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**Information technology — User  
interface icons —**

**Part 41:  
Data structure to be used by the ISO/  
IEC JTC 1/SC 35 icon database**

*Technologies de l'information — Icônes d'interface utilisateur —*

*Partie 41: Structure de données pour la base de données d'icônes du  
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35*



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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](http://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](http://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/TS 11581 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — User interface icons*:

- *Part 1: Introduction to and overview of icon standards* [Technical Report]
- *Part 2: Object icons*<sup>1)</sup>
- *Part 3: Pointer icons*<sup>1)</sup>
- *Part 5: Tool icons*<sup>1)</sup>
- *Part 6: Action icons*
- *Part 10: Framework and general guidance*
- *Part 40: Management of icon registration*
- *Part 41: Data structure to be used by the ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35 icon database* [Technical Specification]

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1) The main element of the title of this part was changed on publication of Parts 1, 10 and 40. It is intended that, upon revision, the main element of this title will be aligned with the main element of the titles of Parts 1, 10 and 40.

## Introduction

Icons are used on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) products to facilitate interaction with their users. Icons can provide a language-independent means of communicating information to the user.

This part of ISO/IEC 11581 provides a data structure to be used by the ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35 icon database that is being managed by ISO/IEC 11581-40. This data structure is based on the framework provided in ISO/IEC 11581-10.

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# Information technology — User interface icons —

## Part 41:

# Data structure to be used by the ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35 icon database

## 1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 11581 provides guidance for developers and designers creating and/or using icons and provides a basis for the standardization of icons. It also provides a framework for creating future International Standards dealing with icons as parts of the ISO/IEC 11581 series and for identifying icon-related information to be used in any accompanying icon registries. It is intended to be used with ISO/IEC 11581-40 to create a registry of icons.

This part of ISO/IEC 11581 recognizes that icons are more than just symbols used on computer screens. Icons are interaction objects used by computer interfaces to accomplish various purposes. Icons can be rendered in various forms, including graphics, audio, tactile/haptic, or any combination thereof. This versatility in rendition can provide greater accessibility to their underlying functionalities.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable to 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 639-3, *Codes for the representation of names of languages — Part 3: Alpha-3 code for comprehensive coverage of languages*

ISO/IEC 11581-10:2010, *Information technology — User interface icons — Part 10: Framework and general guidance*