



AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION
& CONSUMER COMMISSION

Motor vehicle related products

Australian mandatory safety standards

October 2018

If you are a manufacturer, importer, wholesaler or retailer of certain motor vehicle related products supplied to Australia (online or shop front) you **must** comply with the applicable Australian mandatory safety standards. Supplying or selling non-compliant motor vehicle related products to consumers in Australia is illegal.

Banned products

Tinted headlight covers are permanently [banned](#) in Australia.

Elastic luggage straps (also known as octopus/occy straps or bungee/bungie cords)

The mandatory standard applies to elastic straps, ties or cords that have a hook, a buckle or any type of fastening device at each end.

Labels

The following warning label must be permanently attached to the straps (not to scale):

WARNING.

Rebounding hooks cause blindness. Place hooks with care. Keep face and body out of rebound path. DO NOT overstretch. DO NOT use when strap has visible signs of wear or damage.

Refer to the mandatory standard for further information on the size, wording and format of the label.



Motor vehicle recovery straps (also known as snatch straps)

These products are used to recover a bogged vehicle. They do not include vehicle lifting slings, tie-down straps, wire cable, chain, rope and straps for conventional towing situations.

Labels

On straps

The following warning label must be permanently fixed to the straps (not to scale):

	WARNING INCORRECT USE MAY RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH!	
<small>Vehicle OCCUPANTS and BYSTANDERS have been KILLED by flying projectiles (such as tow balls) when recovery straps have been attached incorrectly.</small>		
<small>NEVER attach recovery straps to vehicle fittings such as tow balls, tow bars, tie-down points or tow hooks.</small>		
<small>ONLY attach recovery straps to an APPROVED recovery point/device that is suitably rated for use with the strap.</small>		
<small>BEFORE attempting a vehicle recovery all passengers must exit the vehicles and stand as far away as possible.</small>		

The following information must also be fixed to the strap:

- name or logo of the Australian manufacturer, importer, distributor or other supplier
- its batch code or serial number

- its minimum breaking strength, expressed in metric units
- a recommendation that the minimum breaking strength of the strap should be between two and three times the Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) of any vehicle it is used with
- advice that the strap must be suited to the GVM of the lighter of the two vehicles used in the recovery process.

On packaging

The following information must appear on the packaging of a motor vehicle recovery strap or on a label attached to the packaging:

- the strap's brand name or the logo of the strap's supplier
- the name and contact details of the strap's Australian manufacturer, importer, distributor or other supplier
- its minimum breaking strength, expressed in metric units
- a recommendation that the minimum breaking strength of the strap should be between two and three times the GVM of any vehicle it is used with.

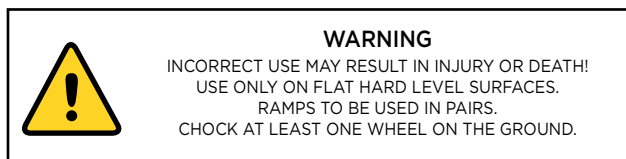
Refer to the mandatory standard for specific information regarding the wording, size and format of the labelling for straps and packaging, as well as instructions for use.

Portable ramps for vehicles

Portable ramps are used for vehicle maintenance or display purposes. They consist of an incline and a platform onto which a vehicle is driven.

Labels

The following warning label must be permanently attached to the ramp (not to scale):



The following information must also be fixed to the support stand:

- name and address in Australia of either the manufacturer, importer or other supplier of the ramp
- the nominated capacity of the ramp, stated as "working load limit ...kg"
- the nominated tyre size, stated as "Maximum tyre diameter ... and Maximum tyre width ..., in millimetres.

Other key requirements

- Ramps must be free from blow holes, hard spots, shrinkage defects, cracks or other defects which would adversely affect the strength of the material.
- The ratio of the base width to the ramp height must not be less than 1.2:1
- Each ramp must be able to stop the vehicle from rolling down its incline.
- Each ramp must be able to prevent the vehicle travelling forward off the platform in a direction opposite to the incline.
- Finished surfaces must prevent injury to the operator or damage to the tyre.

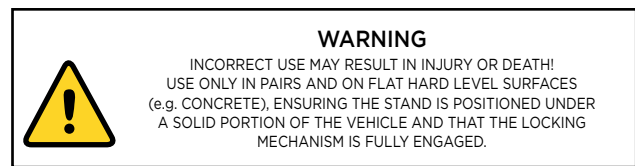
Refer to the mandatory standard for specific instructions on safe use and assembly.

Vehicle support stands

Vehicle support stands are used for vehicle maintenance. The standard applies to vehicle support stands that are fixed or adjustable in height and used to support the axle or chassis of a vehicle.

