

American Standard Specifications to
Minimize Hazards to Children from
Residual Surface Coating Materials

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AMERICAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION
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American Standard

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American Standard Specifications to Minimize Hazards to Children from Residual Surface Coating Materials

1. Scope

These specifications cover the requirements for coatings (such as paints, enamels, lacquers, etc, applied in liquid form) which are deemed suitable from a health standpoint to be used to paint children's toys or furniture or interior surfaces so that the danger of poisoning will be minimized if, by chance, some of this coating should be chewed off and swallowed by a child.

2. Specifications

A liquid coating material to be deemed suitable, from a health standpoint, for use on articles such as furniture, toys, etc, or for interior use in dwelling units where it might be chewed by children

(a) shall not contain lead compounds of which

the lead content (calculated as Pb) is in excess of 1 percent of the total weight of the contained solids (including pigments and drier);

(b) shall not contain compounds of antimony, arsenic, cadmium, mercury, selenium, or barium (when soluble by stirring for 10 minutes with 5 percent hydrochloric acid at room temperature) introduced as such in the formulation of such coatings.

3. Marking

Coatings complying with this standard may be marked: "Conforms to American Standard Z66.1-1955, for use on surfaces which might be chewed by children."

American Standards

The standard in this booklet is one of over 1400 standards approved to date by the American Standards Association, Incorporated.

The ASA provides the machinery for creating voluntary standards. It serves to eliminate duplication of standards activities and to weld conflicting standards into single, nationally accepted standards under the designation "American Standard."

Each standard represents general agreement among maker, seller, and user groups as to the best current practice with regard to some specific problem. Thus the completed standards cut across the whole fabric of production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. Manufacturers, consumers, technical organizations, and governmental agencies — all substantially interested and affected groups — are represented on the committees which develop and regularly revise American Standards. The completed standards are used widely by industry and commerce and often by municipal, state, and federal governments.

The ASA, under whose auspices this work is being done, is the American clearinghouse for standards activity on the national level. Founded in 1918, it is a federation of more than 100 trade associations, technical societies, professional groups, and consumer organizations. Some 2300 companies are affiliated with the ASA as company members.

ASA is the United States member of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Through this channel American industry makes its position felt on the international level. American Standards are on file in the libraries of the national standards bodies of 38 countries.

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