

## **Furniture - Chairs and tables for educational institutions - Part 2: Safety requirements and test methods**

# Möbel - Stühle und Tische für Bildungseinrichtungen - Teil 2: Sicherheitstechnische Anforderungen und Prüfverfahren

# Meubles - Chaises et tables pour les établissements d'enseignement - Partie 2 : Exigences de sécurité et méthodes d'essai

## National Foreword

This European Standard EN 1729-2:2012 was adopted as Luxembourgish Standard ILNAS-EN 1729-2:2012.

Every interested party, which is member of an organization based in Luxembourg, can participate for FREE in the development of Luxembourgish (ILNAS), European (CEN, CENELEC) and International (ISO, IEC) standards:

- Participate in the design of standards
- Foresee future developments
- Participate in technical committee meetings

<https://portail-qualite.public.lu/fr/normes-normalisation/participer-normalisation.html>

### **THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED**

Nothing from this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any mean - electronic, mechanical, photocopying or any other data carries without prior permission!

EUROPEAN STANDARD <sup>ILNAS-EN 1729-2:2012</sup> **EN 1729-2**  
NORME EUROPÉENNE  
EUROPÄISCHE NORM

January 2012

ICS 97.140

Supersedes EN 1729-2:2006

English Version

**Furniture - Chairs and tables for educational institutions - Part 2:  
Safety requirements and test methods**

Meubles - Chaises et tables pour les établissements  
d'enseignement - Partie 2 : Exigences de sécurité et  
méthodes d'essai

Möbel - Stühle und Tische für Bildungseinrichtungen - Teil  
2: Sicherheitstechnische Anforderungen und Prüfverfahren

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 9 December 2011.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

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.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of 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, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels**

# Contents

Page

Foreword.....	3
<b>1 Scope .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2 Normative references .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3 General test conditions .....</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1 Testing ranges of chairs and tables .....	4
3.2 Testing of height adjustable and multi-size chairs and tables .....	5
3.3 Sequence of testing .....	5
<b>4 Safety requirements .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5 Testing of chairs .....</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1 General.....	6
5.2 Stability .....	7
5.2.1 General.....	7
5.2.2 Forward stability .....	7
5.2.3 Sideways stability .....	8
5.2.4 Rearwards stability .....	10
5.2.5 Chairs with backrest inclination.....	10
5.3 Strength and durability .....	11
5.3.1 General.....	11
5.3.2 Seat and back static load (EN 1728:2000, 6.2.1) .....	11
5.3.3 Seat and back durability (EN 1728:2000, 6.7).....	12
5.3.4 Seat front edge durability (EN 1728:2000, 6.8).....	12
5.3.5 Sideways static load (EN 1728:2000, 6.13).....	13
5.3.6 Forward static load (EN 1728:2000, 6.12) .....	14
5.3.7 Seat impact (EN 1728:2000, 6.15).....	14
5.3.8 Back impact (EN 1728:2000, 6.16) .....	15
5.3.9 Static load of foot rail (EN 1728:2000, 6.4) .....	16
5.3.10 Drop test (Annex A) .....	16
5.3.11 Foot rail durability (EN 15373:2007, A.5 – General).....	17
5.3.12 Armrest vertical static load (EN 1728:2000, 6.6).....	17
<b>6 Testing of tables .....</b>	<b>18</b>
6.1 Stability .....	18
6.1.1 General.....	18
6.1.2 Stability of tables, vertical load (EN 1730:2000, 6.7) .....	18
6.2 Strength and durability of tables.....	18
6.2.1 General.....	18
6.2.2 Horizontal static load (EN 1730:2000, 6.2).....	18
6.2.3 Horizontal durability (EN 1730:2000, 6.4) .....	19
6.2.4 Vertical static load (EN 1730:2000, 6.3) .....	20
6.2.5 Vertical durability (EN 1730:2000, 6.5) .....	21
<b>7 Test report .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Annex A (normative) Drop test of chairs .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Annex B (informative) Test method for determination of the displacement of chairs placed on tabletops .....</b>	<b>23</b>
B.1 General.....	23
B.2 Test equipment .....	23
B.3 Test method.....	23

## Foreword

This document (EN 1729-2:2012) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 207 "Furniture", 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 July 2012, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by July 2012.

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

This document supersedes EN 1729-2:2006.

