
Gel ink ball pens and refills —

**Part 1:
General use**

*Stylos à bille à encre gel et recharges —
Partie 1: Utilisation générale*





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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 10, *Technical product documentation*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 27668-1:2016), of which it constitutes a minor revision, with changes in [Clause 2](#) and [5.2](#).

A list of all parts in the ISO 27668 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

This document is applicable to gel ink ball pens for general use.

ISO 27668-2 is applicable to gel ink ball pens for documentary use.

For documentary use, some requirements, in addition to those for general use, are necessary

- a) to ensure the legibility of lettering, and
- b) for the handling and storage of documents over long periods of time (these requirements are often discussed with the archivist).

An example of documentary use is the preparation of documents that are required as evidence.

Furthermore, pens which meet the requirements for documentary use produce lines which are more resistant to modification (e.g. attempts to falsify a document) than those for general use.

Gel ink ball pens and refills —

Part 1: General use

1 Scope

This document establishes minimum quality requirements for gel ink ball pens (refillable and non-refillable) and refills for general use.

Additional requirements for gel ink ball pens for documentary use are given in ISO 27668-2.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 105-A02, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part A02: Grey scale for assessing change in colour*

ISO 105-B02, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part B02: Colour fastness to artificial light: Xenon arc fading lamp test*

ISO 534, *Paper and board — Determination of thickness, density and specific volume*

ISO 535, *Paper and board — Determination of water absorptiveness — Cobb method*

ISO 536, *Paper and board — Determination of grammage*

ISO 868, *Plastics and ebonite — Determination of indentation hardness by means of a durometer (Shore hardness)*

ISO 2144, *Paper, board and pulps — Determination of residue (ash) on ignition at 900 degrees C*

ISO 5627, *Paper and board — Determination of smoothness (Bekk method)*

ISO 8791-4, *Paper and board — Determination of roughness/smoothness (air leak methods) — Part 4: Print-surf method*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

pen

writing instrument equipped with a feeding system which deposits a writing fluid on a surface

Note 1 to entry: It is available in refillable or non-refillable (disposable) form.