
**Cinematography — Theatre projection
leader, trailer and cue marks —
Specifications**

*Cinématographie — Amorces, <<trailer>> et <<cue marks>> pour
projection en salles — Spécifications*



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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.

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 ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. www.iso.org/directives.

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

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 36, *Cinematography*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 4241:2001), of which it constitutes a minor revision.

[Annex A](#) of this International Standard is for information only.

Cinematography — Theatre projection leader, trailer and cue marks — Specifications

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the makeup or assembly of time-based leaders and cue marks for 70 mm, 35 mm, and 16 mm motion-picture release prints.

NOTE Extraneous materials are dealt with in [Annex A](#).

2 Normative reference

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 4238:1976, *Cinematography — Optical printing ratios for enlargement and reduction of motion-picture film images — Specifications*

3 Reduction ratio

The reduction ratio in the production of the head and foot leaders from 35 mm motion-picture film to 16 mm motion-picture film shall be in accordance with ISO 4238.

4 General specifications

4.1 Orientation and dimensions of letters and numerals in this International Standard are with respect to 35 mm motion-picture films and are modified proportionally in accordance with ISO 4238 for 70 mm and 16 mm prints.

4.2 Information appearing in the leader which is printed lengthwise (in the direction of film travel) shall read from left to right when viewed from the projection lens towards the projector light source with the head end of the film at the right. Information appearing in the leader which is printed upright shall read normally when the reel is uppermost and the head of the film hangs down ready for threading (see [Figures 1](#) and [5](#) for orientation of information).

4.3 All frames in the head-leader and trailer-leader identification sections (see [5.3](#) and [7.3](#)) and in frames 1 through 171 of the head-leader synchronizing section (see [5.4](#)) shall be masked to the nominal anamorphic projection aperture [20,95 mm (0,825 in) × 17,53 mm (0,690 in)] with clear framelines nominally the height of anamorphic projection aperture framelines [1,55 mm (0,061 in)]. Frames 172 through 218 of the head-leader synchronizing section and frames 1 through 87 of the trailer-leader runout section shall be masked to the nominal anamorphic camera aperture [21,95 mm (0,864 in) × 18,59 mm (0,732 in)] with clear framelines nominally the height of anamorphic camera-aperture framelines [0,41 mm (0,016 in)].

4.4 Because many types of film may be used for leaders, exact neutral densities have not been specified. For the purpose of this International Standard, the following approximate neutral densities are referred to:

- clear (neutral density less than 0,35);
- black (neutral density greater than 1,95).