EN 1729 consists of the following parts under the general title "*Furniture – Chairs and tables for educational institutions*":

- *Part 1: Functional dimensions;*
- *Part 2: Safety requirements and test methods.*

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

- a) additional consideration of swivel chairs;
- b) additional consideration of chairs with arm rests;
- c) clarification of seat loading points and back loading points;
- d) amendment of some loads and forces;
- e) modification of Annex B (informative) "Test method for determination of stability of chairs placed on tabletops".

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations 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, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard specifies safety requirements and test methods for chairs and tables for general educational purposes in educational institutions.

It applies to furniture for use with laptop computers or portable devices, but not to special purpose workstations, e.g. laboratories, ranked seating and workshops.

Annex A (normative) includes a test method for the drop test of chairs.

With the exception of Annex A, the figures illustrate test principles only and cannot be used to carry out the tests.

NOTE EN 1729-1 specifies functional dimensions and marking of chairs and tables for general educational purposes.

## 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 1022:2005, *Domestic furniture – Seating – Determination of stability*

EN 1335-3:2009, *Office furniture – Office work chair – Part 3: Test methods*

EN 1728:2000, *Domestic furniture – Seating – Test methods for the determination of strength and durability*

EN 1729-1, *Furniture – Chairs and tables for educational institutions – Part 1: Functional dimensions*

EN 1730:2000, *Domestic furniture – Tables – Test methods for determination of strength, durability and stability*

EN 13722, *Furniture – Assessment of the surface gloss*

EN 15373:2007, *Furniture – Strength, durability and safety – Requirements for non-domestic seating*

## 3 General test conditions

### 3.1 Testing ranges of chairs and tables

If chairs in a range of size marks are all manufactured with the same design details and geometry, it is only necessary to carry out the complete test programme on the highest size mark (including multi-size and height adjustable) in the range, plus additional stability tests on the smallest size mark in the range.

If tables in a range of size marks are all manufactured with the same design details and geometry, it is only necessary to carry out the complete test programme on the highest size mark in the range.

In the event of failure in any of the chairs/tables in the above test programme, it is necessary to carry out the complete test programme on each chair/table size mark individually.

### 3.2 Testing of height adjustable and multi-size chairs and tables

Where tables or chairs can be set to a number of different configurations the worst case configuration shall be tested.

Where tables and chairs can be adjusted to suit multiple size marks the item shall be assessed in accordance with EN 1729-1 at all size marks, and structural testing shall be carried out at the highest size mark only.

### 3.3 Sequence of testing

Testing shall be carried out according to EN 1729-1 prior to testing in EN 1729-2. The tests shall be carried out in the order that the clauses are numbered in this European Standard.

## 4 Safety requirements

In order to minimise the risk of personal injury or damage to clothing, the following requirements apply:

- a) edges of the seat, back rest and arm rests, which are in contact with the user when sitting in the chair shall be rounded with a minimum 2 mm radius or chamfer;
- b) edges of the handles shall be rounded with a minimum 2 mm radius in the direction of the force applied;
- c) all other edges and corners with which the user may come into contact with during normal use shall be smooth, rounded or chamfered and shall have no burrs;
- d) distance between accessible moving parts operated by powered mechanisms, e.g. gas lifts, shall always be either  $< 8$  mm or  $\geq 25$  mm;
- e) with the exception of setting up or folding tables and chairs, there shall be no accessible gaps  $> 8$  mm and  $< 25$  mm created during normal movements and actions;
- f) adjustment controls shall not operate inadvertently or accidentally;
- g) open ends and feet of tubular components shall be capped or otherwise closed;
- h) parts shall not be detachable without the use of an appropriate tool;
- i) parts which are lubricated shall be covered in order to avoid staining;
- j) the finish of the work surface shall not exceed silky matt (corresponding to 45 gloss units or to a  $60^\circ$  reflectometer value of less than 20) to minimise specular reflections in accordance with EN 13722 at  $60^\circ$ ;
- k) chairs shall not overturn when tested as specified in 5.2;
- l) chairs shall show no structural failure which can affect safety when tested for strength and durability as specified in 5.3 and they shall still fulfil their function. For overload tests there shall be no visible fracture or breakage;
- m) tables shall not overturn when tested in accordance with EN 1730:2000, 6.7;
- n) tables shall show no structural failure which can affect safety when tested for strength and durability as specified in 6.2 and they shall still fulfil its function.