AS 16321.1:2026

Australian STANDARD®

STANDARDS Australia

Eye and face protection for occupational use

Part 1: General requirements (ISO 16321-1:2021, MOD)



AS 16321.1:2026

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Eye and face protection for occupational use

Part 1: General requirements (ISO 16321-1:2021, MOD)

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How to read this Standard

This page explains the meaning of the language and structure of this Standard.

Refer to Standards Australia's Standardisation Guide 006 for more details about drafting rules.

Australian and Australian/New Zealand Standards are voluntary unless they are referenced in legislation or called up in contracts.

Requirements

To conform to a Standard, all requirements in the Standard need to be met.

A requirement is any statement in the Standard which uses the word "shall".

Recommendations, permissions and possibilities

The following words are commonly used in Standards, but statements using them do not have to be followed to conform to the Standard:

(a) "should" means that something is recommended.

(b) "may" means that something is permitted.

(c) "can" means that something is possible.

Structure of Standards

A Standard always has the following parts:

(i) The Preface states who developed the Standard, what the Standard is aiming to do, and how it relates to other documents.

(ii) The Scope states what the Standard is about, what it covers and what it does not cover.

(iii) The Normative references clause lists other documents that are referenced in the Standard as part of requirements.

(iv) The Terms and definitions clause defines important terms to help with understanding the Standard.

A Standard may also include other parts, such as the following:

(1) A normative appendix sets additional requirements that need to be conformed to.

(2) An informative appendix provides additional information or guidance. They usually do not contain requirements. If an informative appendix does contain requirements, the Standard will explain when those requirements apply.

(3) A Bibliography lists documents referenced in the Standard but not as part of requirements.

Many Standards include notes. Notes provide recommendations and/or guidance only. They never contain requirements.

This Standard is a modified adoption of an International Standard. It makes changes to the international text.

The changes to the international text are shown in boxes in the text. These boxes have the heading "National Variations".

To use this Standard in Australia/New Zealand, the changes in the national variation boxes need to be followed.

Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee SF-006, Eye and Face Protection, to supersede AS/NZS 1337.1, *Personal eye protection, Part 1: Eye and face protectors for occupational applications* (in part), AS/NZS 1337.6, *Personal eye protection, Part 6: Prescription eye protectors against low and medium impact,* AS/NZS 1338.2, *Filters for eye protectors, Part 2: Filters for protection against ultraviolet radiation* and AS/NZS 1338.3, *Filters for eye protectors, Part 2: Filters for protection against infrared radiation*.

AS/NZS 1337.1:2010, AS/NZS 1337.6:2012, AS/NZS 1338.2:2012 and AS/NZS 1338.3:2012 will remain current for 36 months from the date of publication of this document. After this time, they will be superseded by AS 16321.1:2026. Regulatory authorities that reference these Standards in regulation may apply these requirements at a different time. Users of these Standards should consult with these authorities to confirm their requirements.

The objective of this document is to specify general requirements for eye and face protectors. These protectors are intended to provide protection for the eyes and faces of persons against one or more common occupational hazards such as impacts from flying particles and fragments, optical radiation, dusts, splashing liquids, molten metals, heat, flame, hot solids, harmful gases, vapours and aerosols.

A list of all parts in the AS 16321 series can be found in the Standards Australia online catalogue.

This document is an adoption with national modifications and has been reproduced from ISO 16321-1:2021, *Eye and face protection for occupational use — Part 1: General requirements* and its Amendment 1 (2024). The modifications are set out in national variations boxes which give instructions where the ISO text is to be modified for use in Australia. Due to ISO copyright policy, it is not possible to directly modify the ISO content.

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by ISO/TC 94, *Personal safety — Personal protective equipment*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Eye and face protection*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 85, *Eye protective equipment*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This document cancels and replaces ISO 4849:1981, ISO 4851:1979, ISO 4852:1978 and ISO 4856:1982.

A list of all parts in the ISO 16321 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

NATIONAL VARIATION

Delete "A guidance document, ISO 19734, for the selection, use and maintenance of eye and face protectors is under preparation."

The family of documents comprised of the ISO 16321 series, the ISO 18526 series and the ISO 18527 series was developed in response to the worldwide stakeholders' demand for minimum requirements and test methods for eye and face protectors traded internationally. ISO 4007 gives the terms and definitions for all the various product types. The test methods are given in the ISO 18526 series, while the requirements for occupational eye and face protectors are given in the ISO 16321 series. Eye protectors for specific sports are mostly dealt with by the ISO 18527 series. A guidance document, ISO 19734, for the selection, use and maintenance of eye and face protectors is under preparation.

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Eye and face protection for occupational use

Part 1: General requirements (ISO 16321-1:2021, MOD)

1 Scope

NATIONAL VARIATIONS

1. In the second paragraph, *delete* "ISO 16321-2" and *replace* with "AS 16321.2".

2. In the fourth paragraph, after "laser protectors", *insert* "for which the ISO 19818 series applies".

This document specifies general requirements for eye and face protectors. These protectors are intended to provide protection for the eyes and faces of persons against one or more common occupational hazards such as impacts from flying particles and fragments, optical radiation, dusts, splashing liquids, molten metals, heat, flame, hot solids, harmful gases, vapours and aerosols.

Additional requirements for eye and face protectors used during welding and related techniques and for mesh protectors are given in ISO 16321-2 and ISO 16321-3, respectively.

This document applies to:

— all plano as well as corrective and prescription lensed protectors and components;

— those eye and face protectors used for occupational-type tasks that are performed similarly to an occupation, e.g. "do-it-yourself";

— those eye and face protectors used in educational establishments.

This document does not apply to:

— protectors specifically intended for protection against only solar radiation and used in non-occupational environments for which the ISO 12312 series applies;

— protectors for medically prescribed applications (not occupational), e.g. eye protection for severe dry eye, tints prescribed for medical conditions;

— patient eye protectors during diagnosis or treatment (e.g. ISO/TR 22463);

— protectors for use during medical or e.g. aesthetic applications, e.g. intense light sources (ILS) for which the ISO 12609 series applies;

— protectors specifically intended for sports for which the ISO 18527 series applies;

— laser protectors;

— face protectors intended for live-working to protect against short-circuit electric arcs for which IEC 62819 applies;

— protectors intended to protect against ionizing radiation, e.g. X-rays, for which IEC 61331-3 applies.

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