

Specification for
Soft soap

Confirmed
January 2011

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by the Chemicals Standards Policy Committee (CIC/-) to Technical Committee CIC/34, upon which the following bodies were represented:

Chemical Industries Association
 Chemical Industries Association (GOSIP)
 Consumer Policy Committee of BSI
 Department of Trade and Industry (Laboratory of the Government Chemist)
 Ministry of Defence
 Royal Society of Chemistry
 Soap and Detergent Industry Association
 Society of Dyers and Colourists

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Chemicals Standards Policy Committee, was published under the authority of the Board of BSI and comes into effect on 31 October 1990

© BSI 10-1999

First published February 1953
 Second edition July 1966
 Third edition June 1985
 Fourth edition October 1990

The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
 Committee reference CIC/34
 Draft for comment 89/55506 DC

ISBN 0 580 18726 8

Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments

Contents

	Page
Committees responsible	Inside front cover
Foreword	ii
<hr/>	
1 Scope	1
2 Classification	1
3 Properties	1
<hr/>	
Appendix A Determination of total free alkali content	2
Appendix B Determination of free caustic alkali content	2
<hr/>	
Table 1 — Properties and test methods	1
<hr/>	
Publication(s) referred to	Inside back cover
<hr/>	

Foreword

This revision of BS 1913 has been prepared under the direction of the Chemicals Standards Policy Committee. It supersedes the 1985 edition of BS 1913, which is withdrawn and from which it differs principally in that the references to test methods have been changed to take account of the partial revision of BS 1715:1963, and that the requirement for rosin acids content has been deleted. This British Standard is one of a series dealing with various kinds of soap. Other standards in the series are as follows:

BS 1545, *Specification for liquid toilet soap.*

BS 1911, *Specification for hard soap.*

BS 1912, *Specification for soap flakes.*

BS 1914, *Specification for toilet soap.*

BS 4405, *Specification for liquid soap.*

Soft soap is distinguished from ordinary soap by its soft, jelly-like texture, and thus is usually packed in metal or waxed paper containers.

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 British Standard specifies requirements and gives corresponding test methods for two types of soft soap with a potassium or sodium base, or a mixture of these bases. It does not apply to soaps for medicinal purposes.

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

2 Classification

Two types of soft soap are classified (see Table 1). Type A is suitable for general toilet purposes and type B for domestic cleaning purposes.

3 Properties

3.1 The contents of soft soap shall be as given in Table 1. Compliance shall be checked by the methods given in Table 1 and in accordance with **3.3** using analysis samples prepared as described in BS 1715-1.

3.2 In the case of the properties listed in items 2 and 3 of Table 1, the actual results obtained by the specified methods of test shall be recalculated in relation to the specified minimum total fatty matter content (see Table 1, item 1) by means of the following equation:

Recalculated result =

$$\text{Actual result} \times \frac{\text{Specified minimum total fatty matter content}}{\text{Actual total fatty matter content}}$$

NOTE Recalculation of the results is necessary because soft soap is liable to lose moisture on keeping.

3.3 The soft soap shall not become liquid at 32 °C, and no liquid shall separate when the soap is maintained at 0 ± 1 °C for 24 h.

Table 1 — Properties and test methods

Property	Content		Test method
	Type A	Type B	
1. Total fatty matter content min.	% (m/m) 38	% (m/m) 28	Described BS 1715-2.1
2. Total free alkali content (K ₂ O) max.	1.0	1.0	Described in BS 1715-2.2 and Appendix A of this standard
3. Free caustic alkali content (K ₂ O) max.	0.1	0.5	Described in BS 1715-2.3 and Appendix B of this standard

Appendix A Determination of total free alkali content

Use the method described in BS 1715-2.2 except that the calculation and formulae given in 9.1 of BS 1715-2.2:1989 should be replaced by the following.

