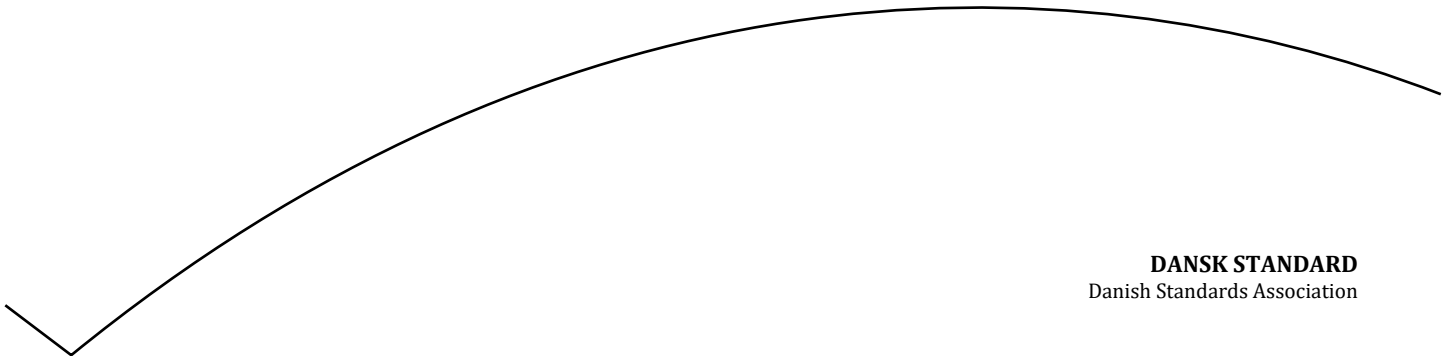


2026-09-21

# Levende lys – Specifikation for brandsikkerhed

Candles – Specification for fire safety



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| <b>Contents</b>                                                                      | <b>Page</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>European foreword</b> .....                                                       | <b>vi</b>   |
| <b>Introduction</b> .....                                                            | <b>vii</b>  |
| <b>1 Scope</b> .....                                                                 | <b>9</b>    |
| <b>2 Normative references</b> .....                                                  | <b>9</b>    |
| <b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....                                                 | <b>9</b>    |
| <b>4 Safety requirements</b> .....                                                   |             |
| 4.1 Stability .....                                                                  |             |
| 4.2 Secondary ignition .....                                                         |             |
| 4.3 Flame height .....                                                               |             |
| 4.4 Self-extinguishing .....                                                         |             |
| 4.5 Behaviour after extinguishing .....                                              |             |
| 4.6 Container candles .....                                                          |             |
| 4.7 Multiple wick candles .....                                                      |             |
| <b>5 Test equipment and apparatus</b> .....                                          |             |
| <b>6 Sampling</b> .....                                                              |             |
| <b>7 Sample preparation</b> .....                                                    |             |
| <b>8 General test conditions</b> .....                                               |             |
| <b>9 Test methods</b> .....                                                          |             |
| 9.1 General .....                                                                    |             |
| 9.2 Stability test .....                                                             |             |
| 9.3 Burning test .....                                                               |             |
| 9.3.1 Test procedure .....                                                           |             |
| 9.3.2 Flame height .....                                                             |             |
| 9.3.3 Aftersmoke time .....                                                          |             |
| 9.4 Flammability test of containers .....                                            |             |
| 9.4.1 General .....                                                                  |             |
| 9.4.2 Flammability test with fixed impingement time .....                            |             |
| 9.4.3 Flammability test with impingement time until sustained flaming .....          |             |
| <b>10 Test report</b> .....                                                          |             |
| <b>Annex A (informative) Hourly fuel consumption</b> .....                           |             |
| <b>Annex B (informative) Analysis of container candle surface temperatures</b> ..... |             |
| <b>Bibliography</b> .....                                                            | <b>12</b>   |

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## Candles - Specification for fire safety

Bougies - Spécification relative à la sécurité incendie

Kerzen - Spezifikation für die Feuersicherheit

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 5 August 2026.

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This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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## European foreword

This document ([EN 15493:2026](#)) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 369 “Candle fire safety”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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 March 2027, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by March 2027.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes [EN 15493:2019](#).

[EN 15493:2026](#) includes the following significant technical changes with respect to [EN 15493:2019](#):

- the terms and definitions have been improved and complemented;
- the requirements for the container flammability of container candles and for multiple wick candles have been introduced;
- test methods for the container flammability of container candles have been introduced;
- the content of the test report has been described in more detail.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

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## Introduction

Candles have accompanied mankind for more than 2 000 years serving above all as a light source. Closely connected to the development history of the candle are the efforts made to improve its quality and its safety in use. Discussions in the past and present over possible self-forming, harmful emissions and fires caused by unsafe candles and/or inappropriate use during the burning of candles have led to consumer concern for these issues.

