

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

# Suspended ceilings — Design and installation

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AS/NZS 2785:2020

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The following are represented on Committee BD-035:

- Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries of Australia
- Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries of New Zealand
- Australian Aluminium Council
- Business New Zealand
- Cement Concrete & Aggregates Australia
- Engineering New Zealand
- Engineers Australia
- Gypsum Board Manufacturers of Australasia
- New Zealand Institute of Architects

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR2 AS/NZS 2785:2019.

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## **Suspended ceilings — Design and installation**

Originated as AS 2785—1985.  
Jointly revised and designated as AS/NZS 2785:2000.  
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## Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee BD-035, Ceiling Systems, to supersede AS/NZS 2785:2000.

The objective of this Standard is to provide the minimum requirements for the design, construction, installation, maintenance, and testing of internal and external non-trafficable suspended ceiling systems of dry construction with suspension systems for commercial and industrial applications. This Standard also applies to domestic structures designed in accordance with AS 1170.4 in Australia.

This Standard is based on limit states philosophy and covers aspects of the design and performance requirements, installation, workmanship, maintenance, and testing of suspended ceiling systems.

This edition incorporates the following major changes:

- (a) The word “load” has been replaced by the word “action” to be consistent with the terminology for structural design and the AS/NZS 1170 series of Standards.
- (b) The definitions have been substantially upgraded.
- (c) The word “fastener” has replaced the word “fixing”.
- (d) The concept of Seismic Grade (SG) of the ceiling has been introduced.
- (e) Design Producer’s Statement (PS) has been introduced.
- (f) Construction Monitoring (CM) has been introduced.
- (g) The concept of Specific Engineering Design (SED) has been introduced.
- (h) [Section 2](#), Design requirements, has been substantially revised including earthquake and wind design.
- (i) Restraint of luminaires has been added.
- (j) The design of fasteners into concrete has been revised.
- (k) The acoustic requirements have been modified.
- (l) Detailing, ceiling restraints and services interaction has been included in [Section 4](#).
- (m) Testing and verification methods have been upgraded in [Section 6](#).
- (n) The appendices have been upgraded.

In its deliberations, Committee BD-035 has considered the following documents:

ASTM C635, *Standard Specification for the Manufacture, Performance and Testing of Metal Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panel Ceilings*

ASTM C636, *Standard Practice for Installation of Metal Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panels*

ASTM E580, *Standard Practice for Installation of Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panels in Areas Subject to Earthquake Ground Motions*

ASTM E1264, *Standard Classification for Acoustical Ceiling Products*

EN 13964, *Suspended ceilings — Requirements and test methods*

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

This Standard includes a commentary on some of the clauses. The commentary directly follows the relevant clause, is designated by “C” preceding the clause number and is printed in italics in a box. The commentary is for information and guidance and does not form part of the Standard.

The terms “normative” and “informative” have been used in Standards to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A “normative” appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an “informative” appendix is only for information and guidance.

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