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Australian Standard 2287—1979

LAYOUT OF TYPEBAR TYPEWRITER KEYBOARDS— QWERTY



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Incorporated by Royal Charter



THE FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Australian Banks Automation Committee
Australian Bureau of Statistics
Australian Computer Users Association
Australian Public Service Board
CSIRO, Division of Computing Research
Department of Defence
Life Offices Association For Australasia
Manufacturers of data processing equipment
Manufacturers of typewriters
Metric Conversion Board
National Library of Australia
Office Equipment Industry Association of Australia
Qantas Airways Limited
Registrar General's Office, N.S.W.
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LAYOUT OF TYPEBAR TYPEWRITER KEYBOARDS— QWERTY

AS 2287—1979

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PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Computers and Information Processing at the request of the Metric Conversion Board and several government departments.

The principal aims of this standard are—

- (a) to introduce characters necessary for the proper and convenient use of the International System of Units (SI), as defined in AS 1000; and
- (b) to establish a standard QWERTY layout for the placement of characters on keys.

In the absence of an international standard for the layout of typewriter keyboards, the following standards were used for guidance during the preparation of this standard:

- AS 1659 The Alphanumeric Section of QWERTY type Keyboards operated with both hands
(technically identical with ISO 2126)
- AS 1922 Implementation of the Australian Standard 7-bit Coded Character Set, Alphanumeric Keyboard, QWERTY type
(technically identical with ISO 2530)
- ISO 3243 Keyboards for Countries whose languages have Alphabetic Extenders
—Guidelines for Harmonization

The layout of the alphanumeric section of this standard is identical with the layout given in AS 1659.

For the placement of graphic symbols, the layout in AS 1922 has been followed, where possible. Account has also been taken of the guidelines given in ISO 3243; however, it was recognized that ISO 3243 was intended for languages with alphabetic extenders. Such variations from AS 1922 and ISO 3243 as have been made in this standard were found to be necessary for technical reasons.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
LAYOUT OF TYPEBAR TYPEWRITER KEYBOARDS—QWERTY

1 SCOPE. This standard specifies the content and layout of the keyboards of typewriters which incorporate typebars, where each key carries two characters.

The layout specified incorporates SI* symbols and is concerned only with nominal relative positions of the keys. Physical factors, such as key spacing, keyboard slope, shape and size of keytops and of the space bar, are not defined, nor is the way in which the keys are labelled. Key positions are shown for reference purposes only.

2 CHARACTER SET. The character set for a 46-keyboard shall consist of the following 90 characters:

26 upper case letters:	A to Z
26 lower case letters:	a to z
10 decimal digits:	0 to 9
3 superscript decimal digits:	3, 2 and 6
25 graphic symbols in accordance with Table 1	

TABLE 1
GRAPHIC SYMBOLS

Symbol	Name	Symbol	Name
μ	mu, prefix micro (upright form)	=	Equal sign
¨	Quotation mark, diaeresis	-	Hyphen, minus sign
£	Currency symbol, pound	Ω	Omega (ohm symbol) (upright form)
\$	Currency symbol, dollar	°	Degree
%	Percent	-	Superscript minus sign
—	Underline	+	Plus sign
'	Apostrophe, acute accent	;	Semicolon
(Left parenthesis	:	Colon
)	Right parenthesis	@	Commercial 'at'
&	Ampersand	!	Exclamation mark
,	Comma, cedilla	*	Asterisk
.	Full stop	?	Question mark
/	Solidus		

3 KEYBOARD LAYOUT. The keyboard shall be laid out in accordance with Fig. 1 for a 46-key QWERTY keyboard.

For keyboards with 45 and 44 keys, the layout shall be in accordance with Fig. 1 but with omissions in accordance with Table 2.

TABLE 2
KEYS TO BE OMITTED*

Number of keys	C12	D12
45	X	
44	X	X

*The following characters are allocated to the omitted keys:

C12—Superscript 6 and superscript minus sign

D12—Omega (Ω) and mu (μ)

*Le Systeme International d'Unités (the International System of Units)—see AS 1000.