

A43B

CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF FOOTWEAR; PARTS OF FOOTWEAR

Definition statement

This place covers:

Footwear, shoes, shoe components, assembling of these components, shape, and use of the shoes.

A43B 1/00

Footwear characterised by the material (layered products [B32B](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

General features of the material the footwear presents, either in the sole or in the upper.

Basically when it does not really matter where in the upper or in the sole the feature has to be (e.g. the use of a transparent material, to cover a logo while still displaying it).

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Soles	A43B 13/00
Sole Insert	A43B 17/00
Heels	A43B 21/00
Upper parts	A43B 23/00

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Layered products	B32B
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A43B 3/00

Footwear characterised by the shape or the use

Definition statement

This place covers:

General or special shape of the footwear, or a special use.

Examples of what will found here are footwear equipped with electronic devices, adjustable in length, slippers with all kind of straps, shoes to help or protect a person (e.g. military person) walking on landmines (by absorbing energy, deflecting shock wave, or limit the pressure of the person on the ground by increasing the ground contact surface of the sole, avoiding by such to trigger the landmine to activate).

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Footwear for all kind of sport	A43B 5/00
Features concerning a support or resilient pad	A43B 7/1405
Features concerning the sole	A43B 13/00
Features concerning the sole insert	A43B 17/00
Features concerning the heel	A43B 21/00

A43B 5/00

Footwear for sporting purposes (non-skid devices, e.g. ice-spurs, studs for football shoes, [A43C 15/00](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Footwear especially adapted for the practice of sport.

For example ski boots, neoprene footwear for use in the water, golf shoes.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

All cleats and studs	A43C 15/00
Studs for Football /Rugby/Soccer shoes	A43C 15/16

Special rules of classification

If the document concerns the stud for a football shoe, and does not bring any information about the shoe, it does not have to be classified in [A43B 5/02](#).

A43B 7/00

Footwear with health or hygienic arrangements

Definition statement

This place covers:

Footwear with health (protection against injuries, walking aid for injured people, people with diseases) or hygienic.

Examples: ventilation systems for footwear, waterproof arrangements, support pads, resilients pads, located under strategic bones/regions of the foot.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Hygienic overshoes (mostly disposable from sheet)	A43B 3/163
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A43B 7/1405

{provided with pads or holes on one or more locations, or having an anatomical or curved form}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Any pad, or resilient cushion, recess filled with resilient part.

Special rules of classification

[A43B 7/1415](#) and subgroups will locate geographically the pad under the foot.

[A43B 7/1475](#) and subgroups will specify the type of pad/cushion.

It is important to give a class in both subgroups.

Additional information can be given by attributing a class in [A43B 17/00](#) if the document concerns an insole to be inserted, in [A43B 13/18](#) or [A43B 13/20](#) if it concerns the midsole/the sole (even if in the heel, like Nike Air).

A43B 9/00

Footwear characterised by the assembling of the individual parts {(assembling parts of upper together [A43B 23/0245](#); assembling sole parts together [A43B 13/12](#))}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Assembling an upper to a sole, e.g. by stitching, gluing.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Assembling different layers of sole	A43B 13/12
Assembling different pieces of soles	A43B 13/16
Assembling different parts of the upper together	A43B 23/0245
Assembling of an upper to a sole by moulding/vulcanising	B29D 35/06 , B29D 35/10

Special rules of classification

[A43B 9/16](#), [A43B 9/18](#), [A43B 9/20](#) are not really used anymore. [B29D 35/06](#) and [B29D 35/10](#) are more appropriate.

A43B 9/16

Footwear with soles moulded on to uppers or welded on to uppers without adhesive

Special rules of classification

not used: [B29D 35/10](#) (having preformed soles or heels joined on the preformed uppers using moulding technique, e.g. by feeding or injecting material between the parts to be joined).

A43B 9/18

moulded {(moulding soles or heels to preformed uppers [B29D 35/06](#))}

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Footwear having soles or heels formed and joined on to preformed uppers using a moulding technique, e.g. by injection moulding, pressing and vulcanising	B29D 35/06
Footwear having preformed soles or heels joined on to preformed uppers using a moulding technique, e.g. by feeding or injecting plastics material between the parts to be joined.	B29D 35/10

Special rules of classification

Not used, use instead [B29D31/06](#), [B29D31/10](#).

