

Pliers and nippers —

Part 1: General introduction

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by the Machine, Engineers and Hand Tools Standards Policy Committee (MTE/-) to Technical Committee MTE/15, upon which the following bodies were represented:

British Coal Corporation
 British Telecommunications plc
 Consumer Policy Committee of BSI
 Department of Trade and Industry [Mechanical Engineering and Manufacturing Technology Division (Mmt)]
 Electricity Supply Industry in England and Wales
 Engineering Equipment and Materials Users' Association
 Federation of British Engineers' Tool Manufacturers
 Federation of British Hand Tool Manufacturers
 Handle Manufacturers' Association
 Institute of Carpenters
 Institution of Production Engineers
 Ministry of Defence

The following body was also represented in the drafting of the standard, through subcommittees and panels:

National Association of Tool Dealers

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Machine, Engineers and Hand Tools Standards Policy Committee, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 31 May 1991

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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
 Committee reference MTE/15
 Draft for comment 87/71373 DC

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Foreword

This revision of this British Standard has been prepared under the direction of the Machine, Engineers and Hand Tools Standards Policy Committee. This Part of BS 3087 is Part 1 of the series of 14 new or revised Parts being issued. BS 3087:1959 will then be superseded and withdrawn.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 and 2, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

1 Scope

This Part of BS 3087 gives an index and general introduction to the Parts of this British Standard for pliers, pincers and nippers.

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

2 General

2.1 Objects of the standard

This standard presents a simplified range of types and sizes of pliers, pincers and nippers which should be suitable for most everyday applications. A minimum standard of quality of the tools is ensured so that they will have a useful life.

2.2 Quality considerations

The duties required of a pair of pliers, pincers or nippers are often severe. There are, for example, many fields in which it is necessary for them to be able to cut hard steel wire, soft copper wire and cotton with equal facility. Many experiments and developments are currently taking place on the material for, and heat-treatment of, these tools and so the quality of the tools is ensured by stringent performance tests.

These test requirements have been designed to simulate the function of the tool in normal average use.

2.3 Insulated pliers and nippers used for live circuit working

The general requirements for insulated pliers, used for live circuit working, are given in IEC 900.

Reference should also be made to the Electricity Supply Industry (ESI) standard 26-3, "Hand held insulated tools for live working up to 1 000 volts".¹⁾

NOTE It is now common practice to supply pliers fitted with plastics sleeving. It should not be assumed that these pliers provide any measure of protection for live circuit working.

3 List of Parts

This British Standard closely follows, but is not always technically equivalent to, standards adopted by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). It is divided into the following Parts.

- *Part 1: General introduction;*
- *Part 2: Nomenclature* (see ISO 5742);
- *Part 3: Specification for general requirements* (see ISO 5743);
- *Part 4: Methods of test* (technically equivalent to ISO 5744);
- *Part 5: Specification for dimensions of pliers for gripping and manipulating* (see ISO 5745);
- *Part 6: Specification for dimensions of engineer's and lineman's pliers* (see ISO 5746);
- *Part 7: Specification for dimensions of lever assisted side cutting pliers, end and diagonal cutting nippers* (see ISO 5747);
- *Part 8: Specification for dimensions of end cutting nippers* (see ISO 5748);
- *Part 9: Specification for dimensions of diagonal cutting nippers* (see ISO 5749);
- *Part 10: Specification for dimensions of tools not standardized by ISO;*
- *Part 11: Specification for dimensions and test values of slip joint pliers* (see ISO 9343);
- *Part 12: Specification for dimensions and test values of construction worker's pincers* (see ISO 9242);
- *Part 13: Specification for dimensions and test values of carpenter's pincers* (see ISO 9243);
- *Part 14: Specification for dimensions and test values of multiple slip joint pliers* (see ISO 8976).

NOTE Additional requirements for electronic pliers are given in BS 7330, BS 7330-1, BS 7330-2, BS 7330-3, BS 7330-4 and BS 7330-5.

¹⁾ Available from Electricity Association, 30 Millbank Place, London SW1P 4RD, Tel: 071 344 5700.

Publication(s) referred to

BS 7330, *Pliers and nippers for electronics.*

BS 7330-1, *Nomenclature.*

BS 7330-2, *Specification for general requirements.*

BS 7330-3, *Methods of test.*

BS 7330-4, *Specification for dimensions of single-purpose pliers for gripping and manipulating.*

BS 7330-5, *Specification for dimensions of single-purpose cutting nippers.*

IEC 900, *Hand tools for live working up to 1 000 V a.c. and 1 500 V d.c.*

Electricity Supply Industry (ESI) standard 26-3, "*Hand held insulated tools for live working up to 1 000 volts*".

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