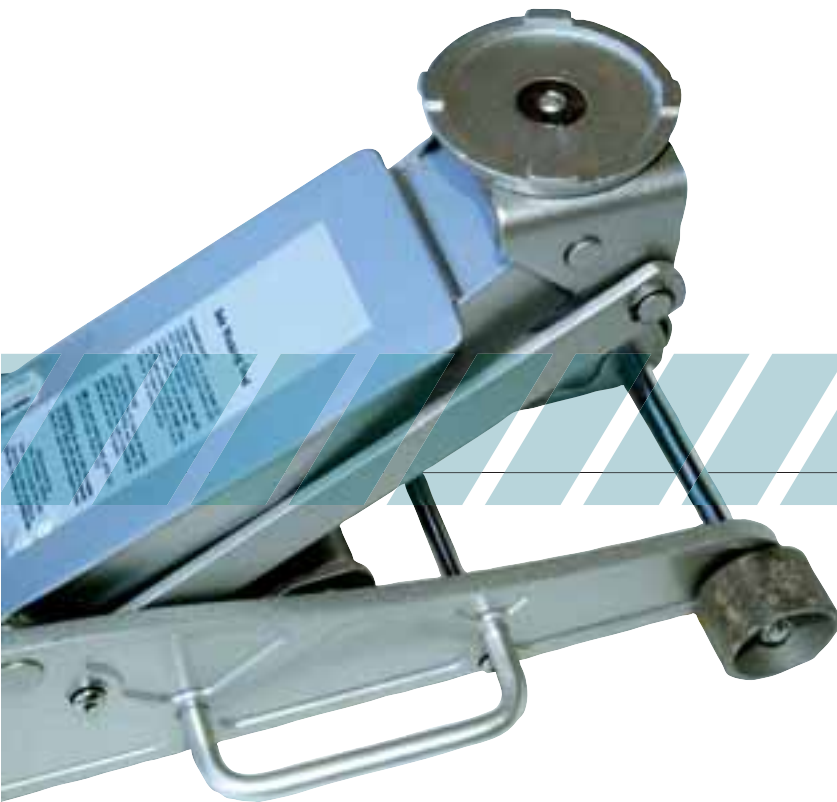


# trolley jacks



## product safety

a mandatory standards guide



Australian  
Competition &  
Consumer  
Commission

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## Important notice

Please note that these guidelines are a summary designed to give you the basic information you need. They do not cover the whole of the Trade Practices Act and are not a substitute for professional advice.

Moreover, because they avoid legal language wherever possible there may be some generalisations about the application of the Act. Some of the provisions referred to have exceptions or important qualifications. In most cases the particular circumstances of the conduct need to be taken into account when determining the application of the Act to that conduct.



Under the *Trade Practices Act 1974* consumer product safety standards can be introduced when they are reasonably necessary to prevent risk of injury.

Incorrect use of trolley jacks has resulted in injury and death. They are therefore subject to a consumer product safety standard that aims to reduce that risk by setting minimum performance requirements and safe usage directions.

Complying with consumer product safety standards is mandatory. This means that all suppliers of trolley jacks, including manufacturers, distributors, importers, retailers and hirers, must ensure their product complies with the mandatory requirements.

## The consumer product safety standard (mandatory standard)

The mandatory safety standard for trolley jacks is based on the Australian Standard/New Zealand AS/NZS 2615:1995, *Hydraulic trolley jacks*, published by Standards Australia.

To help them comply, suppliers of trolley jacks are advised to read the mandatory consumer protection notice for trolley jacks (included in this guide) in conjunction with AS/NZS 2615:1995. The Australian standard may be bought from Standards Australia on 1300 654 646 (local call cost) or website: [www.standards.com.au](http://www.standards.com.au).

## Suppliers' responsibility

Suppliers are responsible for ensuring their trolley jacks meet the mandatory safety standard.

This guide summarises the mandatory requirements for the supply of trolley jacks. It aims to increase suppliers' understanding of the coverage and application of the standard.

Because the guide is of a general nature it might not cover all important qualifications or exceptions to the mandatory standard. Therefore suppliers should always seek professional advice to ensure their product complies.

## Coverage of the mandatory standard

The mandatory standard for trolley jacks applies to all trolley jacks with a capacity up to and including 2.5 tonnes (2500 kg).

