

Australian Standard®

Timber—Handles for tools

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee TM/7, Sawn, Milled and Speciality Timber Products. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 20 October 1993 and published on 17 January 1994.

The following interests are represented on Committee TM/7:

Australian Federation of Timber Merchants Association
Australian Hardwood Quality Council
Australian Timber Importers Federation
Forestry Commission of New South Wales
National Association of Forest Industries
Queensland Forest Service
Radiata Pine Association of Australia
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
Woods and Forest Department South Australia

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Sawn, Milled and Speciality Timber Products to supersede AS 1729—1975, *Timber handles for tools*. After allowing sufficient time for adjustment the previous edition will be withdrawn on June 30, 1994.

This revision was undertaken to provide uniform tolerances and grade limits for timber handles which reflect current log supply characteristics. This has resulted in changes to style, format and expression, which accommodate current Standards Australia practice and include the following:

- (a) Grade C for non-striking tool handles of Australian species has been deleted, leaving two grades only for both striking and non-striking tool handles.
- (b) For hickory handles, Grades AAW, AR and BR have been eliminated, leaving Grades AW and BW.
- (c) Manufacturers' eye sizes have been deleted to avoid confusion with replacement sizes.
- (d) Tables referring to non-striking tool handles in Appendix C have been revised, deleting small hand tool handles and placing greater emphasis on long and short shovel handles.

These changes are intended to reflect current raw material supply and to establish realistic and achievable requirements.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendices. An 'informative' appendix is for information and guidance only.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

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SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE This Standard describes quality requirements for hickory and Australian hardwood handles for striking and non-striking hand tools.

The requirements for hickory handles apply equally to striking and non-striking tools. Separate requirements are specified for Australian hardwood handles for striking and non-striking tools.

Recommended patterns and dimensions of handles, and timber species recommended for handles, are given in the appendices.

1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

1080 Methods of testing timber

1080.1 Method 1: Moisture content*

1148 Nomenclature of commercial timbers imported into Australia

1728 Types of timber surfaces

2543 Nomenclature of Australian timbers

O1 Glossary of terms used in timber Standards

1.3 DEFINITIONS For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS O1 and those below apply:

1.3.1 Bird peck (in hickory)—a small hole or patch of disturbed grain.

1.3.2 Density—the mass per unit volume, usually expressed in kilograms per cubic metre and, where applied to seasoned timber, measured when the timber is at 12% moisture content.

1.3.3 Fibres—elongated, thick-walled, narrow structural elements (cells) of which wood is largely composed.

1.3.4 Heavy stain—prominent discolouration, usually blue, which obscures the grain of the wood.

1.3.5 Irregular grain—a steep local deviation of grain from the general slope of grain. (Known as 'dipped grain' in hickory.)

1.3.6 Light stain—a stain which does not obscure the grain of the wood.

1.3.7 Mineral streak—calcareous and other types of organic substances that occur in certain timbers. Visible forms of mineral deposit range from small white or yellow flecks in the pores to comparatively large masses in fissures and other cavities in the wood.

* In course of revision.