

INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD

ISO  
20645

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**Textile fabrics — Determination of  
antibacterial activity — Agar diffusion  
plate test**

*Étoffes — Contrôle de l'activité antibactérienne — Essai de diffusion  
sur plaques de gélose*

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## Foreword

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International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 20645 was prepared by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) in collaboration with Technical Committee ISO/TC 38, *Textiles*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

Throughout the text of this document, read "...this European Standard..." to mean "...this International Standard...".

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## Foreword

This document (EN ISO 20645:2004) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 248 "Textiles and textile products", the secretariat of which is held by BSI, in collaboration with Technical Committee ISO/TC 38 "Textiles".

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2005, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2005.

This document includes a Bibliography.

**CAUTION — This method involves the use of processes that could lead to a hazardous situation. Attention is drawn to the safety precautions in Clause 3.**

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

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## **Introduction**

The application of an antimicrobial finish to a textile can prevent bacterial growth and might reduce the effects of microbial pathway products, biodeterioration and microbiogenous odours.

This method determines the activity of such treatments qualitatively when different products are compared. Semi-quantitative information on the effect of treatments can be obtained when different concentrations of the same product are compared.

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