

AS 1851 — 1976  
UDC 614.843

# Australian Standard 1851-1976

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## INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND FIRE HOSE REELS



**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**  
*Incorporated by Royal Charter*

**THE FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL organizations and departments were officially represented on the committees entrusted with the preparation of this standard:**

**Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia**

**Australian Chamber of Commerce**

**Australian Fire Board**

**Australian Fire Protection Association**

**Department of Construction**

**Department of Defence**

**Department of Local Government, Victoria**

**Department of Manufacturing Industry**

**Department of Transport**

**Departments of Labour and Industry**

**Electricity Supply Association of Australia**

**Fire Brigades**

**Insurance Council of Australia**

**Public Works Department, Victoria**

**Railways of Australia Committee**

**Royal Australian Institute of Architects**

**Telecom Australia**

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**This standard, prepared by Committee BD/18/3, Fire Extinguishers and BD/18/7, Fire Hose Reels, was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 10 October 1975 and was published on 1 April 1976.**

**To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian standards are regularly reviewed. Suggestions for improvement to published standards are welcomed; these should be addressed to the Headquarters of the Association, Sydney.**

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*This standard was issued in draft form for public review as DR 74161.*

**AUSTRALIAN STANDARD RULES**

**INSTALLATION AND  
MAINTENANCE OF  
PORTABLE FIRE  
EXTINGUISHERS AND  
FIRE HOSE REELS**

**AS 1851 — 1976**

<b>First published (as AS CA18)</b>	...	...	<b>1941</b>
<b>Revised</b>	....	....	<b>1964</b>
<b>Revised</b>	....	....	<b>1968</b>
<b>Revised and issued as AS 1851</b>	....	....	<b>1976</b>

**PUBLISHED BY THE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
STANDARDS HOUSE, 80 ARTHUR ST NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W. (Copyright)**

**ISBN 0 7262 0879 5**

Amendment No 2  
July 1977

26 JUL 1977

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**AMENDMENT NO 2**  
to  
**AS 1851—1976**

**INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE  
OF PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS  
AND FIRE HOSE REELS**

**SUMMARY:** The following sections of this standard are covered by this amendment: Reference number, Title, Preface.

17 SEP 1976

Amendment No 1  
September 1976

**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**

**Incorporated by Royal Charter**

**AMENDMENT No 1**

to

**AS 1851-1976**

**INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PORTABLE  
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND FIRE HOSE REELS**

**SUMMARY:** The following sections of the standard are covered by this amendment: Rules 2.2.3, 2.2.4, 2.3.2, 2.4.

**Reference number and Title.**

On cover and title page *alter* as follows:

**AS 1851, Parts 1 and 2—1976  
Maintenance of Fire Protection Equipment  
PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS  
AND FIRE HOSE REELS**

AMDT  
No 2  
July  
1977

26 MAR 1976

**PUBLISH  
STANDA**

## P R E F A C E

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committees on Fire Extinguishers (Part 1) and Fire Hose Reels (Part 2) as a revision and metrication of AS CA18—1968, which it accordingly supersedes. Its preparation is part of a programme of revision of all standards dealing with portable fire extinguishers and fire hose reels.

In Part 1 the information has been re-arranged, commencing with inspection and the requirements for six-monthly and twelve-monthly inspections, followed by periodical pressure tests and recharging. The arrangement of Part 2 follows the format of AS CA18.

The maximum recharge period for most extinguishers that pass the inspection requirements is now 5 years, the exceptions being the water (soda acid) and foam (chemical) foam premixed types and foam (stored pressure) type, which are still subject to a twelve-monthly recharge period. The requirements for periodic pressure tests for carbon dioxide type extinguishers have been rewritten to align with changes forecast for the corresponding requirement in AS CB4, SAA Gas Cylinders Code. Similar wording has been used for halogenated hydrocarbon type extinguishers.

The dimensions of the colour marking signs for indicating the positions of sprinklers other than on columns (Fig. A1) have been changed following a request from the Australian Fire Board.

Appendix B of CA18, dealing with CTC hand pump type extinguishers, has been deleted as it is considered that very few such extinguishers are still in use.

Australian standards covering specification requirements for portable fire extinguishers and fire hose reels are as follows:

- AS 1840 Water (Soda Acid) Type
- AS 1841 Water (Gas Container) Type
- AS 1842 Water (Stored Pressure) Type
- AS 1843 Foam (Chemical) Type
- AS 1844 Foam (Gas Container) Type
- AS 1845 Foam (Stored Pressure) Type
- AS 1846 Dry Chemical Type
- AS 1847 Carbon Dioxide Type
- AS 1848 Halogenated Hydrocarbon Type

Also relevant to this standard are—

- AS 1221 Fire Hose Reels
- AS 1849 Identification Colours for Portable Fire Extinguishers
- AS 1850 Classification, Fire Testing and Rating of Portable Fire Extinguishers

This standard requires reference to AS CB4, SAA Gas Cylinders Code.

**Page 2. Preface.**

AMDT  
No 2  
July  
1977

**1st paragraph—*alter* 'This standard was prepared ...' to 'These Parts of this standard were prepared ...'**

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
<b>PART 1. PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS</b>	
1.1 Scope .....	4
1.2 Installation .....	4
1.3 Inspection .....	6
1.4 Periodical Pressure Tests .....	9
1.5 Recharging .....	10
Table 1.1 Inspection, Pressure Test and Recharging Periods	5
 <b>PART 2. FIRE HOSE REELS</b>	
2.1 Scope .....	15
2.2 Installation .....	15
2.3 Maintenance .....	15
2.4 Records .....	16
 <b>APPENDIX A. RECOMMENDED SIGNS FOR INDICATING POSITION OF EXTINGUISHERS</b> .....	17
 <b>APPENDIX B. TAG FOR FIRE HOSE REEL INSPECTIONS AND PRESSURE TESTS</b> .....	19

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard Rules  
for the  
INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF  
PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND  
FIRE HOSE REELS**

**PART 1. PORTABLE  
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

**1.1 SCOPE.** This Part of these Rules applies to the installation and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers, including regular inspection, pressure testing, and recharging.

NOTES:

1. Inspection may be carried out by a suitably qualified representative of the owner or occupant of the premises in which the extinguishers are installed or by a Fire Brigade Authority or a firm of maintenance engineers.
2. The intervals for carrying out inspection, pressure testing and recharging are summarized in Table 1.1.

Reference is made to the following types of extinguisher:

*Water—*

- Soda acid, complying with AS 1840
- Gas container, complying with AS 1841
- Stored pressure, complying with AS 1842

*Foam—*

- Chemical, complying with AS 1843
- Gas container, complying with AS 1844
- Stored pressure, complying with AS 1845

*Dry chemical—*

- Gas container, complying with AS 1846
- Stored pressure, complying with AS 1846

*Carbon dioxide—*

- Compressed carbon dioxide, complying with AS 1847

*Halogenated hydrocarbon—*

- Stored pressure, complying with AS 1848

**1.2 INSTALLATION.**

**1.2.1 Support.** Every extinguisher shall be supported by a substantial hook or bracket of suitable type, fastened to a wall, partition or other suitable structure.

Alternatively, the extinguisher may be installed in an unlocked cabinet which is at a suitable height and is clearly marked. Where the extinguisher may be subject to unauthorized interference the cabinet may