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**Textile floor coverings — Guidelines  
for installation and use on stairs**

*Revêtements de sol textiles — Lignes directrices pour la mise en  
oeuvre et l'utilisation sur les escaliers*

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 219, *Floor coverings*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 13746:2000), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- this document has been aligned with EN 1307:2014+A3:2018, Annex C;
- a reference to ISO 1766, ISO 12951 and ISO 4919 has been added.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

Although the aspect of suitability of carpets for use on stairs is worldwide, different countries have approached its solution from different perspectives, e.g. not guaranteeing carpets on stairs, recommending that carpets be periodically moved on stairs, accepting that the wear life on stairs can be half that in the equivalent flat location, use of proprietary stair nosings, etc.

Associated with some of these perspectives is tacit acceptance of test methods, although no universal test method exists to predict the property for all carpet types.

In order to define the perspectives more closely, ISO/TC 38/SC 12 (the then responsible TC) circulated a questionnaire to its participating experts. From the replies, it became apparent that problems with carpets on stairs can be centred on three different characteristics:

- wear to the backing, particularly on stair nosings;
- tuft loss;
- appearance retention on the treads.

The problem is further complicated by the fact that some countries suggest movement to even out wear and appearance changes, and also that the use and type of underlay play an important part in the subsequent performance of the carpet on stairs.

Over the years, in practice, EN 1307 proved to be satisfying on the issue of suitability of carpets for use on stairs, so it was decided to bring this guideline in line with its Annex C.

For all the above reasons, it was agreed that, until test methods can be developed to cover all eventualities, this document would be developed as guidelines for the installation and use of textile floor coverings on stairs.

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