

Australian Standard[®]

**Artificial climbing structures and
challenge courses**

**Part 1: Fixed and mobile artificial
climbing and abseiling walls**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee SF-047, Artificial Climbing Structures. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 20 October 2009. This Standard was published on 28 November 2009.

The following are represented on Committee SF-047:

- Association for Challenge Course Technology Australia
 - Australian Amusement Association
 - Australian Camps Association
 - Christian Camping International Australia
 - Engineers Australia
 - Indoor Rockclimbing Gyms of Australia Association
 - Outdoor Council of Australia
 - Scouts Australia
 - Sport Climbing Australia
 - WorkSafe Victoria
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This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 07324.

Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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Artificial climbing structures and challenge courses

Part 1: Fixed and mobile artificial climbing and abseiling walls

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by Committee SF-047, Artificial Climbing Structures.

The objective of this Standard is to provide designers, manufacturers, proprietors and operating personnel with requirements and guidance specific to the design, construction, operation and maintenance of artificial climbing walls used for climbing, bouldering and abseiling in order to maximize the protection of health and safety for both operating personnel and participants.

In general, the performance requirements of this Standard are based on EN 12572-1:2007, *Artificial climbing structures—Part 1: Safety requirements and test methods for ACS with protection points* and prEN 12572-3:2007, *Artificial climbing structures—Part 3: Safety requirements and test methods for climbing holds*. Changes have been made to reflect different terminology used in Australia and to address artificial climbing structures used for a wide range of climbing, abseiling and bouldering activities.

The Committee also acknowledge the assistance provided by the following publications during preparation of this Standard:

Health and safety for artificial climbing structures and operations, WorkCover NSW, 2002.

Adventure Activity Standards, Artificial Climbing Structures (ACS), Outdoor Recreation Centre, Edition 1 (April 2003).

Adventure Activity Standards, Abseiling, Outdoor Recreation Centre, Edition 2 (April 2005).

This Standard is the first of a proposed series on artificial climbing structures and challenge courses. The Committee has identified other possible topics such as flying foxes and various components of high ropes courses.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

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