



IS 11646 (Part 1) : 2003

Cane for Visually Handicapped - Folding type

A cane for visually impaired individuals, often known as a white cane, is a crucial mobility tool that aids in navigation and enhances independence. It serves multiple purposes:

1. **Obstacle Detection:** The cane helps users identify obstacles in their path, providing tactile feedback about their environment.
2. **Awareness:** The visibility of the white cane signals to others that the user may need assistance, fostering understanding in public spaces.

Overall, canes empower visually impaired individuals, promoting greater autonomy and safer navigation in their daily lives.

IS 11646 (Part 1) : 2003 outlines the specifications for canes used by visually impaired individuals. This standard addresses the **design, dimensions, materials** and performance requirements for canes to ensure **safety, durability, and usability**.

Key aspects include:

1. **Scope:** The standard applies to various types of canes, focusing on those that aid in mobility for people with visual impairments.
2. **Material Specifications:** Guidelines for the materials used in cane construction, ensuring they are lightweight, durable, and capable of withstanding regular use. The standard specifies the material to be used for shaft/tube, grip, tip, coating and inner element.
3. **Design and Construction:** Specifications for the length, grip, and tips of the cane to optimize functionality and comfort.
4. **Performance Testing:** Criteria for assessing the cane's performance, including stability and resistance to wear.
5. **User Guidance:** Recommendations for training visually impaired individuals in the effective use of canes to enhance mobility and independence.

Overall, IS 11646 (Part 1): 2003 serves as a **comprehensive framework** to improve the **quality and effectiveness of mobility aids** for visually impaired users.