

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations –
Part 1: General requirements**

**Interrupteurs pour installations électriques fixes domestiques et analogues –
Partie 1: Exigences générales**



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IEC Central Office
3, rue de Varembe
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
Fax: +41 22 919 03 00
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

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Part 1: General requirements**

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

SWITCHES FOR HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS –

Part 1: General requirements

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International Standard IEC 60669-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 23B: Plugs, socket-outlets and switches, of IEC technical committee 23:

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 1998, Amendment 1:1999 and Amendment 2:2006. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) change of the scope for motor load switches;
- b) deletion of some dated normative references;
- c) changes to the definitions;
- d) in Clause 5 the number of specimens to be used for the tests are clearly given in Table 1 (Corresponding Annex A of IEC 60669-1:1998 was therefore deleted);

- e) in Clause 5 it was clarified on which switches the tests of Clause 19 shall be carried out;
- f) requirements concerning 13 A switches have been included;
- g) mandatory indication that a terminal is suitable for rigid conductor only;
- h) requirements and test conditions for flexible conductors have been included in Clause 12;
- i) requirements for pilot light units have been included;
- j) new test for self-ballasted lamp loads in 19.3;
- k) Table 20 has been completely redrawn to cover normal, mini and micro-gap switches and renumbered Table 21;
- l) new informative Annex B including changes planned for the future in order to align IEC 60669-1 with the requirements of IEC 60998 (all parts), IEC 60999 (all parts) and IEC 60228;
- m) new informative Annex C about the circuit development for 19.3;
- n) new informative Annex D including additional requirements for insulation-piercing terminals;
- o) new informative Annex E including additional requirements and tests for switches intended to be used at a temperature lower than $-5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

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23B/1235/FDIS	23B/1241/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

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SWITCHES FOR HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS –

Part 1: General requirements

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60669 applies to manually operated general purpose functional switches, for alternating current (AC) only with a rated voltage not exceeding 440 V with a rated current not exceeding 63 A, intended for household and similar fixed electrical installations, either indoors or outdoors.

For switches provided with screwless terminals, the rated current is limited to 16 A.

NOTE 1 The rated current is limited to 16 A for switches provided with insulation piercing terminals (IPT's) according to Annex D.

Switches covered by this document are, where applicable, intended for the control in normal use of all of the following loads:

- a circuit for a tungsten filament lamp load;
- a circuit for an externally ballasted lamp load (for example LED, CFL, fluorescent lamp load);
- a circuit for a self ballasted lamp load (for example LEDi or CFLi);
- a circuit for a substantially resistive load with a power factor not less than 0,95;
- a single phase circuit for motor load with a rated current not exceeding 3 A at 250 V (750 VA) and 4,5 A at 120 V (540 VA) and a power factor not less than 0,6. This applies to both switches rated not less than 10 A that have not undergone additional tests and to momentary switches rated not less than 6 A that have not undergone additional tests.

NOTE 2 In the following country the suitability of a switch intended to control the inrush current of a motor shall be tested: AU.

This document also applies to boxes for switches, with the exception of mounting boxes for flush-type switches.

NOTE 3 General requirements for boxes for flush-type switches are given in IEC 60670-1.

It also applies to switches such as

- switches incorporating pilot lights;
- electromagnetic remote control switches (particular requirements are given in IEC 60669-2-2);
- switches incorporating a time-delay device (particular requirements are given in IEC 60669-2-3);
- combinations of switches and other functions (with the exception of switches combined with fuses);
- electronic switches (particular requirements are given in IEC 60669-2-1);
- switches having facilities for the outlet and retention of flexible cables (see Annex A);
- isolating switches (particular requirements are given in IEC 60669-2-4);
- switches and related accessories for use in home and building electronic systems (particular requirements are given in IEC 60669-2-5);
- firemen's switches (particular requirements are given in IEC 60669-2-6).