BS EN 14682:2014

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

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National foreword

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee TCI/66/-/2, Safety of children's clothing.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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

Sicherheit von Kinderbekleidung - Kordeln und Zugbänder an Kinderbekleidung - Anforderungen

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Foreword

This document (EN 14682:2014) 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2015, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2015.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 14682:2007.

EN 14682:2014 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 14682:2007:

a) Clause 1 'Scope':

New clause for bags and purses that are often sold as co-ordinating accessories for children’s clothing

b) Clause 2 'Terms and definitions':

1) Re-ordered to be more logical for user, with several new terms;

2) 2.10 definition for belt added, to differentiate from tied belt;

3) 2.11 revised definition of tie belt or sash;

4) 2.12 braces (suspenders) new definition;

5) 2.19 open to its largest and laid flat, new definition;

6) 2.20 relaxed natural state, new definition;

7) 2.21 three dimensional embellishment, new definition;

8) 2.22 hood neck and upper chest, changed to head, neck and upper chest. The use of the term 'head' ensures consistent terminology with parts of body specified and not parts of garment.

c) Clause 3 'Requirements':

1) 3.1.4 new NOTE to consider functional hanger loops. 3.2 and 3.3 term hood deleted and replaced by head.

2) Requirements now consider the different risks for front and back of garment, and specification corrected accordingly.

3) 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3 decorative cords are now permitted for young children with restrictions which specifically consider strangulation hazards. This is consistent with permitting stitched embellishments, for example bows.

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4) 3.2.5, 3.2.6 and 3.3.4, 3.3.5 deal with shoulder straps and halter neck styles. Ring and slider mechanisms are commonly used to permit adjustment of the strap in wear, to ensure close fit and functionality of the garment. The loops created by these straps will be variable, and may be greater than 7,5 cm. However as these are close fitting to the body, no loop should present an entrapment hazard.

   3.4 has been revised. Examination of garments shows that those clothes that are worn from waist down can be defined as those that fit closely to the body to be functional. Strings at the waist on these garments when closed to the body will be low hazard, and some requirements have been relaxed. Other garments can be more flowing, for example unbuttoned coats. In these garments, requirements have been strengthened.

d) 3.7 sleeves: The original text assumed strings protruded from lower hems only, and that sleeves were long or short. This did not reflect fashion. Clauses have been revised to consider strings other than at hems, and all lengths of sleeve

e) Annex B: new paragraph to clarify that anthropometric data listed is that used to define children's sizes in EN 14682:2014, where the tallest children in Europe were considered.

f) Annex C: enhanced to provide rationale for exclusions from scope, and rationale for requirements for lengths of drawstrings and cords. Explanation that manufacturers need to be more aware of how product is likely to be used, and not what it is called as a garment type.

g) Annex D, new improved methods for measurement of

   — sash or tied belt,

   — garment open to its largest and laid flat,

   — garment in its relaxed natural state.

h) Annex F, improved figures provided to illustrate requirements.

i) To assist the reader, throughout this European Standard, the terms defined in Clause 2 'Terms and definitions' are in italics.

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, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

The European Commission Mandate No. M/309, related to the safety of consumers of drawstrings or cords on children's clothing and issued on 9 March 2001, requested that CEN develops standards or specifications to consider cords and drawstrings on clothing intended for children up to age 14 years.

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

a) the child's age;

b) 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;

   1) younger children: entrapment of hood cords in playground equipment such as slides, resulting in fatalities;

   2) 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.

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1 Scope

This European Standard specifies requirements for cords and drawstrings on children's clothing, including disguise costumes and ski apparel, up to the age of 14 years.

Within the scope of this European Standard, it is not possible to cover all potential hazards that may create an unsafe garment.

Conversely, identifiable specific hazards in certain styles/design of garment might not present a risk for certain age groups.

