



ADDENDA

**ANSI/ASHRAE Addendum a to
ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 55-2023**

Thermal Environmental Conditions for Human Occupancy

Approved by ASHRAE and the American National Standards Institute on August 31, 2026.

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FOREWORD

Addendum a adds to the thermal comfort questions in Informative Appendix L, which addresses measurements, surveys, and the evaluation of comfort in existing spaces (Parts 1 and 2), by adding a question on thermal disposition. Thermal disposition is described as a person's assessment of their own thermal sensitivity (usually feeling colder and/or hotter than others). This question is frequently used in research, although with varying formulations. Including it in the standard will enable more consistent data collection and, as a result, support the development of more reliable findings. Additionally, the question helps identify occupants who may be suitable candidates for personal comfort systems.

Informative Note: In this addendum, changes to the current standard are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~striking through~~ (for deletions) unless the instructions specifically mention some other means of indicating the changes.

Addendum a to Standard 55-2023

Modify Informative Appendix L as follows. The remainder of Informative Appendix L remains unchanged.

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INFORMATIVE APPENDIX L

MEASUREMENTS, SURVEYS, AND EVALUATION OF COMFORT IN EXISTING SPACES: PARTS 1 AND 2

[...]

L2.2 Satisfaction Surveys.

[...]

The thermal satisfaction survey can be used by researchers, building operators, and facility managers to assess building system performance in new buildings, and to perform periodic postoccupancy evaluation in existing facilities.

A survey user can also ask about thermal disposition, described as a person's assessment of their own thermal sensitivity. A suggested question is shown in Figure L-2. It asks occupants to reflect on their own thermal sensitivity compared to others. It could be useful to identify occupants that would benefit from personal comfort systems or to suggest where to sit.

[...]

Modify Figure L-2 to add the question shown on the following page. The remainder of Figure L-2 remains unchanged.

Background survey

Thinking about your daily life and compared to the people around you (for example, your coworkers), you consider yourself a person:

- ☐ more sensitive to heat (for example, I normally complain about feeling warm while others around me are not feeling warm)
 - ☐ more sensitive to cold (for example, I normally complain about feeling cold while others around me are not feeling cold)
 - ☐ sensitive to both cold and heat (for example, I normally complain about feeling warm or cold while others around me are not feeling warm or cold, respectively)
 - ☐ not too sensitive to both cold and heat (for example, I normally do not complain or complain very little about feeling warm or cold while others around me are complaining about feeling warm or cold)
-

Figure L-2 Thermal environment satisfaction survey.

Modify Informative Appendix M as follows. The remainder of Informative Appendix M remains unchanged.

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INFORMATIVE APPENDIX M INFORMATIVE REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

[...]

Rohles, F.H., Jr. J.E. Woods, and R.G. Nevins. 1973. The influence of clothing and temperature on sedentary comfort. *ASHRAE Transactions* 79:71–80.

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Scheatzle, D.G., H. Wu, and J. Yellott. 1989. Extending the summer comfort envelope with ceiling fans in hot, arid climates. *ASHRAE Transactions* 95(1):269–80.

[...]

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ASHRAE is concerned with the impact of its members' activities on both the indoor and outdoor environment. ASHRAE's members will strive to minimize any possible deleterious effect on the indoor and outdoor environment of the systems and components in their responsibility while maximizing the beneficial effects these systems provide, consistent with accepted Standards and the practical state of the art.

ASHRAE's short-range goal is to ensure that the systems and components within its scope do not impact the indoor and outdoor environment to a greater extent than specified by the Standards and Guidelines as established by itself and other responsible bodies.

As an ongoing goal, ASHRAE will, through its Standards Committee and extensive Technical Committee structure, continue to generate up-to-date Standards and Guidelines where appropriate and adopt, recommend, and promote those new and revised Standards developed by other responsible organizations.

Through its *Handbook*, appropriate chapters will contain up-to-date Standards and design considerations as the material is systematically revised.

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The effects of the design and selection of equipment and systems will be considered within the scope of the system's intended use and expected misuse. The disposal of hazardous materials, if any, will also be considered.

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