



# CONTRACT FURNITURE STANDARDS



## BRITISH STANDARDS OF CONTRACT FURNITURE

The following list details some of the more prevalent British standards which apply to the supply of non-domestic (or contract) furniture. This list is not exhaustive, and excludes those standards which apply to flammability, fire testing and so on, which are covered in a separate info pack.

In general the standards can be divided into the following broad categories:

- Flame retardancy and smoke emission standards.
- Colour fastness.
- Rub fastness - resistance to colour transfer onto other textiles.
- Light fastness - ability of a textile to retain its colour under the influence of light.
- Abrasion resistance - quoted as a measure of Martindale Cycles, the item is rubbed against a standard woollen fabric while a given weight-load is applied, estimates the durability.
- Piling - like the abrasion test with no weight applied.
- Weathering fastness - indicates the degree to which a given textile fades when exposed to outdoor weather conditions.



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## SURFACE FINISHES

### **FIRA 6250**

Domestic and contract furniture - Performance requirements (Performance requirements for surface finish and adhesion of surfacing and edging materials).

## TABLES & DESKS

### **BS EN527-1**

Office furniture - Work tables and desks - Part 1: Dimensions.

### **BS EN527-2**

Office furniture - Work tables and desks - Part 2: Mechanical Safety Requirements.

### **BS EN15372**

Furniture - Strength, durability and safety - Requirements for non-domestic tables.

### **BS 4875**

Part 5: (2001) Test level 4 - 'Strength and stability of furniture. Requirements for strength, durability and stability of tables and trolleys for domestic and contract use'.

### **BS 6250**

Part 3: (1982) - 'Horizontal surfaces (excluding kitchen worktops) - Severe'.

### **BS EN12720**

2009 - 'Furniture. Assessment of surface resistance to cold liquids'.

### **BS 3962**

Part 5 - 'Methods of test for finishes for wooden furniture. Assessment of surface resistance to cold oils and fats'.

Part 6 - 'Methods of test for finishes for wooden furniture'.

## FOR SEATING

### **BS EN1335-1**

Office furniture - Office work chair - Part 1: Dimensions (Specifies heights, widths, depths etc for three types of chair; Type A is fully ergonomic; Type B is a standard chair; Type C is the so called "Management Chair" with thicker upholstery).

### **BS EN1335-2**

Office furniture - Office work chair - Part 2: Safety Requirements (Part 3: Test Methods is scoped for persons weighing 110kg and 8 hours use per day).

### **BS EN13761**

Office furniture - Visitor's chairs (Safety requirements for all types of visitor's chairs i.e.: chairs other than work chairs).

### **BS EN15373**

Furniture - Strength, durability and safety - Requirements for non-domestic seating.

### **BS2543**

Upholstery fabrics for end use applications. Classification (Specifies test levels for seam slippage, abrasion resistance, pile loss, and colour fastness to water).

### **BS4723**

Stretch covers for upholstered furniture. Specification.

### **BS5459-2**

Specification for performance requirements and tests for office furniture: Part 2. Office Seating. (Scoped for persons weighing up to 150kg, or for 24 hour use).

### **BS5790 - ISO 7617-2**

Coated fabrics for upholstery. Specification for PVC coated woven fabrics.

### **BS7176**

Specification for resistance to ignition of upholstered furniture for non-domestic seating by testing composites (Specifies test levels according to the class of non-domestic premises, most non-domestic premises are Medium Hazard; but Offices and Schools can be Low Hazard).

### **BS 7176**

2007 - Specification for resistance to ignition of upholstered furniture for non-domestic seating by testing composites - medium hazard.

### **BS 2543**

2004 - Upholstery fabrics for end use applications. Classification - GC (general contract use).



Inside Out Contracts are contract furniture specialists for the hotel, leisure & restaurant industry.

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