AS 1742.1:2021

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Manual of uniform traffic control devices

Part 1: General introduction and index of signs

AS 1742.1:2021

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Manual of uniform traffic control devices

Part 1: General introduction and index of signs

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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee MS-012, Road Signs and Traffic Signals, to supersede AS 1742.1—2014.

The AS 1742 series comprises the following Standards:

AS 1742.1, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 1: General introduction and index of signs* (this Standard)

AS 1742.2, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 2: Traffic control devices for general use*

AS 1742.3, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 3: Traffic control for works on roads*

AS 1742.4, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 4: Speed controls*

AS 1742.5, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 5: Street name and community facility name signs*

AS 1742.6, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 6: Tourist and services signs*

AS 1742.7, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 7: Railway crossings*

AS 1742.8 (withdrawn, refer to Parts 2 and 15)

AS 1742.9, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 9: Bicycle facilities*

AS 1742.10, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 10: Pedestrian control and protection*

AS 1742.11, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 11: Parking controls*

AS 1742.12, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 12: Bus, transit, tram and truck lanes*

AS 1742.13, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 13: Local area traffic management*

AS 1742.14, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 14: Traffic signals*

AS 1742.15, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 15: Direction signs, information signs and route numbering*

This edition now includes all new signs and other changes resulting from the revision of this and other Standards in the AS 1742 series. In addition, it was updated to align with AS 1744, *Standard alphabets for road signs*, and AS 1743, *Road signs—Specifications*.

The relationship between Australian Standards and publications produced by Austroads should be noted. The former provides specifications and procedures that ensure that products and services are safe and reliable, and consistently perform the way they are intended. The latter provides guidance documents that deal with the design, construction maintenance and operation of the road network. Austroads documents are also used by road authorities in New Zealand.

In cases of similar subject matter, this is dealt with across both sets of documents (e.g. AS 1742.4 and Austroads, *Guide to Road Safety, Part 3: Speed Limits and Speed Management*). Where this occurs, each document aims to provide information that is consistent, complimentary and supportive of the other.

The terms ”normative” and “informative” are used in Standards to define the application of the appendices to which they apply. A “normative” appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an “informative” appendix is only for information and guidance.

Contents

Introduction

The *Manual of uniform traffic control devices* was originally prepared by the Australian Committee on Road Devices (ACORD) under the direction of the then Australian Transport Advisory Council. It was subsequently approved by the Standards Australia Council for publication as an Australian Standard in two Parts, AS 1742.1—1975 and AS 1742.2—1978. These Standards superseded the *Australian Standard Road Signs Code* which was first published in 1935 with revisions in 1946 and 1960.

The decision to revise and publish AS 1742 as a series of self-contained parts each dealing with a specific situation, was taken in 1983 in consultation with the National Association of Australian State Road Authorities (now Austroads). The decision was supported by an Australia-wide survey of Local Government Authorities also undertaken in 1983.

Australian Standard®

Manual of uniform traffic control devices

Part 1: General introduction and index of signs

Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This document covers the signs used for regulating, warning and guiding road users. It specifies the sign classifications and the numbering system used and sets out the basic design of signs in terms of colour and shape coding. It provides an illustrated index of all signs and sign types which have a standard sign number, and includes sign sizes and reference to other Standards in this series, which cover usage of each sign.

NOTE 1 Pavement markings for general purposes are specified in AS 1742.2. Where special pavement markings are specified, e.g. for bus lanes, these are given in the Standard which relates to that particular traffic situation.

NOTE 2 Requirements for traffic signals are specified in AS 1742.14.

NOTE 3 Detailed specifications for the design and manufacture of signs are given in AS 1743.

NOTE 4 Detailed specification for the letters and numerals used for the design and manufacture of signs is given in AS 1744.

NOTE 5 This index does not cover electronic versions of signs.

1.2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document.

AS 1742.2, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 2: Traffic control devices for general use*

AS 1742.3, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 3: Traffic control for works on roads*

AS 1742.4, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 4: Speed controls*

AS 1742.5, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 5: Street name and community facility name signs*

AS 1742.6, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 6: Tourist and services signs*

AS 1742.7, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 7: Railway crossings*

AS 1742.9, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 9: Bicycle facilities*

AS 1742.10, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 10: Pedestrian control and protection*

AS 1742.11, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 11: Parking controls*

AS 1742.12, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 12: Bus, transit, tram and truck lanes*

AS 1742.13, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 13: Local area traffic management*

AS 1742.14, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 14: Traffic signals*

AS 1742.15, *Manual of uniform traffic control devices, Part 15: Direction signs, information signs and route numbering*

AS 1743, *Road signs — Specifications*

AS 1744, *Standard alphabets for road signs*

AS 2890.1, *Parking facilities, Part 1: Off-street car parking*

AS/NZS 1906.1, *Retroreflective materials and devices for road traffic control purpose, Part 1: Retroreflective sheeting*

1.3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document the following terms and definitions apply:

1.3.1
may
indicates the existence of an option

1.3.2
shall
indicates that a statement is mandatory

1.3.3
should
indicates a recommendation

1.3.4
traffic control device
any sign, signal, pavement marking or other installation placed or erected by a public authority or official body, having the necessary jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding road users

1.4 Classification of signs

Signs are classified by function as shown in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 — Sign classification and function

Class	Function
Regulatory signs (Type R)	To regulate the movement of traffic by indicating when or where a legal requirement applies, failure to comply with which constitutes an offence.
Warning signs (Type W)	To warn road users of unexpected or hazardous conditions on or adjacent to the road.
Direction signs (Type G)	To inform and advise road users of directions, destinations, route names and distances, non-regulatory traffic instructions, the location of tourist and service facilities for road users, and points of interest.
Expressway direction signs (Type GE)	To inform and advise road users on expressway type roads of directions, destinations, route distances, non-regulatory traffic instructions, the location of services for travellers and other points of interest.
Temporary signs (Type T)	To control, warn and guide road users safely through, around or past work sites on roads and footpaths and to warn and advise of other temporary hazardous conditions that could endanger road users.
Hazard markers (Type D)	To delineate a marked change in the direction of travel or to emphasize the presence of an obstruction.
Multi-message signs (Type RM, WM, GM and TM)	To be used within multi-message frame.