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Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs —

Part 1: Design principles for safety signs in workplaces and public areas

Symboles graphiques — Couleurs de sécurité et signaux de sécurité —

*Partie 1: Principes de conception pour les signaux de sécurité sur les lieux
de travail et dans les lieux publics*



Reference number
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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this part of ISO 3864 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 3864-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 145, *Graphical symbols*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Safety identification, signs, shapes, symbols and colours*.

This part of ISO 3864, together with ISO 7010, cancels and replaces ISO 3864:1984, which has been technically revised.

ISO 3864 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs*:

- *Part 1: Design principles for safety signs in workplaces and public areas*
- *Part 2: Design principles for product safety labels*

The following part is under preparation:

- *Part 3: Design criteria for graphical symbols used in safety signs*

Annex A of this part of ISO 3864 is for information only.

This corrected version of ISO 3864-1:2002 incorporates the following corrections:

- the addition on page 1 of an important remark on the use of the colours represented within;
- the addition in Table A.1 of details of the RAL colour order system;
- the addition of bibliographic references.

Introduction

There is a need to standardize the system for conveying safety information so that it relies as little as possible on the use of words to achieve understanding. As a consequence of continued growth in international trade, travel and mobility of labour, it has become necessary to establish a universal communications method for conveying safety information.

Lack of standardization can lead to confusion and even accidents. Education is an essential part of any system that provides safety information.

Although safety colours and safety signs are essential to any safety information system, they cannot replace the use of proper working methods, instructions and accident-prevention measures and training.



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