AWTA PRODUCT TESTING

Test Information sheet Testing of children's garments



In Australia, other than the general requirement for care labelling of textiles, the only mandated requirement specifically for Children's apparel is for <u>Children's nightwear and limited daywear</u>. Consumer protection legislations in both Australia and New Zealand are based on AS/NZS 1249-2014.

This joint Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1249-2014 sets out a method for the assessment and labeling of children's nightwear and limited daywear clothing items across four categories:

- (1) Garments made from fabrics of low flammability
- (2) Garments designed to reduce fire hazard
- (3) All-in-one garments size 00-2
- (4) Garment fabric or designs considered to have higher fire danger properties.

Requirements vary dependent on the type of nightwear garment for sale, and can include flammability properties, labelling, dimensions, design and trims.

There are some garments that cannot comply with the standard and may not be sold as sleepwear in Australia or New Zealand.

Test requirements	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
Washing pre-treatment for any flammability	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flame spread time before and after wash	✓	×	×	*
Melt Drip test	✓	×	×	×
Surface Burn Time any surface pile or nap	✓	✓	✓	✓
Label durability & assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓
Garment assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) have also provided guidelines on chemicals that can be used in production and finishing of textile products and may be harmful, including AZO dyes and Formaldehyde.

Formaldehyde Content (Safety guidance on concentrations of particular chemicals in certain consumer goods (ACCC 2014))

- Maximum 30 mg/kg (or 0.003 % by weight) for infants' clothing and clothing specifically marked for individuals with sensitive skin
- Maximum 100 mg/kg (or 0.01 % by weight) for garments which contact the skin
- Maximum 300 mg/kg (or 0.03 % by weight) for other garments or fabrics

Azo Dyes

Azo dyes are synthetic dyes used in a variety of consumer goods including foods, cosmetics, carpets, clothes, leather and textiles.

A small proportion of azo dyes contain, or can break down to form, aromatic amines. Some aromatic amines, such as benzidine, 3,3'-dimethylbensidine and p-aminoazobenzene are suspected carcinogens. Aromatic amines can migrate from clothing and leather articles and be absorbed through the skin where there is direct and prolonged contact. The amount of aromatic amines released can increase with body heat, sweat and saliva.

It is only certain Azo dyes that are problematic — the majority don't lead to exposure to hazardous aromatic amines.

Snap Fasteners, buttons and trims

The attachment strength of small attachments on children's garments is considered highly important, as if loosely attached, they can become a choking hazard for a small child. BS 8510-2009 "Child use and care articles – Safety of children's sleepbags – Safety requirements and test methods', Table 1 specifies 70N (7kgf) minimum force to detach or degrade attachments larger than 6mm diameter.

While most Australian retailers will have similar requirements, it is necessary to confirm specific details of the required testing regime, including sampling with them individually.

TOG testing

Delivery Address	Further information
AWTA Product Testing	AWTA Product Testing
Level 1, 191 Racecourse Rd,	Phone: (03) 9371 2400
Flemington VIC 3031, Australia	Email: producttesting@awta.com.au

IMPORTANT NOTE: That by submitting samples for testing **YOU AGREE** that the resulting testing shall be performed under our terms and conditions for testing and consulting services: **www.awtaproducttesting.com.au/index.php/about/terms-and-conditions**

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The tog is a measure of thermal resistance used in the textile industry to indicate the amount of expected insulation provided by bedding items such as camping sleeping bags, blankets and quilts. It is now commonly being used for children's nightwear products such as sleepbags and quilted all-in-one garments.

Products range from light weight Summer garments with a TOG rating of 1.0-1.5 up to heavy weight Winter products with TOG ratings of 3 and above. Selection of appropriate TOG weights is essential for maintaining child comfort throughout varying annual weather patterns.

Test: Formaldehyde Content

AWTA Code: F26

Test method: ISO 14184.1

AZO Dye Content AWTA Code: F26C Test method: EN 14362-1

TOG Testing AWTA Code: T19DN

Test method: ISO 11092

TQRTM tier offers a quality fabric and apparel testing service when the application is not quite as critical but time and money are. As a lower cost alternative to our full NATA accredited testing system, it offers faster testing times making it perfect for the fashion industry to monitor the quality control of batch work, and can also assist in the development of new products.



Our technologists are here to help you with appropriate test selection, and when required, it is a simple matter to request testing for specific external retailers, or request a NATA endorsed report. (NATA test reports may incur higher fees and lead times may increase.) Commonly requested tests carried out on apparel are tabled below. Test fees included are per our TQRTM Service and exclude GST.

BUTTONS, SNAPS, ATTACHMENTS

TQRTM	Test description	Lead time	Sample required
Test Code			
B1.4.1	Unsnapping force	3	Minimum 5 studs
B1.4.2	Attachment strength – Male	3	Minimum 5 studs
B1.4.2_F	Attachment strength – Female	3	Minimum 5 studs
B1.4.1X	Additional studs		

COLOURFASTNESS

COLOGINASTINES	55	
TQRTM	Description	Estimated lead time
Test Code		(working days)
A3.8	CF to Washing	3
A3.5	CF to water	3
A3.10_ACID	CF to acidic perspiration	3
A3.10_ALK	CF to alkaline perspiration	3
A3.11	CF to artificial light - MBTF	5
A3.1	CF to rubbing	3

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WOVEN FABRICS

TQRTM	Description	Estimated lead time
Test Code		(working days)
A4.4	Dimensional stability to washing, Line Dry (OR)	3
A4.5	Dimensional stability to washing, Tumble Dry	3
B3.5	Yarn slippage at standard seam	3
B1.2_ELM	Tear strength	3
B3.1	Pilling resistance – Martindale (OR)	3
B3.1_ISO	Pilling resistance – modified Martindale	3

KNITTED FABRICS

RMITEDTABRIES		
TQRTM	Description	Estimated lead time
Test Code		(working days)
A4.4	Dimensional stability to washing, Line Dry (OR)	3
A4.5	Dimensional stability to washing, Tumble Dry	3
B3.10X	Spirality with shrinkage	3
B3.9	Stretch and Recovery	3
B3.2	Pilling resistance – Pillbox (OR)	3
B3.1_ISO	Pilling resistance – modified Martindale	3

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