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**Safety of toys —**

**Part 3:  
Migration of certain elements**

*Sécurité des jouets —*

*Partie 3: Migration de certains éléments*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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 8124-3 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 181, *Safety of toys*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 8124-3:1997) which has been technically revised.

ISO 8124 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Safety of toys*.

- *Part 1: Safety aspects related to mechanical and physical properties*
- *Part 2: Flammability*
- *Part 3: Migration of certain elements*
- *Part 4: Swings, slides and similar activity toys for indoor and outdoor family domestic use*

## Introduction

The requirements of this part of ISO 8124 are based on the bioavailability of certain elements resulting from the use of toys and should not, as an objective, exceed the following levels per day:

- 0,2 µg for antimony;
- 0,1 µg for arsenic;
- 25,0 µg for barium;
- 0,6 µg for cadmium;
- 0,3 µg for chromium;
- 0,7 µg for lead;
- 0,5 µg for mercury;
- 5,0 µg for selenium.

For the interpretation of these values, it has been necessary to identify an upper limit for the ingestion of toy material. Very limited data have been available for identifying this upper limit. As a working hypothesis, a summed average daily intake of the various toy materials has been gauged at the currently accepted value of 8 mg/d, being aware that in certain individual cases these values might be exceeded.

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By combining the daily intake with the bioavailability values listed above, limits are obtained for various toxic elements in micrograms per gram of toy material (milligrams per kilogram) and are detailed in Table 1. The values obtained have been adjusted to minimize children's exposure to toxic elements in toys and to ensure analytical feasibility, taking into account limits achievable under current manufacturing conditions (see Annex C).

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# Safety of toys —

## Part 3: Migration of certain elements

### 1 Scope

**1.1** This part of ISO 8124 specifies maximum acceptable levels and methods of sampling and extraction prior to analysis for the migration of the elements antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, mercury and selenium from toy materials and from parts of toys.

**1.2** Maximum acceptable levels are specified for the migration of the elements listed in 1.1 from the following toy materials:

- coatings of paints, varnishes, lacquers, printing inks, polymers and similar coatings (see 8.1);
- polymeric and similar materials, including laminates, whether textile-reinforced or not, but excluding other textiles and non-woven textiles (see 8.2);
- paper and paperboard, up to a maximum mass per unit area of 400 g/m<sup>2</sup> (see 8.3);
- natural, artificial or synthetic textiles (see 8.4);
- glass/ceramic/metallic materials, excepting lead solder when used for electrical connections (see 8.5);
- other materials, whether mass-coloured or not (e.g. wood, fibreboard, hardboard, bone and leather) (see 8.6);
- materials intended to leave a trace (e.g. the graphite materials in pencils and liquid ink in pens) (see 8.7);
- pliable modelling materials, including modelling clays and gels (see 8.8);
- paints to be used as such in the toy, including finger paints, varnishes, lacquers, glazing powders and similar materials in solid or liquid form (see 8.9).

**1.3** The requirements in this part of ISO 8124 apply to the following toys and toy components of toys and toy materials (see C.2.1):

- all intended food and oral contact toys, cosmetic toys and writing instruments categorized as toys, irrespective of any age grading or recommended age labelling;
- all toys intended for or suitable for children up to 72 months of age;
- accessible coatings, irrespective of any age grading or recommended age labelling;
- accessible liquids, pastes, gels (e.g. liquid paints, modelling compounds), irrespective of any age grading or recommended age labelling.

1.4 Packaging materials are not included, unless they are intended to be kept, e.g. boxes, containers, or unless they form part of the toy or have intended play value (see C.2.2).

NOTE No requirements are given for toys and parts of toys which, due to their accessibility, function, mass, size or other characteristics, are obviously unlikely to be sucked, licked or swallowed, bearing in mind the normal and foreseeable behaviour of children (e.g. the coating on the crossbeam of a swing set, the tyres of a toy bicycle).