Labels

The following warning label must be permanently marked on each vehicle support stand (not to scale):



The following information must also be fixed to the support stand:

- name and address of the manufacturer, importer or other supplier of the vehicle stand
- the nominated capacity stated as "working load limit ...kg"
- the maximum working height, in millimetres
- clear and adequate operating instructions.

Other key requirements

- Stands must be free from blow holes, hard spots, shrinkage defects, cracks or other defects which would negatively affect the strength of the material.
- Stands must be geometrically designed to stand, and to resist tipping.
- Stands must be free from hazardous projections and sharp edges.

Vehicle jacks

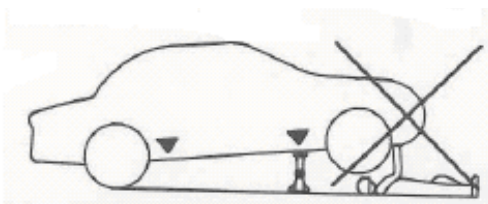
Vehicle jacks are used to change wheels on a vehicle. This standard applies to a device designed to raise a vehicle, including hydraulic jacks, lever jacks, pantograph (scissor) jacks, screw jacks, caravan/trailer jacks and high lift jacks.

Labels

Specific vehicle jacks must be permanently marked with the following information:

- the name or trademark of the vehicle manufacturer
- the model or model designations of vehicles for the jack's intended use
- clear and adequate instructions for operating the jack
- advice to consult the vehicle's owner's manual for further instructions
- for hydraulic jacks, a statement specifying:
 - the correct hydraulic fluid for use with the jack
 - a requirement to keep the jack at a recommended level
 - warning advice against getting under a vehicle that is supported by a jack
 - warning advice, in pictogram form, against getting under a vehicle that is supported by a jack, where the pictogram shows either:
 - i. a figure under a jack crossed out (see Example 1)
 - ii. a side view of a person lying on the ground and partially or wholly underneath a side view of a vehicle supported by a jack (see Example 2).

Example 1



Example 2



- Refer to the mandatory and voluntary standards for specific safety marking and labelling requirements for jacks other than specific vehicle jacks and all other vehicle jacks.

On packaging

Package markings for general purpose, high lift and caravan/trailer jacks must include the following:

- 'height lowered' and 'height raised' (minimum and maximum heights of the head cap in millimeters)
- nominated capacity in kilograms stated as 'Working Load Limit..kg'
- supply of maintenance instructions, including any necessary procedures for maintenance, lubrication requirements and details for servicing the hydraulic system (if any).

If there is no packaging, the information must be supplied on a leaflet attached to the jack.

Refer to the mandatory and voluntary standards for instructions on safe use of general and specific purpose jacks, high lift jacks and caravan/trailer jacks.

Other key requirements

- When subjected to a durability test, the jack must not fail or become unserviceable.
- The operator must be able to use the jack to control the descent of the load without hazard to the operator or damage to the jack.
- When subjected to a load for a specified time, the loss of height of the head cap of the jack must not exceed 5 mm.
- The jack must hold an excess load for a specified time without collapsing or losing more than 5 per cent of the height of the load.
- The following jacks must have a minimum nominated capacity:
 - general purpose jacks—no less than 750 kg
 - specific vehicle jacks
 - high lift jacks
 - caravan/trailer jacks.
- Vehicle jacks must have enough strength to withstand the forces and pressures associated with their full range of uses.
- Except for connecting surfaces or sliding parts, the jack must have a suitable corrosion protective coating.
- The area of contact surface of the base of a vehicle jack must meet dimensional requirements.
- The head cap or lifting surface must meet dimensional and stability requirements and engage securely with the vehicle's chassis.
- The jack must remain stable and correctly located with respect to the vehicle at all times during its use.

- The jack must either:
 - be provided with a positive stop to prevent the lifting arm of the jack being raised beyond the height it is designed to achieve
 - the design of the jack must be such that ‘over travel’ is effectively prevented.
- A vehicle jack supplied with a vehicle must be capable of lifting the model of vehicle it is designed to lift.

Trolley jacks

Hydraulic trolley jacks are designed to raise a part of a vehicle via the vehicle’s chassis.

Labels

On trolley jack

A warning notice must be permanently marked on trolley jacks. The warning notice must contain statements and pictograms that convey the following four key warnings:

1. Death or injury from incorrect use
2. Use two support stands
3. Flat hard level ground
4. Free to roll during lifting and lowering.

On packaging

Labelling on packaging must also include:

- the height lowered (minimum height of head cap) in millimetres
- the height raised (maximum height of head cap) in millimetres
- the nominated capacity in kilograms as ‘Working Load Limit...kg’
- use this hydraulic trolley jack with suitably rated vehicle support stands.

