

EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 71-2

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

October 1993

UDC 688.72 : 614.8 : 536.468 : 620

Supersedes EN 71-2 : 1988

Descriptors: Toys, safety requirements, specification, flammability, approved materials, flammability testing

English version

Safety of toys — Part 2 : Flammability

Sécurité des jouets —
Partie 2 : Inflammabilité

Sicherheit von Spielzeug —
Teil 2 : Entflammbarkeit

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CEN

European Committee for Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation
Europäisches Komitee für Normung

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Ref. No. EN 71-2 : 1993 E

Foreword

This standard constitutes the second part of the European Standard on 'Safety of toys'. It is intended to eliminate toys that expose a child to danger of fire.

This Part should be read in conjunction with Part 1.

During the preparation of this standard toys have been considered on a general basis, and it has been decided to treat the products defined in the scope.

This European Standard has been prepared under a Mandate given to CEN by the Commission of the European Communities and supports the essential requirements of EC Directive(s).

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 1994, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 1994.

The standard was accepted and in accordance with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom.

Introduction

This European Standard for Safety of Toys consists of the following Parts.

- Part 1: *Mechanical and physical properties*
- Part 2: *Flammability*
- Part 3: *Migration of certain elements*
- Part 4: *Experimental sets for chemistry and related activities*
- Part 5: *Chemical toys (sets) other than experimental sets*

This standard is Part 2 of the European Standard for safety of toys, EN 71.

There is very little data concerning the hazards associated with the flammability of toys. There is a lot of concern over perceived risks but little in the way of hard facts.

Over 80 % of deaths of children arising from fires are due to asphyxiation from fumes. The standard was never intended to address this aspect as it deals strictly with the flammability of materials. In any case, the percentage of combustible materials in the child's environment derived from toys is insignificant compared with other household material such as furniture, curtains, beds, etc.

The standard has been devised to address certain hazards. Virtually all materials burn if exposed for long enough to the right ignition source. It has therefore been decided to address toy items that:

- a) are clothes worn by the child (disguise costumes) especially where capes, flowing dresses and similar articles are included;
- b) a child could enter such as play tents and wendy houses;
- c) a child cuddles (filled soft toys);
- d) are worn but take the form of masks and wigs, etc.

The hazards to be addressed in these cases arise because of the intimate contact between the child and the product. If ignited the materials should burn with a rate of spread of flame which allows the child to remove or drop or get out of the product before serious injury occurs.

1 Scope

This Part of this European Standard specifies the categories of flammable materials which are prohibited in all toys and requirements concerning flammability of certain toys when they are submitted to a small source of ignition.

The test methods described in clause 5 are used for the purposes of determining the flammability of toys under the particular test conditions specified. The test results thus obtained cannot be considered as providing an overall indication of the potential fire hazard of toys or materials when subjected to other sources of ignition.

This Part includes general requirements relating to all toys and specific requirements and methods of test relating to the following toys which are considered as being those presenting the greatest hazard:

- beards, moustaches, wigs, masks and other products worn on the head with pile, hair or other attached material;
- disguise costumes (e.g. cowboy outfits, nurses' uniforms) including the associated head wear and toys intended to be worn by a child (excluding products covered by 4.2 and paper novelty hats, e.g. those supplied in crackers);
- toys intended to be entered by a child (e.g. toy tents, puppet theatres, wigwams);
- filled soft toys with a pile surface or textile surface but excluding soft bodied dolls with heads and limbs made entirely from non-textile polymeric material.

NOTE. Additional requirements for flammability of electrical toys are in EN 50088 *Safety of electrical toys* (in preparation).

2 Normative references

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

EN 71-5 : 1993	<i>Safety of Toys — Part 5: Chemical toys (sets) other than experimental sets</i>
EN 535 : 1991	<i>Paints and varnishes — Determination of flow time by use of flow cups</i>
ISO 6941 : 1984	<i>Textile fabrics — Burning behaviour — Measurement of flame spread properties of vertically oriented specimens</i>

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this Part of EN 71 the following definitions apply.

3.1 flammability

The ability of a material or a product to burn with a flame under specified test conditions.

3.2 flaming debris

Material separating from the sample during the test procedure and continuing to flame as it falls.

3.3 self extinguishing

The representative sample ignites but then subsequently extinguishes before the second marker thread is severed (see 4.4).

