
**Prosthetics and orthotics — Limb
deficiencies —**

**Part 2:
Method of describing lower limb
amputation stumps**

Prothèses et orthèses — Malformations des membres —

*Partie 2: Méthode de description des moignons d'amputation des
membres inférieurs*



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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).

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).

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

For an explanation of 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 168, *Prosthetics and orthotics*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 8548-2:1993), which has been technically revised. The main changes to the previous edition are as follows:

- the stump descriptors ([Tables 1](#) to [7](#)) have been revised;
- the lists of measurements to be taken by all members of the team and the additional measurements to be taken only by the prosthetist have been revised ([Table 8](#)).

A list of all parts in the ISO 8548 series can be found on the ISO website.

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.

Introduction

This document provides a standard method for describing and measuring amputation stumps. Such a method is essential to allow comparisons of the outcomes of amputation surgery and rehabilitation provided by different teams.

The healthcare professionals who will use the method include surgeons of different disciplines, other doctors (especially those concerned with rehabilitation), nurses, physical and occupational therapists and prosthetists.

Such a method is also of value to epidemiologists and government health officials.

Prosthetics and orthotics — Limb deficiencies —

Part 2:

Method of describing lower limb amputation stumps

1 Scope

This document establishes a method of describing and measuring lower limb amputation stumps. It also lists the measurements required for the provision of a prosthesis.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 8549-2, *Prosthetics and orthotics — Vocabulary — Part 2: Terms relating to external limb prostheses and wearers of these prostheses*

ISO 8549-4, *Prosthetics and orthotics — Vocabulary — Part 4: Terms relating to limb amputation*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 8549-2 and ISO 8549-4 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

4 Stump description

4.1 General

Specify the amputation side and describe the stump using the relevant descriptors listed in the appropriate tables ([Tables 1 to 7](#)) and the guidance given in [4.2](#) to [4.6](#).

4.2 Stump characteristics

The shape of the stump should be described as either conical, bulbous or cylindrical. In this context, the meanings of these terms are self-evident.

The soft tissues of the stump should be described by reference to their amount and consistency. The amount should be described as sufficient, insufficient or excessive and the consistency described as normal, flabby or indurated. If the heel pad is retained, its position should be recorded as correctly positioned, displaced or mobile.

It is important to record whether the stump musculature is attached, detached or displaced.

Relevant bony features such as prominences, remnants, length or position should be described. The presence of any prominent foreign bodies, for example grafts, implants or shrapnel, should be noted.