It is recommended that an individual risk assessment be carried out on any garment in order to ensure that it does not present a hazard to the wearer

This European Standard does not apply to the following (see Annex C for rationale):

a) child use and care articles, for example bibs, nappies and soother holders;

b) shoes, boots and similar footwear;

c) gloves, hats, bonnets and scarves;

d) neckties designed to be worn with a shirt or blouse;

e) belts, with the exception of tied belts which are within scope;

f) braces;

g) religious clothing;

h) celebratory clothing such as that worn at civil or religious ceremonies, national or regional festivals provided this is worn for limited periods and under supervision;

i) specialist sportswear and activity wear generally worn for limited periods and under supervision, for example rugby shorts, wet suits, and dancewear, except where those garments are commonly worn as day wear or night wear;

j) theatrical costumes used for theatrical performances;

k) aprons intended to be worn over day wear, for limited periods and under supervision, to protect clothing from soiling during activities such as painting, cooking, or during meal times;

l) bags and purses.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

2.1
young child
person aged from birth to up age 7 years (that is up to and including 6 years and 11 months) which includes all children up to and including a height of 134 cm

Note 1 to entry: See Annex B.

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2.2
older child and young person
person aged from 7 years up to age 14 years (that is up to and including 13 years and 11 months) which includes all boys of height greater than 134 cm up to 182 cm and girls of height greater than 134 cm up to 176 cm

Note 1 to entry: See Annex B.

2.3
children's clothing
all garments intended by design, production route or selling route to be worn by children up to the age of 14 years

2.4
functional cord
cord, chain, ribbon, string or tape, made of any textile or non-textile material including elastic material, which is used to adjust the size of the opening, or part of the garment or to fasten the garment itself

2.5
drawstring
cord, chain, ribbon, string or tape, made of any textile or non-textile material including elastic material, which passes through a channel, loop(s) or eyelet(s) or similar, to adjust the size of the opening, or part of the garment or to fasten the garment itself

Note 1 to entry: The protruding length of the drawstring may increase when closure is effected.

Note 2 to entry: For some garments, a drawstring may be a loop with a tightening device rather than a single length with two ends that may or may not be tied.

2.6
decorative cord
non-functional cord, chain, ribbon, string or tape, made of any textile or non-textile material including elastic material, with free end with or without embellishment such as toggle, pom-pom, feather or bead, which is not intended to be used to adjust the size of the garment opening or fasten the garment itself

Note 1 to entry: Fringes are considered as a series of decorative cords.

Note 2 to entry: Free ends of fixed bows are considered as decorative cords.

2.7
elastic cord
cord containing yarns of rubber or elastodiene or elastane polymer or similar, having high extensibility and complete or near complete recovery

2.8
shoulder strap
cord, chain, ribbon, string or tape, made of any textile or non-textile material including elastic material, joining the front and back of a garment top together, which is close fitting and passes over the shoulder

2.9
halter neck cord
cord, chain, ribbon, string or tape, made of any textile or non-textile material including elastic material, worn round the back of the neck holding the garment (for example dress, blouse or bikini) top leaving the shoulder and back bare

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2.10
belt (excluding tied belts)
strip of any material, with fastening mechanism such as buckle, worn round chest or waist area used to hold up clothing or as decoration

2.11
tied belt or sash
decorative or functional piece of any material of not less than 3 cm width tied round the chest or waist area of a garment

Note 1 to entry: Tied belt or sash may or may not fully encircle the body.

Note 2 to entry: If the width is less than 3 cm, these are considered as cords or drawstrings.

2.12
braces
suspenders
pair of shoulder straps, often elasticated, joining the front and back of a pair of trousers or skirt or similar garments covering the lower body used to hold the garment up

Note 1 to entry: Braces may be removable or permanently attached.

2.13
stirrup
strip of textile or non-textile material attached to both sides of the lower hem of a trouser such that it passes under the foot or shoe to create a close fit to the wearer

2.14
toggle
wooden, plastic, metal or otherwise composed piece attached to or present on, a drawstring, functional cord or decorative cord

Note 1 to entry: Toggles may or may not be functional.

