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Supersedes  
DIN ISO 3864-3:2007-02

**Graphical symbols –  
Safety colours and safety signs –  
Part 3: Design principles for graphical symbols for use in safety signs  
(ISO 3864-3:2012),  
English translation of DIN ISO 3864-3:2012-11**

Graphische Symbole –  
Sicherheitsfarben und Sicherheitszeichen –  
Teil 3: Gestaltungsgrundlagen für graphische Symbole zur Anwendung in  
Sicherheitszeichen (ISO 3864-3:2012),  
Englische Übersetzung von DIN ISO 3864-3:2012-11

Symboles graphiques –  
Couleurs de sécurité et signaux de sécurité –  
Partie 3: Principes de conception pour les symboles graphiques utilisés dans les signaux  
de sécurité (ISO 3864-3:2012),  
Traduction anglaise de DIN ISO 3864-3:2012-11

Document comprises 34 pages

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In case of doubt, the German-language original shall be considered authoritative.

*A comma is used as the decimal marker.*

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## National foreword

This standard has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 145 “Graphical symbols”, Subcommittee SC 2 “Safety identification, signs, shapes, symbols and colours”, with the active participation of German experts.

The responsible German body involved in its preparation was the *Normenausschuss Sicherheitstechnische Grundsätze* (Safety Design Principles Standards Committee), Joint Committee NA 095-01-06 GA *Sicherheitskennzeichnung*.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. DIN [and/or DKE] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 3864 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs*:

- *Part 1: Design principles for safety signs and safety markings*
- *Part 2: Design principles for product safety labels*
- *Part 3: Design principles for graphical symbols for use in safety signs*
- *Part 4: Colorimetric and photometric properties of safety sign materials*

The DIN Standards corresponding to the International Standards referred to in this document are as follows:

ISO 3864-1	DIN ISO 3864-1
ISO 3864-2	DIN ISO 3864-2
ISO 7000	DIN 7000
ISO 7010	DIN EN ISO 7010

## Amendments

This standard differs from DIN ISO 3864-3:2007-02 as follows:

- a) ISO 3864-3:2012 has been adopted in full;
- b) specifications for the evaluation of graphical details have been modified and moved from the normative part to informative Annex A “Additional design guidelines”;
- c) recommendations related to the depiction of the human figure have been modified/extended;
- d) the standard has been editorially revised.

## Previous editions

DIN ISO 3864-3: 2007-02

## National Annex NA (informative)

### Bibliography

DIN 4844-1, *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Part 1: Observation distances and colorimetric and photometric requirements*

DIN 4844-2, *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Part 2: Registered safety signs*

DIN EN ISO 7010, *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Registered safety signs*

DIN ISO 3864-1, *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Part 1: Design principles for safety signs and safety markings*

DIN ISO 3864-2, *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Part 2: Design principles for product safety labels*

DIN ISO 7000, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment — Index and synopsis*

# **Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Part 3: Design principles for graphical symbols for use in safety signs**

## **Introduction**

Graphical symbols in safety signs are used for a wide range of purposes. There is a need to standardize the principles for creating these graphical symbols to ensure visual clarity, to maintain consistency, and thereby to improve recognition and comprehension. The principles set forth in this part of ISO 3864 are the design criteria by which graphical symbols are judged for standardization and publication in ISO 7010 and in ISO 20712-1.

Graphical symbols used in safety signs are not always intuitively understood. Often training needs to take place to inform people about the meaning of a graphical symbol. Such training can take place by including the meaning of a graphical symbol in operation manuals, company bulletins, training programme materials, as well as using supplementary text with the safety sign.

NOTE Information on procedures, criteria of acceptability, safety sign templates and application of safety signs is given on the website: <http://www.iso.org/tc145/sc2>.