

Code for designation of colours

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CODE FOR DESIGNATION OF COLOURS

Code de désignation de
couleurs

Code zur Farbkennzeichnung

BODY OF HD

The Harmonization Document consists of:

- IEC 757 (1983) edition 1; IEC/TC 16, not appended

This Harmonization Document was approved by CENELEC on 11 September 1984.

The English and French versions of this HD are provided by the text of the IEC publication and the German version is the official translation of the IEC text.

According to the CENELEC Internal Regulations the CENELEC member National Committees are bound:

to announce the existence of this Harmonization Document at national level

by or before 1985-03-01

to publish their new harmonized national standard

by or before 1986-03-01

to withdraw all conflicting national standards

by or before 1986-03-01.

Harmonized national standards are listed on the HD information sheet, which is available from the CENELEC National Committees or from the CENELEC General Secretariat.

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

CODE FOR DESIGNATION OF COLOURS

FOREWORD

- 1) The formal decisions or agreements of the IEC on technical matters, prepared by Technical Committees on which all the National Committees having a special interest therein are represented, express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the subjects dealt with.
- 2) They have the form of recommendations for international use and they are accepted by the National Committees in that sense.
- 3) In order to promote international unification, the IEC expresses the wish that all National Committees should adopt the text of the IEC recommendation for their national rules in so far as national conditions will permit. Any divergence between the IEC recommendation and the corresponding national rules should, as far as possible, be clearly indicated in the latter.

PREFACE

This standard has been prepared by IEC Technical Committee No. 16: Terminal Markings and Other Identifications.

Drafts were discussed at the meetings held in Nice in 1976 and in Sofia in 1978. As a result of this latter meeting, a draft, Document 16(Central Office)50, was submitted to the National Committees for approval under the Six Months' Rule in March 1979.

Amendments, Document 16(Central Office)56, were submitted to the National Committees for approval under the Two Months' Procedure in September 1981.

The National Committees of the following countries, voted explicitly in favour of publication:

Belgium	Poland
Egypt	South Africa (Republic of)
France	Sweden
Germany	Switzerland
Israel	Turkey
Italy	Union of Soviet
Japan	Socialist Republics
Netherlands	United Kingdom
New Zealand	United States of America
Norway	Yugoslavia

Other publication quoted in this standard:

Draft International Standard ISO/DIS 3864.3: Safety Colours and Safety Signs.

CODE FOR DESIGNATION OF COLOURS

1. Scope

This standard applies to the text of descriptions, drawings, markings, etc., in the electrotechnical field.

2. Object

To lay down a letter code for the designation of some distinct colours.

Notes 1. — A number code is under consideration.

2. — The object of this standard is not to lay down colour boundaries and properties. For the exact definition of those colours which have to satisfy the requirements of safety colours see ISO/DIS 3864.3: Safety Colours and Safety Signs. Guidance concerning the acceptable colour ranges and properties for any particular product may be provided in IEC standards prepared by the relevant Technical Committee.

3. Letter code

A standard letter code is given in Table I.

If it is essential to use colours other than those specified in Table I, the code used should be defined in additional documentation of the particular equipment.

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TABLE I

Colour	Letter code
Black	BK
Brown	BN
Red	RD
Orange	OG
Yellow	YE
Green	GN
Blue (including light blue)	BU
Violet (purple)	VT
Grey (slate)	GY
White	WH
Pink	PK
Gold	GD
Turquoise	TQ
Silver	SR
Green-and-yellow	GNYE

Note. — Lower-case alphabetical characters may be used with the same significance as a non-preferred alternative.

4. Colour combinations for the same part

Colour combinations shall be designated by adding the codes for the different colours, in the sequence from the top of Table I.

Example: A bi-coloured red and blue part: RDBU.

5. Different colours for different parts

Where different parts are differently coloured, the codes for the different colours are separated by the sign "plus" (+).

Example: A five-core cable with two black, a brown, a blue and a green-and-yellow core:

BK + BK + BN + BU + GNYE

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