

Graphical symbols and signs —

Safety signs, including fire safety signs —

Part 11: Water safety signs

ICS 01.080.10; 97.220.40

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by Technical Committee PH/8, Graphical symbols, to Subcommittee PH/8/2, Public information graphical symbols and signs, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- ARTSLINE Disability Access Information Service
- British Hospitality Association
- British Standards Society
- Chartered Society of Designers
- Consumer Policy Committee of BSI
- County Surveyors' Society
- Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions — Central Transport Group
- Forestry Commission
- London Transport
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Ordnance Survey
- Railtrack
- Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation
- Royal Institute of British Architects
- Royal Life Saving Society UK
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents
- Coopted members

The following bodies were also represented in the drafting of the standard through a panel:

- British Canoe Union
- British Sub-Aqua Club
- British Tourist Authority
- Health and Safety Executive
- Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management
- Institute of Sport and Recreation Management
- Sport England
- Coopted members

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Foreword

This part of BS 5499 has been prepared by Subcommittee PH/8/2.

The purpose of this standard is to provide a uniform set of water safety signs. The graphical symbols for the signs specified in this standard are based on those given in *National water safety signs* [1] published by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents on behalf of the National Water Safety Committee.

The requirements specified in this standard have been drawn up in the light of the Health and Safety (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations 1996 [2].

The use of safety signs does not replace the need for proper working methods and instruction or for training in accident prevention and the actions to be taken in the event of an emergency.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its 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 18, an inside back cover and a back cover.

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1 Scope

This part of BS 5499 specifies water safety signs, to be used for giving information on the prohibition of certain actions and activities, to give warnings of water hazards or dangerous situations and to give specific instructions for mandatory action.

This part of BS 5499 is applicable to safety signs for use at locations in, on and near water, in coastal and inland waters, including navigational waters, and in all types of swimming pools. These locations include the following:

- indoor and outdoor swimming pools;
- paddling pools;
- harbours, docks, marinas;
- beaches, piers, landing stages, fishing points, bridges over water;
- quarries, industrial and construction sites, agricultural areas;
- water tanks;
- rivers, canals, estuaries, lakes, reservoirs, ponds.

This standard is applicable to water safety signs relevant to sport and recreational activities.

Signs specified as Category A signs have been accepted and registered by Technical Committee PH/8 as approved safety signs.

Signs specified as Category B signs are judged by Technical Committee PH/8 to require the further education of intended viewers before they can be registered as approved safety signs.

Signs specified as Category C signs are judged by Technical Committee PH/8 to require improvements to their graphical symbols as well as further education of intended viewers before they can be registered as approved safety signs.

NOTE In addition to the BSI registration number, where applicable, each sign has been given a code number for ease of reference. These code numbers are made up as follows.

- The first character gives the clause number designation.
- The second number indicates the sign category within that clause.
- The third character is a sequential number for the individual sign.

EXAMPLES

The first unregistered water safety prohibition sign has the code 9.B.3001. The sixteenth unregistered water safety hazard sign has the code 11.B.3016.

With the exception of water safety prohibition sign 9.A.0003 which is Category A, all signs in this part of BS 5499 are Category B signs.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 5378-2, *Safety signs and colours — Part 2: Specification for colorimetric and photometric properties of materials*.

BS 5499-1:2002, *Graphical symbols and signs — Safety signs, including fire safety signs — Part 1: Specification for geometric shapes, colours and layout*.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this part of BS 5499 the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

safety sign

sign that gives a general safety message, by means of a combination of a safety colour and a geometric shape and which, by the inclusion of a graphical symbol, gives a particular safety meaning

3.2

water safety sign

safety sign for use on, in or near water

3.3 types of water safety sign

3.3.1

water safety prohibition sign

water safety sign that indicates that specific behaviour is forbidden

3.3.2

water safety mandatory sign

water safety sign that indicates that a specific course of action is to be taken

3.3.3

water safety hazard sign

water safety sign that indicates a specific source of potential harm

3.3.4

supplementary sign

sign that is supportive of a water safety sign by providing additional clarification

NOTE A supplementary sign when used with a water safety sign becomes part of the water safety sign.

3.4

graphical symbol

visually perceptible figure with a particular meaning used to transmit information independently of language

3.5

safety colour

specific colour to which a safety meaning is attributed

3.6

contrast colour

colour that contrasts with the safety colour in order to make the safety colour more conspicuous

4 Types of water safety signs

Each water safety sign shall be of one of the following three types:

- a) a water safety prohibition sign as specified in Clause 9;
- b) a water safety mandatory sign as specified in Clause 10;
- c) a water safety hazard sign as specified in Clause 11.

NOTE With the exception of the one Category A water safety prohibition sign, which is numbered in accordance with BS 5499-5 where an identical safety sign is specified, the signs are sequentially numbered starting at 3001.

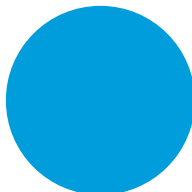
5 Safety colours and contrast colours for water safety signs

The safety colour and contrast colour used for a water safety sign shall be as specified for the particular type of sign in BS 5499-1, as shown in Table 1. The colorimetric and photometric properties of the safety colours and contrast colours shall be in accordance with BS 5378-2.

6 Geometric shapes for water safety signs

The geometric shape used for a water safety sign shall be as specified for the particular type of sign in BS 5499-1, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 — Geometric shapes, safety colours and contrast colours for water safety signs^a

Geometric shape	Meaning	Safety colour	Contrast colour	Graphical symbol colour	Examples of use
A circle 	Prohibition	Red	White	Black	No swimming No diving No personal water craft to be used
A circle 	Mandatory action	Blue	White	White	Wear lifejacket
An equilateral triangle with radiused outer corners 	Hazard	Yellow	Black	Black	Strong currents Thin ice Deep water
^a For the colour and geometric shape of supplementary text signs see BS 5499-1:2002, Clause 10.					

7 Layout of water safety signs

The layout of water safety signs shall be in accordance with BS 5499-1:2002, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 9.4 as applicable.

8 Supplementary text signs

A supplementary text sign shall only be used in association with a water safety sign.

NOTE 1 The purpose of a supplementary text sign is to either:

- give the meaning of the graphical symbol on the water safety sign; or
- provide more information to expand or particularize the meaning of the water safety sign.

With the exception of the water safety prohibition sign 9.A.0003, which is a Category A sign and, therefore, does not require a supplementary text sign, the water safety signs specified in this part of BS 5499 are all Category B signs and so shall only be used with a supplementary text sign.

NOTE 2 The water safety prohibition sign 9.A.0003 may be used with a supplementary text sign if considered necessary.

The supplementary text sign shall be located underneath or to the left or right of the water safety sign. Supplementary text signs shall be in English.

NOTE 3 The English text may be supplemented by text in other languages when more than one language is in common use in the locality in which the sign is to be used. Where supplementary text signs in more than one language supplement a water safety sign, it is essential that the words in each language convey the same meaning.

The layout of supplementary text signs shall be in accordance with BS 5499-1:2002,

9 Water safety prohibition signs Category A

Water safety sign	Meaning
	Do not run NOTE This safety sign is also specified in BS 5499-5:2002, Clause 6. REGISTRATION NUMBER BS 5499-5.0003