## Requirements of the mandatory standard

To comply with the mandatory standard, trolley jacks must meet the requirements of AS/NZS 2615:1995. It includes:

- > design and construction (section 5 of the Australian Standard) including requirements for:
  - > materials
  - > protective coatings
  - > head caps
  - > overload protection
  - > prevention of over-travel
  - > minimum capacity
- > performance (section 6) including:
  - > durability
  - > ease of operation

- > deflection under load
- > lowering
- > overload capacity
- > eccentric load testing
- > marking for the jack and any packaging (section 7)
- > instructions for maintenance, safe usage and assembly (section 8).

## Retailer information

Retailers are responsible for ensuring that the goods they stock meet mandatory safety standards. To help them comply retailers should:

- > always stipulate when ordering that the goods meet the mandatory standard
- > undertake visual checks to ensure goods comply with the requirements.

The checklist section of this guide may help retailers to visually assess trolley jacks (see p. 4).

## The ACCC's role

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is responsible for enforcing mandatory consumer product safety and information standards.

Because preventing injury is better than cure, the ACCC believes it is very important to promote compliance with the safety provisions as well as to take remedial enforcement action when the law is broken.

It conducts random surveys of retail outlets throughout Australia to detect non-complying products, to assess the overall level of marketplace compliance and to liaise with suppliers. It also investigates allegations by consumers and suppliers about goods that don't comply.

The ACCC frequently seeks the immediate withdrawal of defective goods from sale and recall of the goods. Other remedies include court enforceable undertakings, injunctions, damages, a requirement for corrective advertising and various ancillary orders.

## Penalties

Supplying goods that do not comply with a mandatory standard is an offence under the Trade Practices Act and may result in fines of up to \$1.1 million for companies and \$220 000 for individuals.

## Product liability

Part VA of the Trade Practices Act contains provisions on product liability. Under these provisions consumers can seek compensation or damages for personal injury or other loss caused by a defective product.

Goods will be considered defective if they are not as safe as people generally are entitled to expect. This is an objective measure of expectations of the general public and not of one individual.

Generally the manufacturers or importers of products are liable under Part VA. However, if other suppliers, such as retailers, cannot identify the manufacturer or importer, they may be deemed liable for the damages.

Suppliers may reduce their exposure to product liability action through responsible and sensible business practices that would include:

- > regularly reviewing product design and production
- > implementing and reviewing quality assurance procedures
- > product testing to relevant standards
- > appropriate marketing
- > providing clear and thorough user instructions.

## Other legislation

A state or territory may have its own product safety standards. For information about state and territory laws suppliers should contact the relevant consumer affairs or fair trading agency.

## ACCC website

Information on product safety and standards is available on the ACCC website:

**[www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)**

The site is regularly updated with news on mandatory standards, bans and recalls. Product safety media releases and links to other useful websites are also available.

## Marking

### Jack marking

Is the following information permanently and legibly marked on the jack, in English:

- > the nominated capacity stated as 'Safe Working Load ...' in kilograms
- > a warning notice with the wording as follows, preceded by an exclamation mark enclosed in a triangle



- > clear and adequate operating instructions for the trolley jack
- > a statement specifying the correct hydraulic fluid to use with the trolley jack and a requirement that it be kept at the recommended level
- > name and address in Australia or New Zealand of the manufacturer, importer or other suppliers of the trolley jack
- > the manufacturing batch identification.

### Packaging marking

If the jack is supplied in a package, is the packaging clearly marked with the following:

- > the 'height lowered' in millimetres, being the minimum height of the head cap
- > the 'height raised' in millimetres, being the maximum height of the head cap
- > the nominated capacity stated as 'Safe Working Load ...' in kilograms.

### Lubrication

If the jack requires lubrication before use, is a label or swing label in a contrasting colour attached to the handle and does it bear the words:

**THIS TROLLEY JACK REQUIRES  
LUBRICATING PRIOR TO USE**

## Instructions

### Maintenance

Is the jack provided with instructions for any necessary maintenance including lubrication requirements and details for servicing the hydraulic system?

### Assembly

Does the trolley jack require assembly?

If so, are there adequate assembly instructions and a parts list and an exploded diagram of the jack?

### Safe usage

Are safe usage instructions provided with the jack?

Do the instructions include the following recommendations?

