



IS 285: 1992 LAUNDRY SOAPS — SPECIFICATION

Laundry soaps are formulated to clean clothes by removing dirt, stains, and odors, form by the cumulative action of surfactants, enzymes, builders, and sometimes bleaching agents to clean the fabrics effectively in all conditions.

The quality of laundry soap is determined by several key characteristics like **cleansing efficiency, foaming ability, solubility, tensile strength, pH level, purity and fragrance.**

BIS has published **IS 285:1992** according to which laundry soaps can be classified into two types- Type-1 (**Pure Soaps**) and Type-2 (**Built Soaps**). Pure soaps are well-saponified soaps which, in addition to moisture, may contain amounts of substances, such as colouring matter, perfume, preservative, opacifiers and optical brightening agents while the built soaps have builders to improve its effectiveness under the conditions of use. The action of builders is mostly physio-chemical and comprise a series of effects which results in more economic usage and better cleansing action of soap, especially in hard water areas. Built soaps can further be classified into grades depending upon the presence of synthetic detergents.

The standard specifies the acceptable composition of laundry soaps and covers the requirements for testing of laundry soaps including **total fatty matter**, Rosin acids, Unsaponified fatty matter, free Caustic Alkali, matter insoluble in alcohol, Titre of total fatty acids, **Glycerol**, chloride and LSD/NSD Content. The calculations for several parameters have been adjusted by the factor of total fatty content in the soap owing to the loss of moisture in soaps.

The amendments in the standard specifies the optional requirements of **eco-mark**, a scheme for labelling environment friendly products.