves intended for occupational use are chosen and maintained in a manner that will provide users with adequate levels of protection.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

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## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

**Australian/New Zealand Standard****Occupational protective gloves****Part 1: Selection, use and maintenance**

**1 SCOPE** This Standard sets out recommendations to achieve hand protection against hazards experienced in the workplace. It gives guidance on the following:

- (a) *Selection*—Aspects to be taken into account when determining the type of glove appropriate to the particular usage and the envisaged hazards as well as disposal of the gloves.
- (b) *Use*—Practices to be followed for the different types of gloves.
- (c) *Maintenance*—Safe and hygienic practices to be followed in the decontamination/cleaning, storage and reissue of gloves to maintain the performance as appropriate.

The Standard does not include requirements for the performance or testing of gloves, as these are specified separately in other parts of the AS/NZS 2161 series, AS/NZS 2225, AS/NZS 4011 and AS/NZS 4179 as appropriate.

**2 OBJECTIVE** The objective of this Standard is to enable users of protective gloves to select gloves suitable for their work and to use and maintain them in a manner which ensures that the glove's function is not compromised.

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

## AS/NZS

2161	Occupational protective gloves
2161.2	Part 2: General requirements
2161.3	Part 3: Protection against mechanical risks
2161.4	Part 4: Protection against thermal risks (heat and fire)
2161.5	Part 5: Protection against cold
2161.7.1	Part 7.1: Protection against cuts and stabs by hand knives—Chainmail gloves and arm guards
2225	Insulating gloves for electrical purposes
4011	Single-use examination gloves—Specification
4179	Single-use sterile surgical rubber gloves—Specification
4360	Risk management
4804	OH&S management systems—General guidelines on principles, systems and supporting techniques

**4 DEFINITIONS** For the purposes of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

**4.1 Breakthrough time**—the time elapsed between initial contact of a chemical with the outside surface of a glove material and the time at which the chemical can be detected at the inside surface of the material. Measured breakthrough times are dependent on the sensitivity of the analytical methods used to detect the chemical.



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