
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



216

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION • МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ • ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

Writing paper and certain classes of printed matter — Trimmed sizes — A and B series

Papiers d'écriture et certaines catégories d'imprimés — Formats finis — Séries A et B

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FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO Member Bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO Technical Committees. Every Member Body interested in a subject for which a Technical Committee has been set up 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the Technical Committees are circulated to the Member Bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

Prior to 1972, the results of the work of the Technical Committees were published as ISO Recommendations; these documents are now in the process of being transformed into International Standards. As part of this process, Technical Committee ISO/TC 6 has reviewed ISO Recommendation R 216 and found it suitable for transformation. International Standard ISO 216 therefore replaces ISO Recommendation R 216-1961 to which it is technically identical.

ISO Recommendation R 216 was approved by the Member Bodies of the following countries :

Austria	India	Sweden
Belgium	Israel	Switzerland
Burma	Japan	Turkey
Chile	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Czechoslovakia	Norway	U.S.S.R.
Denmark	Poland	Yugoslavia
Germany	Portugal	
Greece	Romania	

The Member Bodies of the following countries expressed disapproval of the Recommendation on technical grounds :

France*
Ireland*

The Member Bodies of the following countries disapproved the transformation of ISO/R 216 into an International Standard :

Canada	Norway
Finland	U.S.A.
New Zealand	

* Subsequently, these Member Bodies approved the Recommendation.

Writing paper and certain classes of printed matter — Trimmed sizes — A and B series

1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard specifies the trimmed sizes of writing paper and certain classes of printed matter.

It applies to trimmed sizes of paper for administrative, commercial and technical use, and also to certain classes of printed matter, such as forms, catalogues, etc.

It does not necessarily apply to newspapers, published books, posters or other special items which may be the subject of separate International Standards.

2 REFERENCE

ISO/R 187, *Method for the conditioning of paper and board test samples*.

3 UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

3.1 Basic principles (regularly derived sizes)

The system of paper sizes is built on the following basis : each normal series (regularly derived sizes) consists of a range of sizes formed in such a manner that each size is achieved by dividing the size immediately above it into two equal parts, the division being parallel to the shorter side (the halving principle). Consequently the areas of two successive sizes are in the ratio 2 : 1 (see figure 1).

All the sizes in each series are geometrically similar to one another (the principle of similarity) (see figure 2). This requirement, combined with that explained in the preceeding paragraph, gives the following equation for the sides x and y of a given size (see figure 3) :

$$y : x = \sqrt{2} : 1 = 1,414 \quad \dots (1)$$

In other words, the ratio between the sides x and y is equal to the ratio between the side and the diagonal of a square.

FIGURE 1

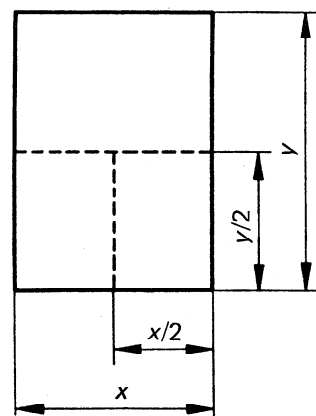


FIGURE 2

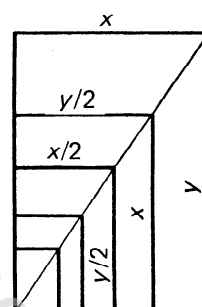


FIGURE 3