A43B 9/20

welded

Special rules of classification

Not used: [B29D 35/10](#): having preformed soles or heels joined on to preformed uppers using a moulding technique, e.g. by feeding or injecting plastics material between the parts to be joined.

A43B 11/00

Footwear with miscellaneous arrangements to facilitate putting-on or removing, e.g. with straps

Definition statement

This place covers:

Any arrangement to help putting-on of the shoes. It can be the shape, that makes it easier to put the foot inside the shoe, or built-in shoe horns which have a dedicated sub-group.

A43B 13/00

Soles ({Skating boots characterised by the sole [A43B 5/1641](#),) **socks** [A43B 17/00](#)); **Sole and heel units**

Definition statement

This place covers:

This group concerns the sole that is a part of the upper. The insole, the midsole, the outsole.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Sole of a skate	A43B 5/1641
Feature related to an insole to be inserted, after assembly of the upper and the sole	A43B 17/00

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Material to be used	A43B 13/02
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A43B 13/02

characterised by the material

Special rules of classification

If the material can be component of the sole, of a part of it or a layer of it, a class in [A43B 13/02](#) and subgroups has to be assigned. On top of that, in case of multilayer, [A43B 13/12](#) and subgroup defines where the material is expected to be found.

If the insole is multilayered, a class in [A43B 13/386](#) has to be attributed. If the material concerns a part of the sole/layer (e.g. the front, the middle part, the heel, and not the rest, the sole/layer is call "pieced" [A43B 13/16](#) has to be attributed ([A43B 13/38](#) in case of a pieced insole).

A43B 13/22

Soles made slip-preventing or wear-resisting, e.g. by impregnation or spreading a wear-resisting layer

Definition statement

This place covers:

Sole made anti skid, either by impregnation, either by antiskid devices monolithic to the sole, or multilayer soles, with a part of it in contact with the ground, but excluding the cleats, and studs attached to the sole, like for football or soccer boots or shoes which have this group dedicated: [A43C 15/16](#) and subgroups.

Relationships with other classification places

[A43C 15/00](#) and especially [A43C 15/16](#), dedicated to studs and cleats.

A43B 15/00

Welts for footwear

Definition statement

This place covers:

The welt that is used when assembling, mainly by stitching the sole to the upper.

A43B 17/00

Insoles for insertion, e.g. footbeds or inlays, for attachment to the shoe after the upper has been joined (special medical insertions for shoes [A61F 5/14](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Insoles to be inserted.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Socks as a cloth covering the foot, up to the ankle, the knee, or even higher, and worn inside a shoe	A41B 11/00
Special medical insertions for shoes	A61F 5/14

Special rules of classification

Inserted insole with cushion/pads are also to be classified in [A43B 7/1405](#).

Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

Sock	Insole to be put in a shoe as to make it fit better.
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A43B 19/00

Shoe-shaped inserts; Inserts covering the instep {(for ski boots or similar boots [A43B 5/0405](#), for skating boots [A43B 5/1616](#))}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Boot shape insert like inner boot for ski boot	A43B 5/0405
Inner boot for skate	A43B 5/1616
Insole shaped insert	A43B 17/00

A43B 21/00

Heels; Top-pieces{, e.g. high heels, heel distinct from the sole, high heels monolithic with the sole (sole and heel units [A43B 13/37](#))}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Heels of the type protruding from the sole, like high heels for women or some leather classical shoes for men with a heel attached to a sole.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

High heels monolithic with the sole (e.g. pneumatic heels of the classical Nike Air	A43B 13/20
Sole and heel units	A43B 13/37

A43B 23/00

Uppers; Boot legs; Stiffeners; Other single parts of footwear

Definition statement

This place covers:

Shoe uppers, boot legs, toe and heel cups, linings, and anything that would be attached for decorating the upper.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Straps of sandals and slippers	A43B 3/12 , A43B 3/10
Ornaments with fastening function	A43C 11/24

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Fastening	A43C 1/00 , A43C 3/00 , A43C 7/00 , A43C 11/00
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Special rules of classification

Even if slippers and sandals should be in the [A43B 3/10](#) and [A43B 3/12](#) and sub-groups, if the upper of the slipper has some very special feature which can be of interest for common shoes, it would be classified also in the [A43B 23/00](#).

A43B 23/30

Heel-protectors for car-drivers

Special rules of classification

Not used: [A43B 5/007](#) footwear for car drivers instead.