This document helps to ensure a reasonable degree of safety during use, thereby improving personal safety and reducing the risk of fires, deaths and injuries.

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## 1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and test methods for the fire safety of candles intended to be burned indoors.

## 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.

[EN 15494:2019](#), *Candles — Product safety labels*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

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

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

### 3.1

#### **aftersmoke time**

time the wick continues to smoke visibly after extinguishing the flame

### 3.2

#### **base material**

intended fuel source for a candle flame

[SOURCE: EN 15426:2018, 3.1]

### 3.3

#### **burning period**

time the candle burns from being lit initially until it is extinguished

### 3.4

#### **burn test cycle**

total time of a burning period and pause

### 3.5

#### **candle**

one or more combustible wicks supported by a material that constitutes a fuel, which is solid or semisolid at a temperature of (20 to 27) °C with the main function of sustaining a light-producing flame, including any coatings on and articles or substances in the fuel

[SOURCE: EN 15426:2018, 3.2, modified: The term “room temperature” has been replaced by “temperature” to avoid any misunderstanding]

### 3.6

#### **container candle**

candle that is produced and used in the same container

Note 1 to entry: This definition includes tea lights.

[SOURCE: EN 15426:2018, 3.3]

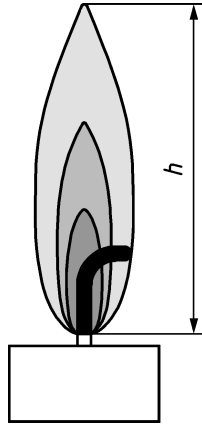
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### 3.7

#### **flame height**

vertical distance between the base of the flame and the top of the flame

Note 1 to entry: The base of the flame is not always visible. In such cases, the point where the wick colour changes from light to dark is considered the base of the flame for measuring the flame height. See [Figure 1](#).



#### **Key**

h flame height

**Figure 1 — Flame height**

### 3.8

#### **floating candle**

candle intended and designed for use in a suitable bowl or container filled with water

### 3.9

#### **freestanding candle**

candle that is designed to be used without a supporting holder

[SOURCE: EN 15426:2018, 3.4]

### 3.10

#### **indoor candle**

candle intended and designed for use inside a house or a building with typical indoor conditions concerning ventilation, draught and temperature

Note 1 to entry: An outdoor candle is a candle intended and designed to be used outside buildings in the open air.

[SOURCE: EN 15426:2018, 3.5]

### 3.11

#### **molten fuel pool**

portion of the fuel of a candle that is in the liquid form when the candle is burning

[SOURCE: EN 15426:2018, 3.7]

### 3.12

#### **multiple wick candle**

candle containing more than one wick, with each wick having an individual flame

[SOURCE: ASTM F2417-26, 3.2.7, modified: only the term “multiple wick candle” is given]

### 3.13

#### **non-freestanding candle**

candle that is designed to be used with a supporting holder

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**3.14****re-ignition**

self-ignition of the wick after it has been extinguished

**3.15****residual height**

height of the candle, measured from the bottom of the candle to the surface of the molten fuel pool

[SOURCE: EN 15426:2018, 3.8]

**3.16****secondary ignition**

self-sustained flame other than that on the intended wick(s), including flash over where vapours of the base material ignite over the molten fuel pool or the ignition of a container

**3.17****self-sustained flame**

flame that continues to burn until the fuel source is removed or depleted or is actively extinguished

**3.18****sustained flaming**

existence of flame on or over the surface of the specimen for periods of 4 s or more

[SOURCE: ASTM F2601-25, 3.3.10]

**3.19****tea light**

cylindrical candle that is burned up in a container which may be suitable to keep vessels containing coffee, tea or other liquids warm, by using a warming stove

Note 1 to entry: Diameters of tea lights typically range from 36 mm to 39 mm.

**3.20****wick**

object that delivers fuel to a flame through the process of capillary action

[SOURCE: EN 15426:2018, 3.14]

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## Bibliography

- [1] [EN 15426:2018](#), *Candles — Specification for sooting behaviour*
- [2] [ASTM F2417-26](#), *Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candles*
- [3] [ASTM F2601-25](#), *Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candle Accessories*
- [4] [EN ISO 13732-1](#), *Ergonomics of the thermal environment — Methods for the assessment of human responses to contact with surfaces — Part 1: Hot surfaces (ISO 13732-1)*