

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Flotation aids for water familiarization
and swimming tuition**



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AS/NZS 1900:2014

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This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee CS-021, Swimming Aids. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 29 July 2014 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 13 June 2014.

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The following are represented on Committee CS-021:

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Australian Toy Association
Austswim
Choice
Consumers Federation Australia
National Retail Association
NSW Fair Trading
Royal Life Saving Society, Australia
Safekids New Zealand
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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS 1900.

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Flotation aids for water familiarization and swimming tuition

Originated in Australia as AS 1900—1976.
Previous edition AS 1900—2002.
Jointly revised and designated as AS/NZS 1900:2014.
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS-021, Swimming Aids, to supersede AS 1900—2002, *Flotation aids for water familiarization and swimming tuition*.

This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (June 2015). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.

The principal difference from the previous edition is a revision of the ‘strength of sewed seams’ and the ‘fastener security’ clauses. These clauses had been causing some concern amongst manufacturers and this prompted the review and subsequent revision of the Standard.

During the review, Committee CS-021 revisited the category of devices covered by the Standard and agreed that flotation toys would remain under the AS/NZS ISO 8124 series, *Safety of toys*, and that unattached flotation devices would still not form part of AS/NZS 1900. In addition, a review of the current European Standards was conducted. The EN 13138 series, *Buoyant aids for swimming instruction*, was considered to be more complex and comprehensive than necessary. It was agreed that AS 1900—2002 be revised rather than to adopt the European Standard.

Other changes of note in this revision include:

- (a) An update of the referenced documents.
- (b) Additional clause on strength of fabric.
- (c) An update to the requirement for threads in load bearing parts so that the use of natural fibres is not allowed.
- (d) A reduction of the leaking/bursting pressure for inflatable flotation aids from 15 kPa to 10 kPa.
- (e) Clarification on strength of sewed seams.
- (f) Additional force requirement for side release fasteners.
- (g) Inclusion of a small parts test.
- (h) A new requirement to ensure that markings are resistant to chlorinated water and ultraviolet light.
- (i) An amendment of the warnings to be consistent with the text specified in EN 13138, however the lettering size remains at a minimum of 6 mm (compared with 5 mm in the European Standard).
- (j) The deletion of cadmium plating as an acceptable coating for metal parts.
- (k) An update to the body mass to age equivalence shown in tables throughout this Standard to more closely align with current averages for body mass based on the age of the intended user.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard 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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