

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes –  
Part 2-3: Particular requirements for switched socket-outlets without interlock  
for fixed installations**



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**Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes –  
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for fixed installations**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**PLUGS AND SOCKET-OUTLETS FOR HOUSEHOLD  
AND SIMILAR PURPOSES –****Part 2-3: Particular requirements for switched socket-outlets  
without interlock for fixed installations**

## FOREWORD

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**This redline version of the official IEC Standard allows the user to identify the changes made to the previous edition IEC 60884-2-3:2006. A vertical bar appears in the margin wherever a change has been made. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text.**

IEC 60884-2-3 has been prepared by subcommittee 23B: Plugs, socket-outlets and switches, of IEC technical committee 23: Electrical accessories. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2006. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

a) alignment to IEC 60884-1, fourth edition.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

| Draft         | Report on voting |
|---------------|------------------|
| 23B/1546/FDIS | 23B/1560/RVD     |

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

This document is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60884-1:2022.

This document supplements or modifies the corresponding clauses in IEC 60884-1:2022, so as to convert that publication into the IEC standard: Particular requirements for switched socket-outlets without interlock for fixed installations.

When a particular subclause of IEC 60884-1:2022 is mentioned in this document, that subclause applies as far as reasonable. Where this document states "addition", "modification" or "replacement", the relevant text of IEC 60884-1:2022 is to be adapted accordingly.

In this document the following print types are used:

- requirements proper: in roman type;
- *test specification: in italic type;*
- explanatory notes: in small roman type.

Subclauses, notes, figures and tables or figures which are additional to those in IEC 60884-1:2022 are numbered starting from 101.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60884 series, published under the general title *Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under [webstore.iec.ch](http://webstore.iec.ch) in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn, or
- revised.

## PLUGS AND SOCKET-OUTLETS FOR HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR PURPOSES –

### Part 2-3: Particular requirements for switched socket-outlets without interlock for fixed installations

#### 1 Scope

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 1 is applicable except as follows.

*Replacement of the first paragraph:*

This part of IEC 60884 applies to switched socket-outlets without interlock, for fixed installation, for AC only, with or without earthing contact, with a rated voltage not exceeding 440 V and a rated current not exceeding 32 A, intended for household and similar purposes, either indoors or outdoors.

~~NOTE 101—Switched socket-outlets can also be produced by combining a socket-outlet of IEC 60884-1 and a switch of IEC 60669-1<sup>1)</sup>.~~

This document applies to socket-outlets controlled by a manually operated mechanical switch.

#### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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.

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 2 is applicable except as follows.

*Addition:*

IEC 60884-1:2022, *Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes – Part 1: General requirements*

#### 3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 3 is applicable except as follows.

<sup>1)</sup>~~IEC 60669-1, Switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations – Part 1: General requirements~~

*Addition:*

### **3.101**

#### **switched socket-outlet**

factory assembled ~~unit~~ accessory consisting of a socket-outlet with a switch controlling the socket-outlet

### **3.102**

#### **multiple switched socket-outlet**

accessory incorporating more than one switched socket-outlet, each socket-outlet being controlled by its own switch

### **3.103**

#### **switch**

device designed to make or break the current in one or more electric circuits

### **3.104**

#### **one operation**

transfer of the moving contacts from one operating position to another

## **4 General requirements**

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 4 is applicable.

## **5 General ~~notes~~ remarks on tests**

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 5 is applicable.

## **6 Ratings**

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 6 is applicable except as follows.

*Addition:*

### **6.101 Ratings of switched socket-outlets**

Switches of switched socket-outlets shall have current and voltage ratings not less than those of the socket-outlets they control.

## **7 Classification**

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 7 is applicable except as follows.

### **7.2 Socket-outlet classification**

*Addition:*

#### **7.2.101 Switched socket-outlets are classified:**

##### **7.2.101.1 According to the method of actuating the switch:**

- rotary ~~switches~~;
- tumbler ~~switches~~;
- rocker ~~switches~~;

- push-button ~~switches~~;
- cord-operated ~~switches~~.

#### 7.2.101.2 According to the switching of the neutral:

- switched ~~neutral~~;
- unswitched ~~neutral~~.

## 8 Marking

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 8 is applicable except as follows.

### 8.1 General

*Addition after the seventh dash:*

- symbol for mini-gap construction, if applicable.

### 8.2 Symbols

*Addition before Note 1:*

- Mini-gap construction            m
- Open position (off)            O
- Close position (on)            I

*Addition:*

#### 8.101 Identification of line terminals

Terminals intended for the connection of line conductors shall be identified unless the method of connection is not important, is self-evident or is indicated on a wiring diagram. Such identification may take the form of a letter L or, in the case of more than one such terminal, the letters L1, L2, L3, etc., which may be accompanied by an arrow or arrows pointing to the relevant terminal or terminals.

