
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



2157

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Dental burs and cutters — Nominal sizes and designation of working parts

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FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO Member Bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO Technical Committees. Every Member Body interested in a subject for which a Technical Committee has been set up 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the Technical Committees are circulated to the Member Bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 2157 was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 106, *Dentistry*.

It was approved in July 1971 by the Member Bodies of the following countries :

Australia	Ireland	Switzerland
Belgium	Israel	Turkey
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	New Zealand	United Kingdom
France	South Africa, Rep. of	U.S.A.
Germany	Spain	U.S.S.R.
India	Sweden	

No Member Body expressed disapproval of the document.

Dental burs and cutters – Nominal sizes and designation of working parts

0 INTRODUCTION

This International Standard is the second in a series concerning various aspects of dental rotary instrument design. The first document in the series is ISO/R 1797, *Dental burs and cutters – Fitting dimensions*.

Bearing in mind the large variation in present demand regarding sizes of dental burs and cutters, those given in this International Standard are proposed as a provisional series in the development of a more rationalised and convenient range. This list will be amended in the light of further experience after a sufficient time has elapsed from the start of numbering rotary instruments in tenths of a millimetre and substantial manufacturing and commercial experience has thereby been obtained.

The designation of sizes in tenths of a millimetre is considered to be more meaningful, and at the same time will convey additional useful information to persons employing these instruments. The field of application of this International Standard only covers instruments up to 5.0 mm nominal diameter. However, in covering further aspects of instrument design a designation system providing for instruments of much larger size will be necessary. The integration of the designations specified in this International Standard into such an overall system has, therefore, been provided for by the allocation of three digits, even though only two are of significance in their present application.

1 SCOPE

This International Standard comprises a provisional series of sizes and corresponding designations for the working parts of dental burs and cutters, in order to provide general uniformity in labelling and sizes of these dental rotary instruments.

2 FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard applies to the nominal sizes and designation of burs and cutters used in dentistry, excluding root canal instruments, up to and including those of 5.0 mm nominal diameter.

3 NOMINAL DIMENSIONS AND DESIGNATION

The nominal diameter of the working part of dental burs and cutters, and the corresponding designation indicating its size in tenths of a millimetre, shall be as listed in the table.

TABLE – Nominal diameter and designation of working part

Nominal diameter of working part	Designation	Nominal diameter of working part	Designation
mm		mm	
0.5	005	2.5	025
0.6	006	2.7	027
0.7	007	2.9	029
0.8	008	3.1	031
0.9	009	3.3	033
1.0	010	3.5	035
1.2	012	3.7	037
1.4	014	4.0	040
1.6	016	4.2	042
1.8	018	4.5	045
2.1	021	4.7	047
2.3	023	5.0	050

Certain designs of dental burs – for example, inverted cone, tapered fissure – have a major and minor diameter for their head shape. In such instances the dimension specified in this International Standard for the nominal diameter, and its corresponding designation, shall be that of the *major* diameter.