2.15
loop
cord or narrow strip of fabric, which may be fixed or adjustable in length, where both ends are attached to the garment

2.16
zip puller
fitting attached to the slider body to facilitate manipulation

2.17
zip slider
moving component consisting essentially of a slider body and, normally, a puller, which opens or closes the fastener by separating or engaging the interlocking members

Note 1 to entry The slider might incorporate a locking device. Alternative slider types are available with a flip-over puller or double pullers, to facilitate operation from both front and back sides.

2.18
adjusting tab
strip of textile or non-textile material not less than 2 cm in width intended to adjust the size of opening on a garment or for decoration , for example at the ankle or sleeve cuff

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2.19
open to its largest and laid flat
garment or part of a garment extended to its fullest size to remove gathering or effect of elastication without deforming or stretching the fabric beyond its natural state, or damaging the garment construction or stitching

Note 1 to entry: See D.3.

2.20
relaxed natural state
measurement when garment is laid flat with garment part, for example waistband, in its natural position (neither extended nor contracted)

Note 1 to entry: See D.4.

2.21
three dimensional embellishment
decorative item attached to a cord that is thicker and/or wider than the cord itself

Note 1 to entry: Thin materials such as plastic sleeving (boot lace ends) which are not thicker than the cord itself are not considered as three dimensional embellishments.

2.22
head, neck and upper chest area
whole of head, neck and throat, and upper front chest from shoulders to the top of the arm pits (axillae) excluding arm

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1, zone A.

2.23
chest and waist area
front part of the body from the chest level with the armpits (axillae) to the hip level with the crotch

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1, zone B.

2.24
below hip area
part of the body below the hip, level with the crotch

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1, zone C.

2.25
back area
posterior part of the body and legs, excluding head and neck

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1, zone D.

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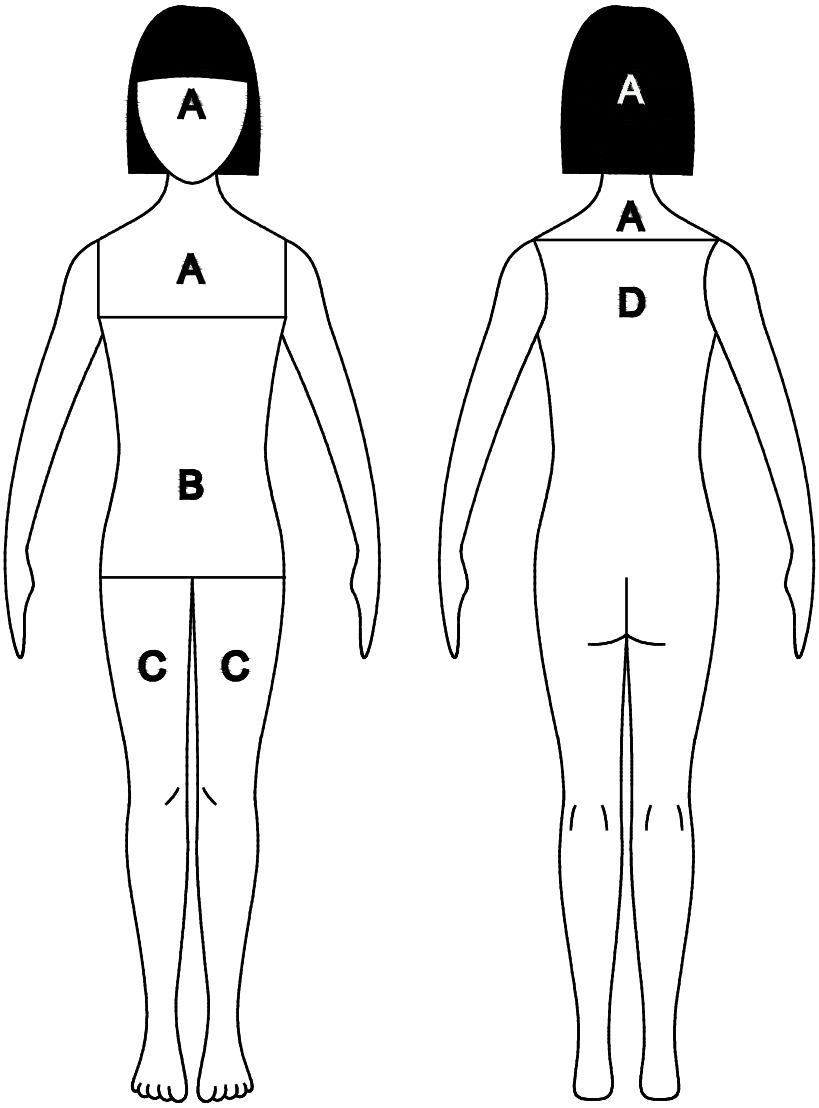