3.4 representative sample

Each individual sample as it appears in the toy. Where there is insufficient material to produce a complete test sample 80 mm × 600 mm in size that material is not tested.

3.5 hair

Includes materials designed to represent hair (see 4.2).

3.6 filled soft toy

Toy with body surfaces composed of textile or pile materials. The toy is filled with soft materials (for example expanded polystyrene beads, polyester fibres or polyurethane foam) which allows compression of the body readily with the hand. This includes toys whether clothed or not.

3.7 surface flash

Rapid spread of flame over the surface of a material, without combustion of the basic structure at that time.

4 Requirements

4.1 General

The following materials shall not be used in the manufacture of toys:

- celluloid (cellulose nitrate) and materials with the same behaviour in fire (except when used in varnish or paint);
- materials with a pile surface which produces surface flash on the approach of a flame.

In addition toys shall not contain flammable gases, extremely flammable liquids, highly flammable liquids, flammable liquids and flammable solids except as provided for below:

- flammable liquids in the form of individual sealed containers having a maximum volume of 15 ml per container;
- highly flammable liquids and flammable liquids being entirely retained within a porous material in capillary channels of writing instruments;

- flammable liquids with a viscosity greater than $260 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ corresponding to a flow time of more than 38 s when determined in accordance with EN 535 : 1991 using cup No. 6;
- highly flammable liquids in products specified in EN 71-5 : 1993.

NOTE 1. For EC countries these categories are defined in the European Council Directive 79/831/EEC of 18 September 1979 (published in the Official Journal of the EC No L 259 of 15 October 1979) relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances.

NOTE 2. Different legal requirements may exist in non-EC countries.

4.2 Beards, moustaches, wigs, masks and other products worn on the head with hair or other attached materials

4.2.1 Beards, moustaches, wigs, masks and other products worn on the head with hair, pile or other attachments (e.g. paper strands) where the hair, pile or other attached material protrudes more than or equal to 50 mm from the surface of the product, when tested in accordance with 5.5, shall have a duration of flaming of not more than 2 s after removing the flame.

In addition, if ignition occurs, the greatest length of pile, hair or other attachments which remains shall be:

- a) not less than 50 % of the greatest initial length, when the initial length was 150 mm or more;
- b) not less than 25 % of the greatest initial length, when the initial length was less than 150 mm.

For wavy hair, the length shall be taken as the straightened length. The article is tested as used and in the most onerous conditions, e.g. with plaits unwoven.

4.2.2 Beards, moustaches, wigs, masks and other products worn on the head with hair, pile or other attachments (e.g. paper strands) other than those used for securing, protruding less than 50 mm from the surface of the product, when tested in accordance with 5.6 shall have a duration of flaming of not more than 2 s (after removal of flame) and a maximum dimension of the burnt area shall be not more than 70 mm measured from the point of application of the flame. Cardboard partial masks with no pile, hair or other attachments (other than those for securing the toys) are excluded, except for those where the distance between the centre of the eyes and the top of the mask is greater than 130 mm.

4.3 Disguise costumes including the associated head wear and other toys intended to be worn by children (excluding products covered by 4.2 and paper novelty hats)

When these toys are tested in accordance with 5.7, the rate of spread of flame shall be less than or equal to 30 mm/s.

If the rate of spread of flame is between 10 mm/s and 30 mm/s both the toy and the packaging shall be marked with the following warning:

'Warning! Keep away from fire'

4.4 Toys intended to be entered by a child

When representative samples of these toys are tested in accordance with 5.7, the rate of spread of flame shall be less than or equal to 30 mm/s.

If the representative sample has a rate of spread of flame greater than 20 mm/s there shall be no flaming debris (see 3.2).

If the representative sample is self extinguishing (see 3.3) the sample is deemed to have passed.

If the rate of spread of flame is between 10 mm/s and 30 mm/s both the toy and the packaging shall be marked with the following warning:

'Warning! Keep away from fire'

4.5 Filled soft toys

When filled soft toys (animals, dolls, etc. but excluding dolls with heads and limbs made from non-textile polymeric material) with a pile surface (e.g. velour, plush, imitation fur) or textile surface are tested in accordance with 5.8, the rate of spread of flame on the surface shall be not more than 30 mm/s. A toy shall be tested as supplied including any clothing present with the toy and, if applicable, with the clothes removed if removal can be accomplished without damage to the clothes or toys.

