

Specification for

Artists' water-colour brushes for local authorities

Confirmed
November 2008

Co-operating organizations

The following Government departments, professional and industrial organizations were directly represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this British Standard:

- Association of Hospital and Welfare Administrators
- Association of Municipal Corporations
- British Brush Manufacturers' Association
- British Brush Manufacturers' Research Association
- British Railways Board
- Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and Administrations
- Greater London Council
- Institute of Public Cleansing
- Institute of Purchasing and Supply
- London Transport Board
- Ministry of Defence (Army Department)
- Ministry of Defence (Navy Department)
- Ministry of Public Building and Works

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Foreword

This British Standard was based on proposals made by the Local Authorities Standards Advisory Committee which were developed in collaboration with the British Brush Manufacturers' Association. In the revision account has been taken of a wider range of requirements, e.g. those of the Armed Forces of the Crown and other Government purchasing departments.

The committee responsible for the standard appreciates that it does not provide a complete range of water-colour brushes, nor brushes for the fully professional artist, those covered being intended for general use mainly in schools, and for general lettering and lining out where a full artists' brush is not needed. The aim has been to give specifications which will assist supplies officers in ordering well-defined types of brushes and will give manufacturers the opportunity of concentrating their production on recognized items to satisfy these demands.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 13 and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

1 Scope

This British Standard specifies requirements for the following types of brushes as purchased by local authorities and others mainly for use by students, or where a more specialized artists' brush is unnecessary:

Lining brushes, mops, pencils, retouching brushes, fitches and writing brushes, lacquer brushes.

Approximate outlines are given for the various types and sizes but these do not indicate exact dimensions.

2 Manufacture

2.1 Brushes shall be manufactured in accordance with the particulars given in the tables.

2.2 The brush head shall be securely cemented into the ferrule and shall be free from loose hairs or bristle. The shape of the brush head shall be symmetrical.

The heads on round pencil brushes shall give a point when moistened.

2.3 Ferrules shall be attached to the handle by cementing and knurling or clinching or pinning. Ferrules shall be of one of the types and materials listed in the appropriate table.

2.4 The handle shall have a smooth surface, finished plain, or rumbled and waxed, or matt finish polished, or bright finish polished. The uncovered end shall be blunt. The finish shall be non-toxic.

3 Identification marking

3.1 The handle of the finished brush shall be impressed in legible characters, to give the following particulars:

- 1) The size designation in accordance with the tables.
- 2) The supplier's and/or manufacturer's name or identification mark.

If required by the purchaser, the BS number may be added.

3.2 Brushes shall be identified by a statement of the number of the standard (BS 2808) in the contract of sale, on the relevant invoice or on the packaged products.

4 Description of filling materials

4.1 Filling materials shall be described in accordance with accepted trade practice by the name of the animal from which the hairs are obtained, subject to **4.2**.

4.2 For the purposes of this British Standard the term "sable" shall be deemed to include the hair of the kolinsky and weasel.

4.3 Where more than one type of hair is present in the filling, the description shall name all of them in the order of their preponderance by weight.

4.4 For the purposes of this British Standard the term "ox hair" shall be deemed to mean brown ox.

5 Tolerances

5.1 The tolerances on dimensions shall be as follows:

Internal diameter of ferrules:

sizes 00–7 inclusive + 5 %

sizes 8 upwards + 2½ %

The values for length of hair out of ferrule + 1 mm.

**Table 1 — Soft hair filled brushes (pencils)
with round section ferrules**

Size No.	Minimum internal diameter at mouth of ferrule	Minimum length of hair out of ferrule	
		Sable	Squirrel
	mm	mm	mm
00	1.1	5.5	
0	1.3	7.0	
1	1.6	9.0	9.5
2	1.9	10.0	11.0
3	2.2	12.0	12.5
4	2.6	13.5	15.0
5	3.1	15.0	16.5
6	3.6	18.0	18.0
7	4.2	21.5	20.0
8	4.9	23.0	22.0
9	5.6	24.5	24.5
10	6.3	26.0	26.0
11	7.1	27.5	30.0
12	7.8	29.0	31.0
<i>Ferrules:</i> For sables, aluminium, cupro-nickel, nickel-plated brass. For squirrel, aluminium, tinplate, lapped and soldered.			