

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Office desks, office workstations and tables intended to be used as office desks—Mechanical, dimensional and general requirements and test methods



AS/NZS 4442:2018

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CS-088, Furniture—Domestic and Commercial. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 27 July 2018 and by the New Zealand Standards Approval Board on 2 August 2018. This Standard was published on 28 August 2018.

The following are represented on Committee CS-088:

Australasian Furnishing Association
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Industry Group
Business New Zealand
Furniture and Cabinetmaking Association of New Zealand
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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS 4442:2017.

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PREFACE

This Standard has been prepared by Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS-088, to supersede AS/NZS 4442:1997, *Office desks* and AS/NZS 4443:1997, *Office panel systems—Workstations*.

The objective of this Standard is to provide manufacturers, specifiers, retailers, purchasers and users with requirements and test methods for general safety, strength, durability, stability and dimensions for office desks, office workstations, and tables intended to be used as office desks (the term ‘unit’ is used in this Standard), for use in indoor commercial and/or home office environments, to assist in determining the suitability of these items for their intended purpose.

The revision of AS/NZS 4442 and AS/NZS 4443 was considered necessary to maintain relevance, implement improvements, and to ensure the methodology and requirements reflect current use and design. For example, monitor technology has changed, and unit designs have become more complex in the years since AS/NZS 4442 and AS/NZS 4443 were first published in 1997.

The revision of AS/NZS 4442 and AS/NZS 4443 into one standard was considered practical due to desks and workstations fulfilling a near identical role in the office environment, which necessitated near identical requirements and test methodologies.

This Standard references AS/NZS 4790:2006 (reconfirmed 2016), *Furniture—Storage units—Determination of strength and durability*, for the testing of storage units that are attached to the unit.

This Standard references AS/NZS 4688.2:2000 (reconfirmed 2016), *Furniture—Fixed height chairs, Part 2: Determination of strength and durability*, for the testing of fixed height seating that is attached to, or is integrated into the structure of the unit.

In the wider furniture industry the terms ‘office workstation’ and ‘office desk’ are often used interchangeably. Readers of this Standard should be aware that specific definitions of an office desk, office workstation, and a table intended to be used as an office desk are used in this Standard.

The Standard’s dimensional requirements are intended to allow the ergonomically correct use of the unit by the user. However, this Standard does not instruct on the ergonomic use of a unit.

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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