



BS 4874 : 1972

UDC 643.352 : 643.36

Specification for
**Catering container
dimensions**

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British Standards Institution



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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:

Committee reference M/118 Draft for comment 71/61626

Co-operating organizations

The Committee under whose supervision this British Standard was prepared consists of representatives from the following Government departments and professional, scientific and industrial organizations:

Aluminium Foil Container Manufacturers' Association
Caterers' Association of Great Britain
Catering Equipment Manufacturers Association
Civil Service Department
Department of Education and Science
Department of Health and Social Security
Department of the Environment

Department of Trade and Industry
Hotel, Catering and Institutional Management
Lancashire County Council
Ministry of Defence, Navy Department
National Trade Development Association
Industrial expert



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Foreword

This British Standard has been prepared to meet a requirement that became increasingly apparent during consideration of the need for dimensional co-ordination of catering equipment ancillary to the metrication programme for building.

Sub-committee B/94/4 'Metric building sizes (advisory)' appointed Panel B/94/4/5 to consider co-ordination of sizes for fixtures, furniture and equipment, and a sub-panel made recommendations concerning catering equipment. These recommendations were related only to the space requirements for such equipment and were incorporated in PD 6444 'Recommendations for the co-ordination of dimensions in building', Part 2, 'Co-ordinating sizes of fixtures, furniture and equipment'.

The catering equipment sub-panel reported that in making their recommendations they had been handicapped by the absence of recognized dimensional relationships between items of catering equipment and the containers used in them, with the exception of BS 4352, 'Electric catering equipment for educational establishments (L.A.S.M.E.C. Modular units)'; and BS 4353, 'Gas catering equipment for educational establishments (L.A.S.M.E.C. Modular units)' which specify equipment dimensionally related to containers complying with the requirements of BS 3642, 'Aluminium baking dishes'.

A conference widely representative of users and manufacturers was convened by BSI and this conference appointed a small working party to study the available information and to make recommendations. The working party investigated existing and proposed systems. They also studied containers already in wide international use based on a dimensional module of 530 mm x 325 mm and containers based on a dimensional module of 600 mm x 400 mm proposed to ISO. In addition, they considered the possibility of creating a new module for containers, and studied the relationship between the dimensions of packages and the dimensions of catering containers.

The working party recommended to the conference that a standard should be produced governing the sizes of cooking containers based on a module of 530 mm x 325 mm, from which the sizes of catering containers and equipment could be determined, and this recommendation was adopted by the Technical Committee responsible for the preparation of this British Standard, principally because of its wide use internationally.