



National Standards Authority of Ireland

IRISH STANDARD

I.S. 167:1969

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National Standards
Authority of Ireland
Glasnevin, Dublin 9
Ireland

Tel: +353 1 807 3800
Fax: +353 1 807 3838
<http://www.nsai.ie>

**ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES - COLOUR
CODE FOR THREE CORE LEADS**

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Údarás um Chaighdeáin Náisiúnta na hÉireann

IRISH STANDARD SPECIFICATION

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES — COLOUR CODE FOR THREE CORE LEADS

I.S. 167:1969

INSTITUTE FOR INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND STANDARDS

The Industrial Research Centre, Ballymun Road, Dublin 9

Telegrams: Research, Dublin

Telephone: 370101

DECLARATION

OF

SPECIFICATION

ENTITLED

**ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES — COLOUR CODE
FOR THREE CORE LEADS**

AS

**THE IRISH STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES — COLOUR CODE FOR THREE CORE LEADS**

The Institute for Industrial Research and Standards in exercise of the power conferred by section 20(3) of the Industrial Research and Standards Act, 1961 (No. 20 of 1961), and with the consent of the Minister for Industry and Commerce, hereby declares as follows:

1. This instrument may be cited as the Standard Specification (Electrical Appliances—Colour Code for Three Core Leads) Declaration, 1969.
2. (1) The specification set forth in the Schedule to this declaration is hereby declared to be the standard specification for Electrical Appliances—Colour Code for Three Core Leads.
(2) The said standard specification may be cited as Irish Standard 167:1969, or as I.S. 167:1969.

SCHEDULE

Electrical Appliances — Colour Code for Three Core Leads

SCOPE

1. This Specification applies to any electrical appliance (including any electrical apparatus or device) which :

(a) is designed for, or suitable for, domestic use, (whether indoors or out-of-doors), and

(b) requires for its operation a supply, from an external source, of electricity at a voltage of 100 or more volts, and

(c) has a flexible cord or cable (in this Specification referred to as a mains lead) which contains three insulated electricity conductors of which two are for connecting the appliance to a supply of electricity and the remaining conductor is for connecting the appliance to earth.

In this Specification the term core refers to an electricity conductor having an insulating covering.

CONNECTION OF CONDUCTORS

2. The conductors in the mains lead of an appliance to which this Specification applies shall be connected or adapted for connection to the appliance in such a way that only one of the conductors (in this Specification referred to as the earth continuity conductor) is connected or adapted for connection to a part of the appliance not intended to be electrified while the appliance is working properly and the other conductors (in this Specification referred to as working conductors) are connected or adapted for connection to parts of the appliance intended to conduct electricity.

COLOUR CODE FOR CORES OF CABLE

3. Each of the cores in the mains lead of an appliance to which this Specification applies shall have its outer covering (not common to that and any other core) coloured on all its surface in accordance with the following :

(i) the covering of the earth-continuity conductor shall be coloured green and yellow, and in such a way that the covering (on any length of the conductor measuring 15 mm or more) has not more than 70 per cent (nor less than 30 per cent) of its surface coloured one of those colours, and has the remainder of its surface coloured the other colour;

(ii) the covering of one of the working conductors shall be coloured brown, and that of the other shall be coloured blue ;

(iii) where, because of the use of a single pole switch or for some other reason, the electrical plan of the appliance is such that one of the working conductors is more suitable in the interests of safety than the other for connection to the phase or live pole of the electricity supply, the covering to be coloured brown shall be that of the first-mentioned conductor and the covering to be coloured blue shall be that of the other conductor.

LABELLING

4. The mains lead of an appliance to which this Specification applies shall have attached to it a label bearing the following words set out in legible characters:

“IMPORTANT

The cores in this mains lead are coloured in accordance with the following code:

Green and yellow	—	Earth
Blue	—	Neutral
Brown	—	Live”

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