

**Conservation of Cultural property - Methodology for  
sampling from materials of cultural property - General  
rules**

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

See Eesti standard EVS-EN 16085:2012 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 16085:2012 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN 16085:2012 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 16085:2012.
Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas.	This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.
Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 01.08.2012.	Date of Availability of the European standard is 01.08.2012.
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ICS 97.195

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English Version

**Conservation of Cultural property - Methodology for sampling  
from materials of cultural property - General rules**

Conservation des biens culturels - Méthodologie  
d'échantillonnage des matériaux - Règles générales

Erhaltung des kulturellen Erbes - Verfahren der  
Probenahme an Materialien des kulturellen Erbes -  
Allgemeine Regeln

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 23 June 2012.

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## Contents

Page

Foreword.....	3
Introduction .....	4
1 <b>Scope</b> .....	5
2 <b>Normative references</b> .....	5
3 <b>Terms and definitions</b> .....	5
4 <b>Criteria for sampling</b> .....	6
5 <b>Sampling plan</b> .....	6
6 <b>Sampling recording</b> .....	6
7 <b>Number of samples</b> .....	7
8 <b>Amount of samples</b> .....	7
9 <b>Sampling Operation</b> .....	7
10 <b>Packing of the sample</b> .....	7
11 <b>Storage conditions</b> .....	7
<b>Annex A (informative) Example of sampling data sheet</b> .....	8

## Foreword

This document (EN 16085:2012) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 346 "Conservation of cultural property", the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2013, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2013.

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## Introduction

This is a general standard for sampling of materials constituting cultural property in order to characterize them during all stages of conservation. The sampling procedure depends on the type and condition of the material to be sampled, the specific case under study and the type of investigation chosen.

Sampling is invasive and invariably causes damage, however small. It should only be undertaken if there is strong justification for it and in the closest consultation with those having responsibility for the object and those who will be studying the samples. The consultation should consider whether the same information could be obtained by non-invasive methods.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard provides a methodology and criteria for sampling cultural property materials for their scientific investigation. It covers, for example, how to characterize the material(s), assess the condition, determine the deterioration causes and/or mechanism(s) and decide on and/or evaluate the conservation treatment(s). Apart from sampling, this document also provides requirements for documentation, and handling of sample(s).

This European Standard does not deal with the decision making process for taking a sample nor how the sample is to be used.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 15898, *Conservation of cultural property — Main general terms and definitions*

EN 16095, *Conservation of cultural property — Condition recording for movable cultural heritage*

EN 16096, *Conservation of cultural property — Condition survey and report of built cultural heritage*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 15898 and the following apply.

### 3.1

#### **investigation**

gathering of information necessary for a conservation decision making process

### 3.2

#### **sample**

portion of material, ideally representative, removed from the cultural property for scientific investigation

### 3.3

#### **sampling**

process of removing a sample

### 3.4

#### **sampling plan**

procedure for the selection and the sampling of one or several samples with the objective of doing a scientific investigation of cultural property

### 3.5

#### **scientific investigation**

study by means of examination, analysis, or test method to obtain information on the nature or the properties of cultural property related to issues of conservation