

BRITISH STANDARD

**BS 5866-1:
1990**

*Incorporating
Amendment No. 1*

Blankets suitable for use in the public sector —

**Part 1: Specification for wool and
wool/polyamide blankets**

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1 Scope

This Part of BS 5566 specifies requirements for woven wool and woven wool/polyamide blankets intended for use in the public sector. It deals with the composition, manufacture, make-up, dimensions and colour of the blankets. Values are prescribed for percentage fibre content and mass per unit area, threads per unit length in warp and weft, breaking strength, dimensional change on washing and colour fastness.

NOTE The titles of the publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

2 Definitions

For the purposes of this Part of BS 5866, the definitions given in BS 6189 apply, together with the following.

2.1

lot

the total number of blankets included in any part delivery of the bulk

2.2

bulk

the total number of blankets included in the contract of supply

3 Composition

3.1 New wool blankets

New wool blankets shall be composed entirely of new wool. The blankets shall be designated as follows.

A: blankets unraised, with shrink-resistant and flame-retardant finishes;

B: blankets raised, without a shrink-resistant finish;

C: blankets raised, with a shrink-resistant finish.

3.2 Grey wool blankets

Grey wool blankets shall contain a minimum of 95 % wool.

3.3 Wool/polyamide blankets

Wool/polyamide blankets shall have warp and weft yarns composed of fibre blends containing a minimum of 70 % new wool, the remainder being 6.7 dtex, 60 mm staple-fibre polyamide.

Table 1 — Properties

| Property | Finish | New wool | Grey wool | Wool/polyamide | Test method |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mass per unit area, g/m ² (min.) | — | 475 | 475 | 380 | BS 2471, method 3 ^a |
| No. of threads per cm (min.) | | | | | BS 2862 ^b |
| Warp | — | 7 | 7 | 7 | |
| Weft | — | 8 | 8 | 8 | |
| Breaking strength, N (min.) | | | | | BS 2576 ^b |
| Warp | — | 230 | 230 | 270 | |
| Weft | — | 170 | 170 | 230 | |
| Dimensional change on washing (max. % in either direction) | Non-shrink resistant | ± 10 % after 5 wash/dry cycles | ± 10 % after 5 wash/dry cycles | ± 5 % after 3 wash/dry cycles | Appendix A |
| | Shrink resistant | ± 10 % after 3 wash/dry cycles | — | — | |
| ^a Except that the results are expressed to the nearest 5 g/m ² . | | | | | |
| ^b Except that five warp and five weft specimens are tested. | | | | | |

4 Manufacture

The blankets shall be woven in a plain weave.

The mass per unit area, number of warp and weft threads per unit length, breaking strength and dimensional change on washing shall be as given in Table 1.

NOTE 1 Yarns should be evenly spun, the weave should be uniform with firm and straight selvages and raising should be even.

NOTE 2 No requirements for treatment against moths are specified but interested parties may agree as to whether the blankets should be treated and if so on the type of such treatment.

BS 4797 includes a method of test for resistance of textiles against the common clothes moth, and BS 2087-1 includes preservative treatments for protection against moths.

5 Make-up

5.1 Stitching

With the exception of cot blankets, blankets shall be either turned 15 mm and stitched at both ends only or turned 15 mm and stitched all round.

Cot blankets shall be turned 15 mm and stitched all round.

NOTE Stitching is intended to prevent fraying.

5.2 Dimensions

The dimensions of the blanket shall be as given in Table 2 when determined as described in BS 5129.

NOTE BS 5129 gives a range of recommended dimensions for blankets not specifically intended for use in the public sector.

Table 2 — Dimensions

| Width ^a | | Length ^b | |
|--------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| cm | | cm | |
| 75 | } ± 3 % | 100 | } ± 3 % |
| 150 | | 200 | |
| 160 | | 210 | |
| 180 | | 240 | |
| 230 | | 250 | |

NOTE It is recommended that grey wool blankets are 160 cm wide by 210 cm long.

^a The test method for width is given in BS 1930 except that the measurements are taken to within ± 1.0 cm.

^b The test method for length is given in BS 1931 except that the measurements are taken to within ± 1.0 cm.

6 Colour

6.1 Range of colours

6.1.1 With the exception of grey wool blankets, blankets shall be either natural wool coloured or dyed.

NOTE Interested parties may agree upon the colour.

6.1.2 Grey wool blankets shall be grey or grey/brown only.

6.2 Colour fastness

The colour fastness of dyed blankets including the stitching thread shall be as given in Table 3.

7 Flammability

Where flammability performance is specified, blankets shall comply with Part 4 of this British Standard.

8 Sampling and testing

8.1 Selection and size of samples

8.1.1 Inspection lot and test sample

A sampling scheme equivalent to at least one in every 3 000 blankets shall be used.

NOTE Interested parties may agree on more frequent testing.

8.1.2 Test specimens

Test specimens shall be taken at points as widely dispersed as possible throughout the available test samples, and no two specimens used for the determination of a particular property shall contain the same warp or weft threads.

In the case of multi-coloured samples all colours shall be represented by the specimens selected for colour fastness testing in accordance with Table 3.

8.2 Test procedures

8.2.1 Determination of fibre content

One specimen from each blanket in the test sample shall be tested in accordance with the appropriate method in BS 4407.

8.2.2 Colour fastness

One specimen from each blanket in the test sample shall be tested by the methods given in Table 3.

8.3 Criteria of compliance

If any test sample complies with the relevant requirements of clauses 3 to 6 and Table 1, Table 2, and, where appropriate, with Table 3 of this standard, the inspection lot from which it was drawn shall be deemed to comply with this Part of BS 5866.

Table 3 — Colour fastness (see note)

| Agency | New wool (minimum rating) | Wool/polyamide (minimum rating) | Test method |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Light | 4 | 4 | BS 1006-B02 |
| Washing change in colour staining | 4 3-4 | 4 4-5 | BS 1006-C02 ^a |
| Peroxide bleaching change in colour staining | 4 4 | — — | BS 1006-N02 |
| Rubbing wet staining dry staining | — — | 4 5 | BS 1006-X12 |

NOTE Colour fastness is not a requirement for grey wool blankets.

^a Except that blankets intended for hospital use are tested in accordance with BS 1006-C03 at 70 °C.

9 Marking

Blankets shall be supplied with the following information, e.g. on a label or swing ticket or on an accompanying invoice or other document:

- a) the manufacturer's name, trademark or other means of identification;
- b) the composition and, where relevant, the designation (see clause 3);
- c) the number and date of this British Standard, i.e. BS 5866-1:1990²⁾;
- d) any other marking as the contract or order may direct.

Where flammability requirements are specified, blankets shall be marked with details in accordance with BS 5866-4.

²⁾ Marking BS 5866-1:1990 on or in relation to a product represents a manufacturer's declaration of conformity, i.e. a claim by or on behalf of the manufacturer that the product meets the requirements of the standard. The accuracy of the claim is therefore solely the responsibility of the person making the claim. Such a declaration is not to be confused with third party certification of conformity, which may also be desirable.