

Australian Standard[®]

**Textiles for health care facilities
and institutions**

Part 6: Fabric specifications

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee TX/15, Textiles for Health Care Facilities and Institutions. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 21 October 1995 and published on 5 January 1996.

The following interests are represented on Committee TX/15:

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Linen Services Executive
Australian Nursing Federation
Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organization
AWTA Textile Testing
Council of Textile and Fashion Industries of Australia
Department of Corrective Services, N.S.W.
Federation of Sterilizing Research and Advisory Councils of Australia
Department of Health, N.S.W.
Department of Health, W.A.
Department of Public Works and Services, N.S.W.
Hospital Laundry Managers Association of Australia
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee, TX/15, on Textiles for Health Care Facilities and Institutions as a revision of AS 2892—1986, *Textiles for hospitals and institutions—Fabric specifications*.

The Standard lists fabrics made from cotton, cotton/synthetic fibre blends and synthetic fibre, giving in tabular form suggested constructional characteristics and physical requirements of the grey state or finished fabric. The fabrics form the basis of most hospital textile commodities including general ward flat ‘linen’ items, theatre ‘linen’, patient apparel and theatre apparel. End uses are suggested as it is considered the fabrics so listed will cover the full range of hospital requirements.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Textiles for health care facilities and institutions

Part 6: Fabric specifications

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE This Standard specifies requirements for cotton, cotton/synthetic and synthetic fabrics for health care and institutional uses.

1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS A list of documents referred to in this Standard is given in Appendix A.

1.3 DEFINITIONS For the purpose of this Standard, the current terms and definitions published by the Textile Institute, Manchester, U.K.*, apply.

1.4 DESIGNATION OF FABRICS Each fabric is designated by an item number which comprises two components and is indicated in the first columns of Tables 2.2 to 2.5. The first component is a designation determined by the fibre type, blend or structure as indicated in Table 1.1. The second component is an arbitrary number which distinguishes between different fabrics of the same fibre(s) or structure.

Example: C5 refers to the fifth cotton fabric listed in Table 2.2.

TABLE 1.1
DESIGNATION

Fibre or structure	Designation
Cotton	C
Polyamide (nylon)	Pa
Polyester	Pe
Polyester/cotton	Pe/C
Terry structure	T

Blended fabrics are listed in Table 2.3. For each of these fabrics, the fibre content is listed in the second column of the table in order of dominance, each fibre designation separated by an oblique slash (/).

Example: 65/35 Pe/C refers to a fabric manufactured from blended polyester/cotton fibre consisting of 65 percent polyester and 35 percent cotton (see also AS 2622).

1.5 SELECTION OF TEST SAMPLE A sample the full width of the fabric and at least 4 m² in area shall be selected not less than 2 m from an end and shall be representative of the lot under test.

NOTES:

- 1 The method of sample selection is a matter for agreement between the parties concerned.

* The Textile Institute, *Textile Terms and Definitions*.

- 2 Where it is agreed that a sealed sample be held by the purchaser, the sealed sample is to constitute the standard for appearance, handle and finish and for any other properties not defined in this Standard. Should the Standard and sealed sample be at variance, the Standard is to be adhered to.

1.6 IDENTIFICATION Where required, stripes and lettering shall be provided on items.

NOTE: This is a matter for agreement between the purchaser and the supplier (see Appendix B).

1.7 MARKING The following information shall be shown on each bolt or roll and package of fabric on a drop ticket or label:

- (a) Piece number, batch number and colour identification.
- (b) Description or nomenclature, in accordance with Tables 2.2 to 2.5.
- (c) The fibre content (see AS 2622 and Note 1).
- (d) Gross and net length of bolt or roll.
- (e) Width overall (including selvages).
- (f) Manufacturer's name or identification.
- (g) Care instructions in accordance with AS 1957 (see Note 1).

NOTES:

- 1 Reference should also be made to relevant State and Federal Legislation for the labelling of fibre content and care.
- 2 Manufacturers making a statement of compliance with this Australian Standard on a product, packaging, or promotional material related to that product are advised to ensure that such compliance is capable of being verified.