

AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT 2023

As of 2023, there have been several updates to existing public space standards, including the introduction of Australian versions of European standards, which have not been available in a specifically Australian version previously.

Where updates have been made, the intention is to align the European standards with local Australian standards. Most of these relate to local building codes and supporting standards, which is why as an example, the AS4685:2021 standard is a modified version of EN1176.

Where modifications or differences exist between the European and Australian standards, the changes are included within the standards document, typically as a ZZ appendix found at the end of each part of the relevant standard.

Total Training Group has incorporated all changes and updates to current Australian standards covered within our course offerings.

It is worth noting that while the Australian standards referenced within our courses are not specifically all legislation, permanent structures such as playgrounds are considered class 10b structures under the Building Code of Australia and must have these standards applied as a set of minimum requirements for compliance, best practice and insurance purposes.

Unfortunately, there are still those who may not understand that these standards are not voluntary; however, in any instance which involves a structure under the auspices of the Building Code or NCC, this simply is not the case.

Not applying standards or ensuring you have the correct compliance documentation, or taking on a role without correct competency (for example, engineering or building certifier qualifications) would be considered negligent and leave the designer, installer and site operator vulnerable to legal claims.

Structural requirements are also contained within some of these standards and must be certified by an Engineer specifically licensed to operate in the relevant state or territory.

The below list shows the standards which have been updated or introduced recently. Many other supporting standards could apply to public spaces; however, only the main standards as they relate to the courses we provide are listed.

AS 16630:2021 Permanently installed outdoor fitness equipment – Safety requirements and test methods (EN 16630:2015, MOD)

Australian version of the EN16630:2015 standard with minor modification. First public fitness equipment standard in Australia.

AS 4422:2022 Playground Surfacing – Specifications, requirements and test method (Revision of AS/NZS4422:2016)

Interim revision of AS4422:2016, expires on 25th of November 2024. Clarifies some testing requirements.

AS 4685.0:2017 Playground equipment and surfacing. Part 0: Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation (Revision of AS/NZS4486.1:1997)

Current inspection and maintenance standard.

AS 4685.1:2021 Playground equipment and surfacing. Part 1: General safety requirements and test methods (EN 1176-1:2017 MOD) (Revision of AS 4685.1:2014) Part 1 of current playground requirements.

AS 4685.2:2021 Playground equipment and surfacing. Part 2: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for swings (EN 1176-2:2017 MOD) (Revision of AS 4685.2:2014)

Part 2 of current playground requirements.

AS 4685.3:2021 Playground equipment and surfacing. Part 3: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for slides (EN 1176-3:2017 MOD) (Revision of AS 4685.3:2014)

Part 3 of current playground requirements.

AS 4685.4:2021 Playground equipment and surfacing. Part 4: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for cableways (EN 1176-4:2017 MOD)(Revision of AS 4685.4:2014)

Part 4 of current playground requirements.

AS 4685.5:2021 Playground equipment and surfacing. Part 5: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for carousels (EN 1176-1:2017 MOD) (Revision of AS 4685.5:2014)

Part 5 of current playground requirements.

AS 4685.6:2021 Playground equipment and surfacing. Part 6: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for rocking equipment (EN 1176-6:2017 MOD) (Revision of AS 4685.6:2014)

Part 6 of current playground requirements.

AS 4685.11:2014 Playground equipment. Part 11: Additional specific safety requirements and test methods for spatial network (EN 1176-11:2008, MOD) (Revision of AS 4685.11:2012)

Part 11 of current playground requirements.

AS 3533.4.2:2013 Amusement rides and devices. Part 4.2: Specific requirements - contained play facilities

Contained play and commercial premises standard. Elements and designs must be certified by an Engineer to comply with this standard.

Please note that Part 10 of EN1176 was not introduced into AS4685 and is covered by the AS3533.4.2:2013 standard.

Due to copyright we cannot offer these for download. These standards are available for purchase directly from [Standards Australia - SAI Global](https://standardsaustralia.com.au)

For further information please email training@playsafety.com.au or call us on 1300 393 931