Instructions

Operating instructions for trolley jacks must include the following information:

- the unlifted wheels of the vehicle should be chocked
- the load should be centrally located on the head cap
- no person should remain in a vehicle that is being lifted
- read the vehicle manufacturer’s owner’s manual before lifting the vehicle
- the hydraulic trolley jack should be used for lifting and lowering only; the raised vehicle should be supported on suitably rated vehicle support stands.

Refer to the mandatory and voluntary standards for information on the maintenance, safe usage

and assembly instructions that must be marked or supplied with trolley jacks.

Other key requirements

- The trolley jack must not fail or become unserviceable when subjected to a durability trial.
- The trolley jack must not lose more than 5 per cent of its height when subjected to a specified load. Also, after 30 minutes, the loss of height must not exceed 5 mm.
- The trolley jack must provide a controlled lowering mechanism that can be activated by the operator. The operator must be able to use the trolley jack to control the descent of the load without hazard to the operator or damage to the trolley jack.
- The trolley jack must be able to hold a load in excess of its nominated capacity without collapsing, becoming unstable or losing more than 5 per cent of its height.
- When subjected to an eccentrically applied load, a trolley jack must not collapse, become unstable or lose more than 5 per cent of its height.
- All materials used in the construction of the trolley jack must have properties to withstand a range of forces when tested in accordance with the Australian Standard.
- Except for matting surfaces or sliding parts, the trolley jack must have a suitable corrosion protective coating.
- The head cap is the part of the trolley jack that makes contact with the vehicle. The head cap must be free to rotate about a vertical axis and be able to retain a horizontal bar of 100 mm diameter.
- The trolley jack must include a means of overload protection so that it cannot lift a load of 15 per cent more than its nominated capacity.
- Over travel is when the trolley jack is raised higher than the height it is designed for. The trolley jack must include a ‘positive stop’ to prevent over travel of the head cap. Alternatively, the trolley jack must be designed so that over travel cannot happen.
- The nominated capacity of the trolley jack must not be less than 750 kg.

Testing

Suppliers of products that are subject to mandatory standards are encouraged to use specialist laboratories to conduct testing of those products to ensure they comply with the mandatory standard.

Visit the Product Safety Australia website for more information on [product testing](#).

Consumer guarantees

All traders supplying into the Australian market, whether you are in Australia or not, must comply with Australian trading laws. Suppliers must provide consumers with a repair, replacement or refund if goods are faulty, unsafe, or do not work or appear as they should. These laws form part of the Australian Consumer Law (contained in Schedule 2 to the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*).

For more information, visit the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission website www.accc.gov.au/consumerrights.

More information

Suppliers should read the applicable mandatory and voluntary standards for the **full** compliance requirements. The voluntary standards are available from [SAI Global](#).

The mandatory standards for motor vehicle related products have recently been updated or amended and are based on the Australian and the Australian and New Zealand voluntary standards as outlined in the table below.

Product	Current mandatory standard (new standard can also be used during transition period*)	New mandatory standard (must be used from date shown)	Voluntary standard
	Up until 30 June 2019	From 1 July 2019	
Elastic luggage straps	Trade Practices (Consumer Product Safety Standards) Regulations 1979 – Reg 11C	Consumer Goods Safety Standard 2017	
	Up until 1 December 2019	From 2 December 2019	
Motor vehicle recovery straps	Trade Practices (Consumer Product Safety Standard) (Motor Vehicle Recovery Straps) Regulations 2010	Consumer Goods Safety Standard 2017	
Portable ramps for vehicles	Consumer Protection Notice No. 2/2010	Consumer Goods Safety Standard 2017	AS 2640:2016
Vehicle support stands	Consumer Protection Notice No. 12/2008	Consumer Goods Safety Standard 2017	AS 2538:2016
	Up until 19 December 2019	From 20 December 2019	
Vehicle jacks	Consumer Protection Notice no. 1/2010	Awaiting review	AS/NZS:2693
Trolley jacks	Consumer Protection Notice No. 10/2008	Consumer Goods Safety Standard 2017	AS 2615:2016

* To allow suppliers to adjust to the requirements of the new mandatory standards, there is a transitional period of compliance. For the period leading up to the changeover, suppliers can opt to comply with either the new or current mandatory standard. After the changeover, suppliers must only comply with the new mandatory standard.

Visit our website: www.productsafety.gov.au

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The ACCC has made every reasonable effort to provide current and accurate information. This fact sheet is intended only as a general guide and not as legal advice.

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