## 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 8124-1, *Safety of toys — Part 1: Safety aspects related to mechanical and physical properties*

ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

- 3.1 base material**  
material upon which coatings may be formed or deposited
- 3.2 coating**  
all layers of material formed or deposited on the base material of a toy, including paints, varnishes, lacquers, inks, polymers or other substances of a similar nature, whether they contain metallic particles or not, no matter how they have been applied to the toy, and which can be removed by scraping with a sharp blade
- 3.3 detection limit of a method**  
three times the standard deviation of the result obtained in the blank test using that method by the laboratory carrying out the analysis
- 3.4 mass-coloured materials**  
materials, such as wood, fibreboard, hardboard, leather, bone and other porous substances, which have absorbed colouring matter without formation of a coating
- 3.5 paper and paperboard**  
that having a maximum mass per unit area of 400 g/m<sup>2</sup>
- NOTE Above this mass per unit area, the substance is treated as “other material”, and may be fibreboard or hardboard, etc.
- 3.6 scraping**  
mechanical process for removal of coatings down to the base material
- 3.7 toy material**  
all accessible materials present in a toy



## 4 Maximum acceptable levels

### 4.1 Specific requirements

See C.3.

Toys and parts of toys, as specified in Clause 1, are deemed to meet the requirements of this part of ISO 8124 when the adjusted value of migration of elements from them comply with the maximum limits given in Table 1 when tested in accordance with Clauses 7, 8 and 9.

### 4.2 Interpretation of results

See C.4.

Due to the precision of the methods specified in this part of ISO 8124, an adjusted analytical result is required to take into consideration the results of interlaboratory trials. The analytical results obtained in accordance with Clauses 7, 8 and 9 shall be adjusted by subtracting the analytical correction in Table 2 to obtain an adjusted analytical result.

Materials are deemed to comply with the requirements of this part of ISO 8124 if the adjusted analytical result for the migrated element is less than or equal to the value given in Table 1.

**Table 1 — Maximum acceptable element migration from toy materials**

Values in milligrams per kilogram of toy material

Toy material	Element							
	Sb	As	Ba	Cd	Cr	Pb	Hg	Se
Any toy material given in Clause 1, except modelling clay and finger paint	60	25	1 000	75	60	90	60	500
Modelling clay and finger paint	60	25	250	50	25	90	25	500

**Table 2 — Analytical correction**

Element	Sb	As	Ba	Cd	Cr	Pb	Hg	Se
Analytical correction (%)	60	60	30	30	30	30	50	60

#### EXAMPLE

An analytical result for lead of 120 mg/kg was obtained. The necessary analytical correction taken from Table 2 is 30 %. Therefore, the adjusted analytical result is

$$120 - \frac{120 \times 30}{100} = 120 - 36$$

$$= 84 \text{ mg/kg.}$$

This is deemed as complying with the requirements of this part of ISO 8124 (maximum acceptable migration of lead as given in Table 1 is 90 mg/kg).

## 5 Principle

Soluble elements are extracted from toy materials under conditions that simulate the material remaining in contact with stomach acid for a period of time after swallowing. The concentrations of the soluble elements are then determined quantitatively by specified analytical methods with specified detection limits.

## 6 Reagents and apparatus

NOTE No recommendation is made for the reagents, materials and apparatus necessary for carrying out elemental analyses within the detection limits specified in Clause 9.

### 6.1 Reagents

During the analyses, use only reagents of recognised analytical grade.

**6.1.1 Hydrochloric acid solution**,  $c(\text{HCl}) = (0,07 \pm 0,005) \text{ mol/l}$ .

**6.1.2 Hydrochloric acid solution**,  $c(\text{HCl}) = (0,14 \pm 0,010) \text{ mol/l}$ .

**6.1.3 Hydrochloric acid solution**,  $c(\text{HCl}) = \text{approximately } 1 \text{ mol/l}$ .

**6.1.4 Hydrochloric acid solution**,  $c(\text{HCl}) = \text{approximately } 2 \text{ mol/l}$ .

**6.1.5 Hydrochloric acid solution**,  $c(\text{HCl}) = \text{approximately } 6 \text{ mol/l}$ .

**6.1.6 General purpose reagent *n*-heptane**,  $(\text{C}_7\text{H}_{16})$ ; 99 %.

**6.1.7 Water of at least grade 3 purity**, in accordance with ISO 3696.

### 6.2 Apparatus

See C.5.

