

Safety of children's clothing — Cords and drawstrings on children's clothing — Specifications

The European Standard EN 14682:2004 has the status of a
British Standard

ICS 61.020; 97.190

National foreword

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee TCI/66, Apparel and indoor textiles, which has the responsibility to:

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This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 25 January 2005

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, the EN title page, pages 2 to 15 and a back cover.

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Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments

© BSI 25 January 2005

ISBN 0 580 45347 2

English version

Safety of children's clothing - Cords and drawstrings on children's clothing - Specifications

Sécurité des vêtements d'enfants - Cordons et cordons
coulissants - Spécifications

Sicherheit von Kinderbekleidung - Kordeln und Zugbänder
an Kinderbekleidung - Anforderungen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 22 November 2004.

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Contents

	Page
Foreword.....	3
1 Scope	5
2 Terms and definitions	5
3 Requirements	7
Annex A (informative) Background	9
Annex B (informative) Anthropometric data	10
Annex C (informative) Rationale	12
Annex D (normative) Measurement of cord length	13
Bibliography	15

Foreword

This document (EN 14682:2004) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 248 "Textiles and Textile products", the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2005, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2006.

Following the publication and implementation of this document in CEN member countries, it has been agreed by CEN TC 248 that there should be an 18 month transition period from the date of availability to allow manufacturers to develop and produce garments that conform to the standard. This period is also to allow the supply chain, from manufacturer through to the consumer, to be cleared of non-conforming garments.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

Introduction

The European Commission Mandate No. M/309 The Safety of Consumers: drawstrings or cords on children's clothing, issued 9 March 2001 requested that CEN develop standards or specifications to consider cords and drawstrings on clothing intended for children up to age 14.

The aim of this document is to minimise the risk of accidental entrapment by cords or drawstrings on children's clothing taking into account:

- a) The child's age.
- b) Normal behaviour and activities of children for their age and stage of development, for example playing in playgrounds, climbing trees, travelling by 'bus or train, ability to look after themselves, and where relevant, level of supervision.
- c) National accident statistics indicate that serious accidents involving cords and drawstrings on children's clothing fall into two main groups by age of child:
- d) Younger Children: Entrapment of hood cords in playground equipment such as slides, resulting in fatalities.
- e) Older Children and Young Persons: Entrapment of cords and strings from the waist and lower hems of garments in moving vehicles such as 'bus doors, ski lifts and bicycles resulting in severe injuries or death from being dragged along or run over by the vehicle.

In addition elasticated hood or neck cords have resulted in a number of facial injuries.

Children's clothing sold in the EU is usually sold by height as the primary measurement, sometimes with age as an additional indicator. Clothing for babies (up to around 1 year of age) is generally sold by length of the baby although some countries use the baby's weight. All chest, waist, and hip measurements are secondary measurements.