
Packaging — Pictorial marking for handling of goods

*Emballages — Marquages graphiques relatifs à la manutention des
marchandises*



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.

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.

International Standard ISO 780 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 122, *Packaging*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 780:1985), which has been technically revised.

Annex A of this international Standard is for information only.

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Introduction

Packages are often marked with handling instructions in the language of the country of origin. While this may safeguard the consignment to some extent, it is of little value for goods consigned to, or through, countries using different languages, and of no value at all if people handling the packages are illiterate.

Pictorial symbols offer the best possibility of conveying the consignor's intention and their adoption will, therefore, undoubtedly reduce loss and damage through incorrect handling.

The symbols specified are in accordance with the rules of ISO/TC 145, *Graphical symbols*.

The use of pictorial symbols does not provide any guarantee of satisfactory handling; proper protective packaging is therefore of primary importance.

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Packaging — Pictorial marking for handling goods

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a set of symbols conventionally used for marking of transport packages in their physical distribution chain to convey handling instructions. The symbols should be used only when necessary.

This International Standard is applicable to packages containing any kind of goods, but does not include instructions specific to the handling of dangerous goods.

2 Symbols

2.1 Display of symbols

Symbols should preferably be stencilled directly on the package or may appear on a label. It is recommended that the symbols be painted, printed or otherwise reproduced as specified in this International Standard. They need not be framed by border lines.

The graphical design of each symbol shall have only one meaning; symbols are purposely designed so that they can also be stencilled without changing the graphics.

2.2 Colour of symbols

The colour used for symbols shall be black.

If the colour of the package is such that the black symbol would not show clearly, a panel of a suitable contrasting colour, preferably white, shall be provided as a background.

Care shall be taken to avoid the use of colours which could result in confusion with the labelling of dangerous goods. The use of red, orange or yellow shall be avoided unless regional or national regulations require such use.

2.3 Size of symbols

For normal purposes the overall height of the symbols shall be 100 mm, 150 mm or 200 mm.

The size or shape of the package may, however, necessitate use of larger or smaller sizes for the symbols.

2.4 Number, location and position of symbols

2.4.1 The number of identical symbols to be used for any one package depends on its size and shape.

For symbols No. 1, 3, 7, 11 and 16 (see table 1), the following rules shall be applied.

- a) **Symbol No. 1**, "Fragile", shall be shown near the left-hand upper corner on all four upright sides of the packages (see example of application under No. 1 in table 1).