Normal laboratory apparatus and

**6.2.1 Plain-weave wire-cloth stainless steel metal sieve**, of nominal aperture 0,5 mm and tolerances as indicated in Table A.1.

**6.2.2 Means of measuring pH** to an accuracy of  $\pm 0,2$  pH units. Cross-contamination shall be prevented.

See C.5.2.

**6.2.3 Membrane filter**, of pore size 0,45  $\mu\text{m}$ .

**6.2.4 Centrifuge**, capable of centrifuging at  $(5\,000 \pm 500) g^1$ .

See C.5.3.

**6.2.5 Means of agitating the mixture**, at a temperature of  $(37 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$ .

**6.2.6 Series of containers**, of gross volume between  $1,6 \times$  and  $5,0 \times$  that of the volume of hydrochloric acid extractant.

See C.5.4.

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1)  $g = 9,806\,65 \text{ m/s}^2$ .

## 7 Selection of test portions

See C.6.

A laboratory sample for testing shall consist of a toy either in the form in which it is marketed, or in the form in which it is intended to be marketed. Test portions shall be taken from the accessible parts (see ISO 8124-1) of a single toy sample. Identical materials in the toy may be combined and treated as a single test portion, but additional toy samples shall not be used. Test portions may be composed of more than one material or colour only if physical separation, e.g. dot printing, patterned textiles or mass limitation reasons, precludes the formation of discrete specimens.

**NOTE** The requirement does not preclude the taking of reference portions from toy materials in a different form, provided that they are representative of the relevant material specified above and the substrate upon which they are deposited.

Test portions of less than 10 mg of material shall not be tested.

## 8 Preparation and extraction of test portions

### 8.1 Coatings of paint, varnish, lacquer, printing ink, polymer and similar coatings

#### 8.1.1 Test portion preparation

Remove the coating from the laboratory sample by scraping (see 3.6) at room temperature and comminute it at a temperature not exceeding ambient. Collect enough coating to obtain a test portion of preferably not less than 100 mg which will pass through a metal sieve of aperture 0,5 mm (6.2.1).

If only between 10 mg and 100 mg of comminuted uniform coating is available, extract this in accordance with 8.1.2 and calculate the quantity of the appropriate elements as if a test portion of 100 mg had been used. Report the mass of the test portion in accordance with 10 e).

In the case of coatings that by their nature cannot be comminuted (e.g. elastic/plastic paint), remove a test portion of coating from the laboratory sample without comminuting.

#### 8.1.2 Extraction procedure

Using a container of appropriate size (6.2.6), mix the test portion prepared in 8.1.1 with  $50 \times$  its mass of an aqueous HCl solution at  $(37 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$  of  $c(\text{HCl})$  0,07 mol/l (6.1.1). [Where the test portion has only a mass of between 10 mg and 100 mg, mix the test portion with 5,0 ml of this solution (6.1.1) at  $(37 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$ .]

Shake for 1 min. Check the acidity of the mixture (6.2.2). If the pH is greater than 1,5, add dropwise, while shaking the mixture, an aqueous solution of  $c(\text{HCl})$  approximately 2 mol/l (6.1.4) until the pH of the mixture is between 1,0 and 1,5.

Protect the mixture from light. Agitate the mixture continuously at  $(37 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$  (6.2.5) for 1 h and then allow to stand for 1 h at  $(37 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$ .

Without delay, efficiently separate the solids from the solution, firstly by filtration using a membrane filter (6.2.3) and, if necessary, by centrifuging at up to 5 000 g (6.2.4). Carry out the separation as rapidly as possible after completion of the standing time. If centrifuging is used, it shall take no longer than 10 min and shall be reported in accordance with 10 e).

If the resulting solutions are to be stored for more than one working day prior to elemental analysis, stabilize them by adding hydrochloric acid so that the concentration of the stored solution is approximately  $c(\text{HCl}) = 1 \text{ mol/l}$  (6.1.3). Report such stabilization in accordance with 10 e).