Key

A head, neck and upper chest area

B chest and waist area

C below hip area

D back area

Figure 1 — Body zones

2.26
short sleeve
sleeve designed to end at or above the elbow

2.27
long sleeve
sleeve designed to end below the elbow

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3 Requirements

3.1 General

IMPORTANT. The requirements provided in this standard are applicable to the inside and outside of the garment. It is possible through risk assessment of the specific style that some features which are wholly inside the garment when worn may be acceptable as they are not a hazard to the wearer.

3.1.1 The free ends of *drawstrings, functional cords*, and *tied belts or sashes* shall have no knots or *three-dimensional embellishments* and shall be secured to prevent fraying, for example by heat sealing or bar tacking. The ends may be doubled or folded provided no hazard of entrapment is created. Knots and *three-dimensional embellishments* along the length of the free ends are not permitted.

3.1.2 *Toggles* shall only be used on *drawstrings* with no free ends, or *decorative cords* (for example, see Figure F.1 and F.8).

3.1.3 Where *drawstrings* are permitted, they shall be attached to the garment, for example using a bar tack, in at least one point positioned equidistant from the exit points (for example, see Figure F.3).

3.1.4 Fixed *loops*, which protrude from the garment, for example to fasten, or loops on fixed bows, shall be no more than 7,5 cm in circumference. Flat *loops* which do not protrude from the garments, for example belt *loops*, shall be no more than 7,5 cm in length, between the fixed points of attachment to the garment (for example, see Figure F.4).

NOTE Functional hanger loops and other loops inside the garment are permitted if a risk assessment shows that they are not a hazard to the wearer (see Annex E).

3.1.5 *Zip pullers* including any embellishment shall be not longer than 7,5 cm in length from *zip slider.*

3.1.6 *Zip pullers* with or without embellishment shall not hang below the lower edge of garments designed to finish at the ankle (for example, see Figure F.5)

3.1.7 All measurements shall be carried out in accordance with Annex D.

3.2 Head, neck and upper chest area on garments for young children (Figure 1, zone A)

3.2.1 Garments intended for *young children* shall not be designed, manufactured or supplied with *drawstrings or functional cords* in the *head, neck or upper chest area*.

3.2.2 *Decorative cords* shall not be permitted anywhere on the hood or at the back of the neck.

3.2.3 In other parts of neck and upper chest areas, *decorative cords* shall have free ends no longer than 7,5 cm, shall have no knots, toggles or three dimensional embellishments and shall not be positioned so they can tie across the throat.

Decorative cords shall not be made from *elastic cords.*

NOTE The hazard from elastic cords is that they may "snap" back to face or neck resulting in injury. Elasticated shoulder straps and halter necks fit close to the body and do not pose the same risk.

3.2.4 *Adjusting tabs* are permissible provided that the length is no more than 7,5 cm, and shall have no button, toggle, buckle on the free end which may present an entrapment hazard.

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