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

**Part 5:  
Tool icons**

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

*Partie 5: Icônes d'outils*

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. 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.

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ISO/IEC 11581-5 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 5: Tool icons*
- *Part 6: Action icons*

## Introduction

Tools are the subset of the interactive icons that modify graphical or text elements of an application by association with real life tool objects. Tool icons represent tool functions such as drawing, painting, or modifying graphical elements. This part of ISO/IEC 11581 specifies the presentation and operation of tools.

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

## Part 5: Tool 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 tool icons. Tool icons represent functions by association with real life tools. This part of ISO/IEC 11581 describes user interaction with and appearance of tools on the screen. It also specifies the relationship between tools and pointers. Other types of icons are covered in other parts of ISO/IEC 11581.

### 2 Conformance

A system, application, or set of one or more icons conforms to this part of ISO/IEC 11581 if all tool icons available to the user in the system or application conform to clauses 5 and 6.1 of ISO/IEC 11581-1:2000 and to clause 6.1 of ISO/IEC 11581-3:2000, and to clauses 5 and 6.1 of this part of ISO/IEC 11581.

### 3 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

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

ISO/IEC 11581-2:2000, *Information technology — User system interfaces and symbols — Icon symbols and functions — Part 2: Object icons*

ISO/IEC 11581-3:2000, *Information technology — User system interfaces and symbols — Icon symbols and functions — Part 3: Pointer icons*