- > The jack should be used on a hard level surface and be free to roll.
- > The unlifted wheels of the vehicle should be chocked.
- > The load should be centrally located on the head cap.
- > No person should remain in a vehicle that is being jacked.
- > The jack should be used for lifting and lowering only; the raised vehicle should be supported on vehicle support stands.
- > No person should get bodily under a vehicle that is supported only by a jack.
- > The vehicle owner's manual should be consulted prior to the jacking of the vehicle.

Commonwealth of Australia Gazette  
No. GN 11, 14 March 1997

Government departments 659

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Trade Practices Act 1974

Consumer Protection Notice No. 4 of 1997

**CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD - TROLLEY JACKS**

I, GEOFFREY DANIEL PROSSER, Minister for Small Business and Consumer Affairs,  
pursuant to section 65(1), of the Trade Practices Act 1974, hereby

- (a) REVOKE the consumer product safety standard in respect of trolley jacks published -  
Gazette No. GN 17, 3 May 1993,
- (b) DECLARE that, in respect of the goods of a kind specified in Division 1 of the Schedule  
to this Notice, the standards approved by the Standards Association of Australia  
specified in Division 2 of the Schedule, are consumer product safety standards for the  
purposes of section 65C of the Act; and
- (c) DECLARE that the standard first mentioned in Division 2 of the Schedule shall cease to  
have effect on and from 1 January 1999.

**SCHEDULE**

Division 1: Particulars of Goods

Trolley jacks with a rated capacity up to and including 2.5 tonnes

Division 2: The Standards

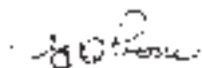
Either

Australian Standard 2615 - 1987 "Trolley Jacks", approved by the Standards Association of  
Australia on 4 May 1987,

or

Australian-New Zealand Standard 2615 - 1995 "Hydraulic Trolley Jacks", approved by  
Standards Australia on 24 August 1995

Given this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 1997



GEOFFREY DANIEL PROSSER  
Minister for Small Business and Consumer Affairs



## Mandatory standards and bans under the Trade Practices Act

as at February 2005

### Mandatory standards

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Baby walkers</li> <li>&gt; Balloon-blowing kits</li> <li>&gt; Bean bags</li> <li>&gt; Bicycle helmets</li> <li>&gt; Bunk beds</li> <li>&gt; Child restraints for motor vehicles</li> <li>&gt; Children's nightwear and limited daywear having reduced fire hazard</li> <li>&gt; Clothing and textile products—care labelling</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Cosmetics and toiletries—ingredient labelling</li> <li>&gt; Cots for household use</li> <li>&gt; Disposable cigarette lighters</li> <li>&gt; Elastic luggage straps</li> <li>&gt; Exercise cycles</li> <li>&gt; Fire extinguishers (portable—aerosol)</li> <li>&gt; Fire extinguishers (portable—non-aerosol)</li> <li>&gt; Flotation toys and swimming aids for children</li> <li>&gt; Jacks (trolley)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Jacks (vehicle)</li> <li>&gt; Motorcycle helmets</li> <li>&gt; Paper patterns for children's nightwear</li> <li>&gt; Pedal bicycles</li> <li>&gt; Ramps for motor vehicles</li> <li>&gt; Sunglasses and fashion spectacles</li> <li>&gt; Support stands for motor vehicles</li> <li>&gt; Tobacco products—labelling</li> <li>&gt; Toys for children under 3</li> </ul> |
|---|--|--|

### Permanent bans

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Candles and candle wicks containing greater than 0.06% lead by weight</li> <li>&gt; Children's dart gun sets</li> <li>&gt; 'Diveman' underwater breathing apparatus</li> <li>&gt; Gas masks which contain asbestos</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Glucomannan in tablet form</li> <li>&gt; Jelly Cups</li> <li>&gt; 'Quickie' line release system</li> <li>&gt; Seat belt accessories including 'Klunk Klip', 'Comfix', 'Auto Comfort'</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Sun visors including 'Autotrend Sun Filter' and similar internal visors</li> <li>&gt; Tobacco products (smokeless)</li> <li>&gt; Tinted headlight covers</li> <li>&gt; Victim toys</li> </ul> |
|---|---|---|

Further details on the mandatory standard and bans can be obtained from the ACCC Infocentre on 1300 302 502.

## Contacts

**ACCC Infocentre** | 1300 302 502 for all business and consumer inquiries

**ACCC website** | [www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

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