For two-, three-, and four-pole switches, terminals associated with any one pole shall have similar identification, if applicable, differing from that of the terminals associated with the other poles, unless the relationship is self-evident.

These indications shall not be placed on screws or any other easily removable parts.

*Compliance is checked by inspection.*

#### 8.102 Indication of the actual switch position

Two-, three-, and four-pole switches and switches having a rated voltage exceeding 250 V or a rated current exceeding 16 A shall be marked such that either the direction of movement of the actuating member to its different positions or the actual switch position is clearly indicated.

The indications shall be clearly visible on the front of the switched socket-outlet when fitted with its cover or cover plate. If these indications are placed on the cover or cover plate, it shall not be possible to fix it in a position such that the indications are incorrect.

For the indication of direction of movement of the operating means, symbols may be used.

The closed position (on) shall be clearly indicated.

*Compliance is checked by inspection.*

## 9 Checking of dimensions

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 9 is applicable.

## 10 Protection against electric shock

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 10 is applicable except as follows.

*Addition:*

### 10.101 Requirements for operating parts

Knobs, operating levers, push-buttons, rockers and the like, for operating switches in switched socket-outlets, shall be of insulating material, unless their accessible metal parts are separated from the metal parts of the mechanism by double insulation or reinforced insulation or, as an alternative, they are reliably connected to earth.

*Compliance is checked by inspection and by the tests of Clause 17 and Clause 21.*

### 10.102 Requirements for accessible metal parts

Metal parts of the switch mechanism, such as the spindle or the pivot of the dolly or rocker, that are not insulated from live parts, shall not protrude from the enclosure.

*Compliance is checked by inspection, if necessary, after the actuating member has been removed or broken. If the actuating member has to be broken, compliance is checked after the test of Clause 28.*

~~NOTE If the actuating member has to be broken, compliance is checked after the test of Clause 28.~~

### 10.103 Requirements for insulation of the mechanism

Metal parts of the switch mechanism, such as the spindle or the pivot of the dolly or rocker shall not be accessible when the switched socket-outlet is fixed as in normal use.

In addition, these parts shall be insulated from accessible metal parts, including metal frames supporting the base of flush-type switched socket-outlets, liable to be mounted in a metal box, and from screws for fixing the base to its support.

The additional requirement does not apply if the metal parts of the mechanism are separated from live parts in such a way that the creepage distances and clearances have at least twice the values specified in 27.1 or alternatively, if they are reliably connected to earth.

*Compliance is checked by inspection and, if necessary, by measurement and by tests of Clause 17 and Clause 20.*

## 11 Provision for earthing

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 11 is applicable.

## 12 Terminals and terminations

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 12 is applicable.

## 13 Construction of fixed socket-outlets

IEC 60884-1:2022, Clause 13 is applicable except as follows.

*Addition:*

### 13.101 Construction of multiple switched socket-outlets

Multiple switched socket-outlets shall be constructed so that each socket-outlet is controlled by its own switch.

*Compliance is checked by inspection.*

### 13.102 Switch poles

Switches shall be constructed to match the number of poles on the socket-outlet, except that the neutral pole is not switched in unswitched neutral socket-outlets.

The earthing contact is not considered as a pole and the earth circuit shall not be switched.

The position of the switch-operating member shall be such that it does not prevent, nor shall its correct operation be prevented by the proper insertion of the corresponding plug or plugs.

**NOTE** In the following country, the switch shall switch both the line and neutral: ZA.

### 13.~~102~~103 Actuating member

Knobs of rotary switches shall be securely coupled to the shaft or the part operating the mechanism.

*The knob is subjected for 1 min to an axial pull of 100 N.*

*After this, knobs of switches having only one direction of operation are turned, if possible, without undue force, 100 times in the reverse direction.*

*During the test, the knob shall not become detached.*

### 13.~~103~~104 Indication of the position

The actuating member of a switch, when released, shall automatically take up the position corresponding to that of the moving contacts, except that, for those switches with a single push-button, the actuating member may take up a single rest position.

*Compliance is checked by inspection and by manual test.*

### 13.~~104~~105 Rest and intermediate position

Switches shall be so constructed that the moving contacts can come to rest only in the "on" or "off" position, an intermediate position being, however, permissible if it corresponds to the intermediate position of the actuating member, and if the insulation between the fixed and moving contacts is then adequate.