
**Information technology — User system
interfaces and symbols — Icon symbols
and functions —**

**Part 2:
Object icons**

*Technologies de l'information — Interfaces pour système utilisateur et
symboles — Symboles et fonctions d'icônes —*

Partie 2: Icônes d'objet

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this part of ISO/IEC 11581 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO/IEC 11581-2 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 35, *User Interfaces*.

ISO/IEC 11581 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — User system interfaces and symbols — Icon symbols and functions*:

- *Part 1: Icons — General*
- *Part 2: Object icons*
- *Part 3: Pointer icons*
- *Part 4: Control icons*
- *Part 5: Tool icons*
- *Part 6: Action icons*

Annex A of this part of ISO/IEC 11581 is for information only.

Introduction

Object icons are a subset of icons that represent the objects making up the domain of a system or application and that users manipulate in doing their jobs. They are distinguished from other icons by the fact that they mediate user interactions with software applications, and they may be moved and opened. Object icons are images that represent functions by using associations with similar physical objects.

Besides representing a function an object icons can sometimes represent a similar physical object. For example a printer icon image can represent a specific printer, rather than the generic concept of printing.

Figure 1 shows a model relating an icon on the screen, the way it is interpreted by the user, and the application concept that it represents.

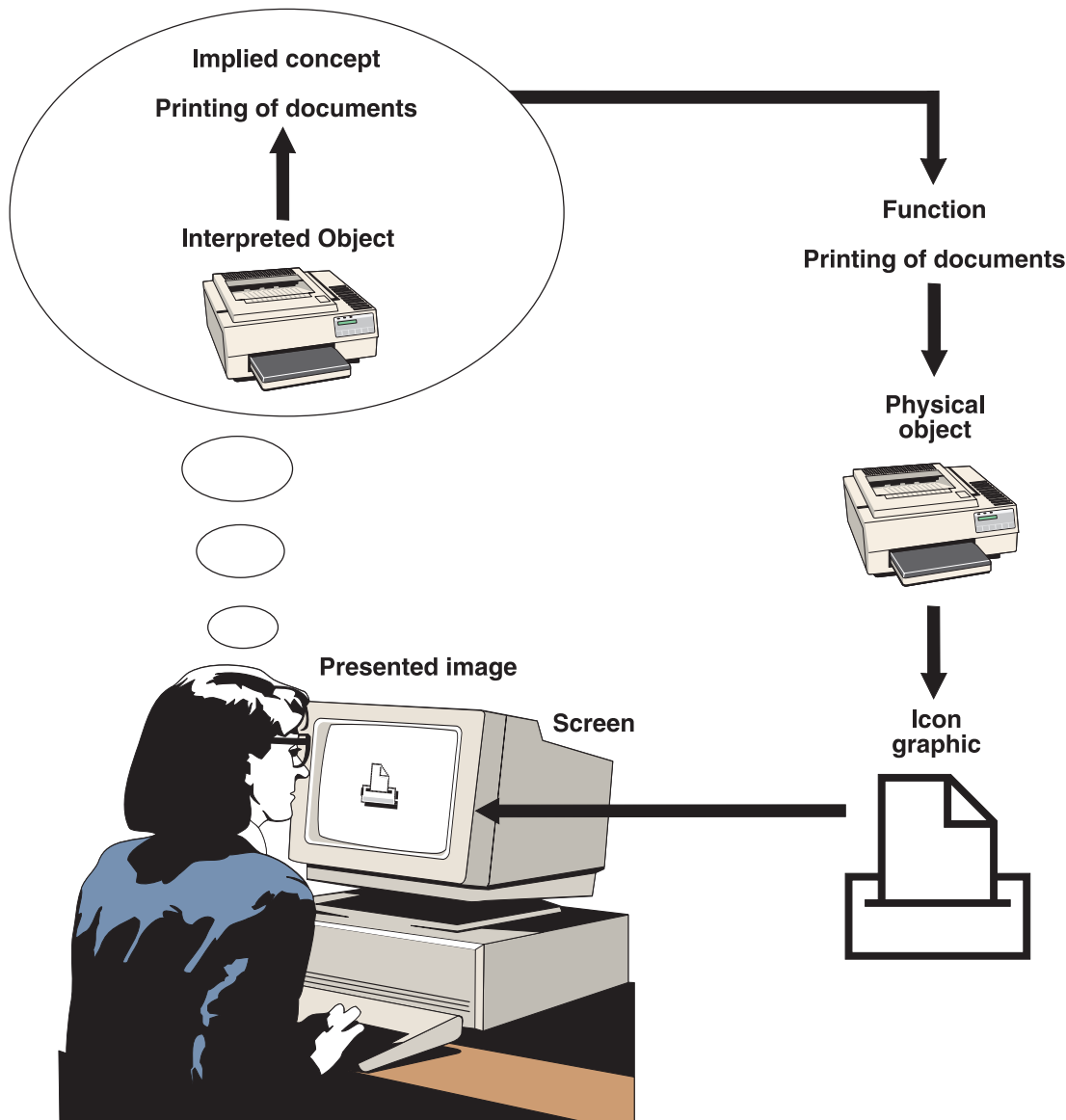


Figure 1 — User interpretation of object icons

Information technology — User system interfaces and symbols — Icon symbols and functions —

Part 2: Object icons

1 Scope

ISO/IEC 11581 applies to icons that are shown on a screen, that users can manipulate and interact with, and that represent data, or computer system functions. This part of ISO/IEC 11581 addresses only object icons. “Object icons” is a term used in ISO/IEC 11581 to describe icons that represent functions by association with an object and that can be moved and opened. Other types of icons are covered in other parts of the standard that are listed in the Foreword.

Annex A describes the information to be given when submitting new object icons for inclusion in this part of ISO/IEC 11581.

2 Conformance

A system, application, or set of one or more icon(s) conforms to this part of ISO/IEC 11581 if all icons available to the user in the system, application, or set conform to clause 5 and subclause 6.1 of ISO/IEC 11581-1:2000 and all object icons implemented by the system, application, or set conform to 6.1 of this part of ISO/IEC 11581.

3 Normative reference

The following normative document contains provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO/IEC 11581. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of ISO/IEC 11581 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the normative document indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO/IEC 11581-1:2000, *Information technology — User system interfaces and symbols — Icon symbols and functions — Part 1: Icons — General*.