
**Information technology — Keyboard
layouts for office systems —**

**Part 11:
Functionality of dead keys and
repertoires of characters entered by
dead keys**

*Technologies de l'information — Dispositions de claviers
bureautiques —*

*Partie 11: Fonctionnalité des touches mortes et répertoires de
caractères entrés par touches mortes*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: [Foreword — Supplementary information](#).

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 35, *User interfaces*.

ISO/IEC 9995 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Keyboard layouts for office systems*:

- *Part 1: General principles governing keyboard layouts*
- *Part 2: Alphanumeric section*
- *Part 3: Complementary layouts of the alphanumeric zone of the alphanumeric section*
- *Part 4: Numeric section*
- *Part 5: Editing and function section*
- *Part 7: Symbols used to represent functions*
- *Part 8: Allocation of letters to the keys of a numeric keypad*
- *Part 9: Multilingual-usage, multiscript keyboard group layouts*
- *Part 10: Conventional symbols and methods to represent graphic characters not uniquely recognizable by their glyph on keyboards and in documentation*
- *Part 11: Functionality of dead keys and repertoires of characters entered by dead keys*

The following part has been withdrawn and the content has been included in ISO/IEC 9995-5:

- *Part 6: Function section*

Information technology — Keyboard layouts for office systems —

Part 11:

Functionality of dead keys and repertoires of characters entered by dead keys

1 Scope

Within the general scope described in ISO/IEC 9995-1, this part of ISO/IEC 9995 defines the functionality of dead keys and repertoires of characters entered by dead keys (see [Clause 5](#)).

This part of ISO/IEC 9995 is primarily intended for word-processing and text-processing applications.

2 Conformance

The layout of a keyboard conforms to this part of ISO/IEC 9995 if it contains any dead keys and if every dead key contained in this layout works as described in [Clause 5](#). The contents of the [Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#) only need to be complied with for such dead keys which are actually contained in the keyboard layout.

3 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 9995-1, *Information technology — Keyboard layouts for text and office systems — Part 1: General principles governing keyboard layouts*

ISO/IEC 10646, *Information technology — Universal Coded Character Set (UCS)*

4 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO/IEC 9995, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 9995-1 apply.

In addition, the following terms and definitions apply.

4.1

dead key

key which, when it is actuated, produces (according to the currently active group and level) a specific graphic character but does not change the active position.

Note 1 to entry: When a key does not act as a dead key with all possible group/level combinations of a specific keyboard layout, it is called “acting as a dead key” under the precondition that a group/level combination is active where it acts according to the definition of a “dead key” given here.

Note 2 to entry: The name “dead key” originates in the naming of comparable keys present on mechanical typewriters, which did not cause a horizontal advancement of the carriage as the keys used for typing ordinary letters did.