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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/National Bureau of Standards



**PERFORATED TAPE CODE
FOR INFORMATION
INTERCHANGE**

**CATEGORY: HARDWARE STANDARD
SUBCATEGORY: INTERCHANGE CODES AND MEDIA**

FIPS PUB 2-1

Foreword

The Federal Information Processing Standards Publication Series of the National Bureau of Standards is the official publication relating to standards adopted and promulgated under the provisions of Public Law 89-306 (Brooks Act) and under Part 6 of Title 15, Code of Federal Regulations. These legislative and executive mandates have given the Secretary of Commerce important responsibilities for improving the utilization and management of computers and automatic data processing in the Federal Government. To carry out the Secretary's responsibilities, the NBS, through its Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology, provides leadership, technical guidance, and coordination of Government efforts in the development of guidelines and standards in these areas.

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James H. Burrows, *Director*
Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology

Abstract

This publication provides the representation of the *Code for Information Interchange, Its Representations, Subsets, and Extensions* (FIPS 1-2) on perforated tape used in Federal information processing systems, communications systems, and associated equipment. This Federal Information Processing Standard adopts in whole American National Standard X3.6-1965 (reaffirmed in 1983), *Perforated Tape Code for Information Interchange*. Three other related standards are also listed.

Key words: ASCII; character coded information; communications systems; Federal Information Processing Standard; information interchange; perforated tape; punched paper tape.



Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 2-1

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Announcing the Standard for

PERFORATED TAPE CODE FOR INFORMATION INTERCHANGE



Federal Information Processing Standards Publications are issued by the National Bureau of Standards pursuant to section 111(f)(2) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, Public Law 89-306 (79 Stat. 1127; 40 U.S.C. 759(f), Executive Order 11717 (38 FR 12315, dated May 11, 1973), and Part 6 of Title 15, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

Name of Standard: Perforated Tape Code for Information Interchange (FIPS 2-1).

Category of Standard: Hardware Standard, Interchange Codes and Media.

Explanation: This standard specifies the representation of the *Code for Information Interchange, Its Representations, Subsets, and Extensions* (FIPS 1-2) on perforated tape used in Federal information processing systems, communications systems, and associated equipment. Certain terms used in this standard are explained in FIPS 1-2.

Approving Authority: Secretary of Commerce.

Maintenance Agency: Department of Commerce, National Bureau of Standards (Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology).

Cross Index: American National Standard X3.6-1965 (reaffirmed in 1983), *Perforated Tape Code for Information Interchange*.

Related Documents:

- a. FIPS PUB 1-2, *Code for Information Interchange, Its Representations, Subsets, and Extensions*.
- b. FIPS PUB 26, *One-Inch Perforated Tape for Information Interchange* (adopts ANSI X3.18-1974).
- c. FIPS PUB 27, *Take-up Reels for One-Inch Perforated Tape for Information Interchange* (adopts ANSI X3.20-1967).

Applicability: Generally applicable to the representation of character coded information on perforated tape used with data processing, communications, and related equipments. This standard is applicable to the use of perforated tape in coded character environments involving Federal procurement and use of data processing and communication systems, data systems, system components, and related equipment that may be required to accept, process, store, transmit or interchange character coded information. Information concerning the use of this standard in communications systems that are a part of the National Communications System may be obtained from the Manager, National Communications System, Attention: NCS-TS, Washington, DC 20305-2010.

Implementation: All equipment and data systems to which this standard is applicable that are brought into the Federal Government inventory on or after the date of this FIPS PUB must be in conformance with this standard unless a waiver has been obtained in accordance with the waiver provisions given below. FIPS PUB 2 and FIPS PUB 7 still apply according to their terms to equipment and systems obtained before the date of this FIPS PUB.

Specifications: This standard adopts in whole American National Standard X3.6-1965 (reaffirmed in 1983), *Perforated Tape Code for Information Interchange*.

Waivers: If instances arise in which an agency cannot comply with the provisions of this FIPS PUB, the head of the agency is authorized to waive its application. Generally, two conditions apply in those exceptional cases which would warrant a waiver:

- a. Significant, continuing cost or efficiency disadvantages will be encountered by the use of this standard and,
- b. The interchange of information with other systems is not anticipated.

Notification of approved waivers shall be sent to the Director, Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology, National Bureau of Standards, Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

Where to Obtain Copies: Copies of this publication are available for sale from the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22161. (Sale of the included specifications documents is by arrangement with the American National Standards Institute.) When ordering, refer to Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 2-1 (FIPSPUB2-1), and title. Payment may be made by check, money order, or deposit account.





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