The total free alkali content, expressed as a percentage by mass of K_2O , is given by the formula:

$$0.047 \times \frac{V_0 T_0 - V_1 T_1}{m} \times 100$$

where

- m is the mass of the test portion (in g);
- V_0 is the volume of the sulphuric acid solution (see 5.2 of BS 1715-2.2:1989) used in the determination (in mL);
- V_1 is the volume of the potassium hydroxide solution (see 5.3 of BS 1715-2.2:1989) used in titration (in mL);
- T_0 is the amount-of-substance concentration of the sulphuric acid solution (see 5.2 of BS 1715-2.2:1989) (in mol/L);
- T_1 is the exact amount-of-substance concentration of the potassium hydroxide solution (see 5.3 of BS 1715-2.2:1989) used in the titration (in mol/L).

Appendix B Determination of free caustic alkali content

Use method B described in BS 1715-2.3 except that the calculation and formula given in 5.5.1 of BS 1715-2.3:1989 should be replaced by the following.

The free caustic alkali content, expressed as a percentage by mass of K_2O , is given by the formula:

$$0.047 \times \frac{VT}{m} \times 100$$

where

- m is the mass of the test portion (in g);
- V is the volume of the hydrochloric acid solution (see 5.2.1 of BS 1715-2.3:1989) used (in mL);
- T is the amount-of-substance concentration of the hydrochloric acid solution (see 5.2.1 of BS 1715-2.3:1989) used (in mol/L).

Publication(s) referred to

BS 1545, *Specification for liquid toilet soap*¹⁾.

BS 1715, *Analysis of soaps*.

BS 1715-1, *General introduction, sampling, and test for presence of synthetic anionic-active surface active agents*.

BS 1715-2.1, *Method for determination of total alkali content and total fatty matter content*.

BS 1715-2.2, *Method for determination of total free alkali content*.

BS 1715-2.3, *Method for determination of free caustic alkali content*.

BS 1911, *Specification for hard soap*¹⁾.

BS 1912, *Specification for soap flakes*¹⁾.

BS 1914, *Specification for toilet soap*¹⁾.

BS 4405, *Specification for liquid soap*¹⁾.

¹⁾ Referred to in the foreword only.

BSI — British Standards Institution

BSI is the independent national body responsible for preparing British Standards. It presents the UK view on standards in Europe and at the international level. It is incorporated by Royal Charter.

Revisions

British Standards are updated by amendment or revision. Users of British Standards should make sure that they possess the latest amendments or editions.

It is the constant aim of BSI to improve the quality of our products and services. We would be grateful if anyone finding an inaccuracy or ambiguity while using this British Standard would inform the Secretary of the technical committee responsible, the identity of which can be found on the inside front cover. Tel: 020 8996 9000. Fax: 020 8996 7400.

BSI offers members an individual updating service called PLUS which ensures that subscribers automatically receive the latest editions of standards.

Buying standards

Orders for all BSI, international and foreign standards publications should be addressed to Customer Services. Tel: 020 8996 9001. Fax: 020 8996 7001.

In response to orders for international standards, it is BSI policy to supply the BSI implementation of those that have been published as British Standards, unless otherwise requested.

Information on standards

BSI provides a wide range of information on national, European and international standards through its Library and its Technical Help to Exporters Service. Various BSI electronic information services are also available which give details on all its products and services. Contact the Information Centre. Tel: 020 8996 7111. Fax: 020 8996 7048.

Subscribing members of BSI are kept up to date with standards developments and receive substantial discounts on the purchase price of standards. For details of these and other benefits contact Membership Administration. Tel: 020 8996 7002. Fax: 020 8996 7001.

Copyright

Copyright subsists in all BSI publications. BSI also holds the copyright, in the UK, of the publications of the international standardization bodies. Except as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 no extract may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means – electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise – without prior written permission from BSI.

This does not preclude the free use, in the course of implementing the standard, of necessary details such as symbols, and size, type or grade designations. If these details are to be used for any other purpose than implementation then the prior written permission of BSI must be obtained.

If permission is granted, the terms may include royalty payments or a licensing agreement. Details and advice can be obtained from the Copyright Manager. Tel: 020 8996 7070.