The requirements of this subclause do not apply to toys with a maximum dimension of 150 mm or less.

5 Methods of test

5.1 General

Subclauses 5.2 to 5.4 apply to the methods of test described in 5.5 to 5.8.

5.2 Conditioning and test chamber

Before each test, the toys or samples shall be conditioned for at least 7 h in an atmosphere having a temperature of $(20 \pm 5)^\circ\text{C}$ and a relative humidity of $(65 \pm 5)\%$.

To ensure safety of personnel and good test practice, carry out the tests in a test chamber in which the movement of air is less than 0,2 mm/s at the start of the test and is not affected by operation of mechanical apparatus during the test. It is essential that the volume of air in the test chamber is not affected by a reduction in the level of oxygen concentration. When an open fronted chamber is used for the test, ensure that the test sample is at least 300 mm from the walls of the chamber. Maintain the chamber at 10°C to 30°C and a relative humidity of 15 % to 80 % prior to the test being carried out.

Test the samples within 2 min of removal from the conditioning atmosphere.

5.3 Test flame

The test flame is obtained from a burner as described in ISO 6941 : 1984 operated with butane or propane gas as appropriate. The height of the flame is measured with the burner in the vertical position from the end of the burner tube to the top of the flame.

5.4 Pre-treatment for disguise costumes and for toys intended to be entered by a child

Each test shall be carried out on a new toy as first offered for sale or a sample obtained from such toys. If the manufacturer:

- indicates that the toy is not intended to be washed, it shall not be washed or soaked before testing;
- recommends a method of washing or cleaning, the article shall be treated in accordance with these recommendations;
- gives no information relating to washing or cleaning, the articles shall be treated, before test, in accordance with the following instructions.

Immerse the toy in tap water (approximately 20°C) at a ratio of at least 1 : 20, mass of toy to volume of water, and allow it to stand for 10 min. Drain and repeat twice. Rinse by immersing the toy in demineralized water for 2 min. Drain and dry by a method appropriate to the toy and, where appropriate, restore the pile as nearly as possible to its original condition.

5.5 Test relating to beards, moustaches, wigs, masks and other products worn on the head with hair or other attached materials protruding more than 50 mm from the surface of the product

Measure the length of the pile, hair or other attached material. Position the toy so that the largest dimension of the pile, hair or other attachment hangs vertically or as near vertically as possible.

With the burner in a vertical position apply a (20 ± 2) mm high test flame for 2 s to the lower edge of the pile, hair or other attachment of the toy so that the flame penetrates the element by approximately 10 mm.

If ignition occurs measure the duration of flaming and the minimum length of the pile, hair or other attachment remaining.

5.6 Test relating to beards, moustaches, wigs and masks and other products worn on the head with hair or other attached material protruding less than 50 mm from the surface of the product

Position the toy vertically.

With the flame height at (20 ± 2) mm, determined in the vertical position, move the burner to an angle of 45° and apply the test flame to the toy for 5 s so that the flame makes contact at least 20 mm above the lower edge and the distance between the end of the burner measured in the centre and the surface of the toy is (5 ± 1) mm.

