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TEXTILES—UPHOLSTERY FABRICS FOR DOMESTIC USE



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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This Australian standard was prepared by Committee TX/18, Quality Requirements for Textile Furnishings. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 16 December 1983 and published on 6 February 1984.

The following interests are represented on Committee TX/18:

- Australian Council of Furniture Manufacturers
- Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations
- Australian Knitting Industries Council
- Australian Wholesale Softgoods Federation
- Australian Wool Corporation
- Australian Wool Testing Authority Ltd
- Confederation of Australian Industry
- Department of Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.
- Department of Technical and Further Education, N.S.W.
- Furniture Retailers' Council of Australia
- Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Victoria
- Textile Council of Australia
- Wool Textile Manufacturers of Australia

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**TEXTILES—UPHOLSTERY
FABRICS FOR DOMESTIC USE**

AS 2687—1984

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PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Quality Requirements for Textile Furnishings, in response to a request made by the Australian Wholesale Softgoods Federation resulting from concern about the variability of quality of furnishing fabrics.

The standard classifies three qualities of upholstery fabrics for domestic use based on their performance on an abrasion testing machine. Other properties are stated appropriate to the classification scale.

In preparing this standard, the important properties of an upholstery fabric have been isolated following a market research, and suitable minimum acceptance criteria together with the appropriate test procedures have been assigned to each of these properties. Where possible, Australian standard tests have been called up. Where Australian standard test methods are not available, test methods have been given in the appendices.

The standard also states labelling information which is to be provided with the fabric at all stages during its distribution and end-use.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard for TEXTILES—UPHOLSTERY FABRICS FOR DOMESTIC USE

1 SCOPE. This standard specifies performance and labelling requirements for textile upholstery fabrics for use as covers on domestic furniture.

It includes woven, non-woven and knitted fabrics, with and without a pile, and flock-coated fabrics. It excludes polymeric surface-coated fabrics and tickings used for mattresses and bed bases.

2 APPLICATION. The standard applies to textile piece goods for use as domestic upholstery, recognizing that conditions of application can have a serious adverse effect on fabric performance. The standard assumes the fabrics will be applied to furniture constructed in accordance with good manufacturing practice.

3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS. A list with titles of the documents referred to in this standard is given in the Annex.

4 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

4.1 Stretchable fabric—a fabric having a mean extension greater than 25 percent in either direction, when tested in accordance with Appendix F.

4.2 Non-stretchable fabric—a fabric having a mean extension equal to or less than 25 percent in either direction, when tested in accordance with Appendix F.

4.3 Patterned pile fabric—a fabric in which a distinctive visual pattern is created by discrete pile and non-pile areas.

4.4 Residual extension—the increase in length of fabric in one direction remaining after a defined force is applied in that direction then released.

4.5 Stretch—the increase in length of fabric in one direction, partly or wholly recoverable, caused by a defined force applied in that direction.

5 CLASSIFICATION. Upholstery fabrics are classified in accordance with three end-use applications as follows:

Heavy domestic duty: Suitable where user habits impose severe abrasive wear on frequently used items of furniture.

Medium domestic duty: Suitable for frequently used items of furniture.

Light domestic duty: Suitable for items of furniture subject to limited and careful use.

6 REQUIREMENTS.

6.1 Abrasion resistance.

6.1.1 Abrasion resistance of woven fabrics. When woven upholstery fabrics are tested in accordance with Appendix A with the number of cycles stated in Table 1 for each class of fabric, the end-point shall not have been reached at the final examination (see Appendix A).

6.1.2 Abrasion resistance of pile fabrics. When pile fabrics are tested in accordance with Appendix B, the number of cycles to achieve the appearance change criteria for each class of fabric shall be as shown in Table 1.

6.1.3 Abrasion resistance of knitted and other fabrics. When knitted and other fabrics are tested in accordance with Appendix C, for the number of cycles stated in Table 1 for each class of fabric the end point shall not have been reached.

**TABLE 1
ABRASION RESISTANCE OF UPHOLSTERY FABRICS**

Classification of fabric	Woven fabrics	Pile fabrics			Knitted and other fabrics
	Number of cycles required (see Appendix A)	Satisfactory appearance after number of cycles (see Appendix B)			Number of cycles
	Final examination	100% pile cover cycles	< 100% ≥ 70% pile cover cycles	< 70% ≥ 40% pile cover cycles	
Heavy duty	40 000	2500	2500	Not applicable	4000
Medium duty	20 000	1500	1500	750	2000
Light duty	10 000	1000	1000	500	1000

NOTES:

- Pile fabrics containing patterned areas with a pile cover less than 70 percent are not eligible for a heavy duty rating.
- Test specimens of pile fabrics containing patterned areas with a pile cover of less than 40 percent are not to be subjected to this test, but the fabrics may be rated against the requirements for medium and light duty where pile coverage on test specimens is appropriate.

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