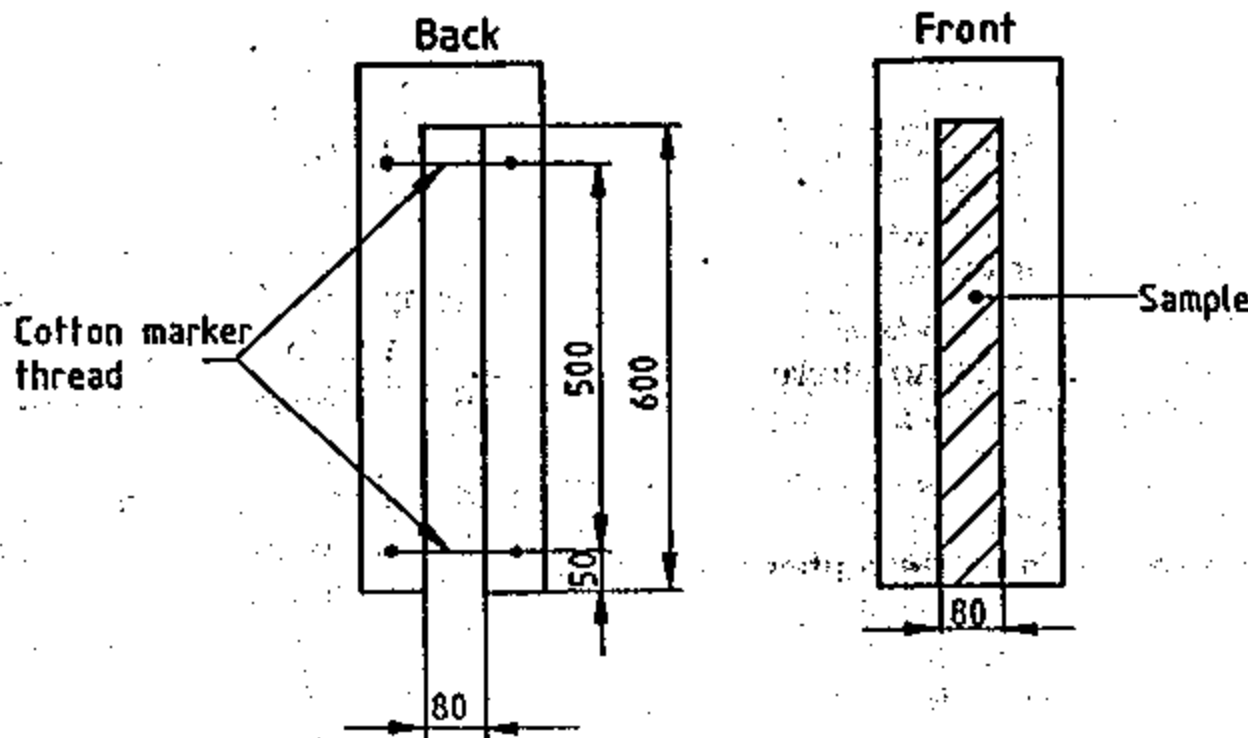
If ignition occurs, measure the duration of flaming and the maximum distance between the upper edge of the burnt area and the point of application of the flame.

5.7 Test relating to disguise costumes and to toys intended to be entered by a child

The sample holder is two U-shaped metal plates, the internal dimensions being 600 mm \times 80 mm. The sample is spread across the first plate and the second plate is placed on top and fixed so as to secure the sample. The sample is then cut so that the material edge is in line with the end of the two legs of the frame (see figure 1). The second or top plate has attachment points 50 mm from the open end and further attachment points 550 mm from the open end.

To one attachment is secured one end of a 100 % cotton thread (white mercerized cotton threads having a maximum linear density of 50 tex), the thread is then tensioned across the sample to the other attachment with a device to indicate when the thread is severed.

NOTE. There can be a direct link to a timing device or a visual indication such as falling weights.



Dimensions in millimetres.

Figure 1. Test relating to disguise costumes and to toys intended to be entered by a child

The thread shall be within 2 mm of the surface of the sample. Cut a sample from the toy and test in the orientation as it appears in the toy (e.g. along the length of a trouser leg when the child is standing). The ignition source is applied to the most flammable material as predetermined.

Position the sample on the U-frame at $(45 \pm 1)^\circ$ to the horizontal.

With the burner in a vertical position apply a (40 ± 3) mm test flame to the sample edge so that the distance between the edge and the top of the burner is (30 ± 2) mm. Apply the flame for (10 ± 1) s.

Observe whether surface flash occurs.

Determine the rate of spread of flame from the time interval of the severing of the first marker thread to the second marker thread.

If the material fails to ignite within (10 ± 1) s discontinue the test and the material is deemed to have passed.

If the material has non-identical surfaces, test both sides.

5.8 Test relating to filled soft toys

Position the toy vertically, i.e. with the head uppermost.

NOTE. If more than one orientation is possible, the most onerous position should be chosen.

With the burner at an angle of 45° , apply a (20 ± 2) mm high test flame to the toy for 3 s so that the distance between the edge of the burner tube, and the toy is approximately 5 mm and the flame makes contact between 20 mm and 50 mm above the lower edge of the most flammable material, as predetermined.

After removal of the flame, measure the time taken for the flame to spread on the surface of the toy over the distance between the point of application of the flame and the upper edge of the toy.