BS ISO/IEC 17823:2015

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# Colour terminology for office colour equipment

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee IST/3, IT Printers and Cartridges.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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# Colour terminology for office colour equipment

*Terminologie couleur pour équipement couleur de bureau*

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# Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 28, *Office equipment*.

# Introduction

Technical colour terms have been published in various fields of standards such as colour photography, graphic technology printing and computer graphics. However, no standard colour terms have been published for office equipment.

As a result, misunderstandings between users and colour office equipment providers can occur when terms are interpreted differently.

The purpose of this International Standard is to provide terminology for use by office equipment providers to help customers use their colour equipment effectively.

**INTERNATIONAL STANDARD** **ISO/IEC 17823:2015(E)**

# Colour terminology for office colour equipment

## 1 Scope

This International Standard provides definitions for colour terms used with office equipment, in particular for use with colour scanning and printing devices that have digital imaging capabilities, including multi-function devices.

This International Standard is not intended to replace terms and definitions published in documents or user interfaces issued or created by manufacturers.

## 2 Terms and definitions

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

**2.1**
**colour balance**
adjustment of colour channel gains or processing

**2.1.1**
**grey balance**
set of tone values for cyan, magenta and yellow that are expected to appear as an achromatic grey under specified viewing conditions when printed using the specified printing conditions

Note 1 to entry: The user can choose between the following two practical definitions and one theoretical definition of grey, depending upon the particular context.

a) practical definitions:

   1) a colour having the same CIELAB a* and b* values as the print substrate;

   2) a colour that has the same CIELAB a* and b* values as a half-tone tint of similar L* value printed with black ink;

b) theoretical definition:

   1) the colourimetric definition of grey is when the CIELAB a* and b* values are both equal to 0.

[SOURCE: ISO/TS 10128:2009, 3.3, modified]

**2.2 black**

**2.2.1**
**composite black**
printing black with multiple colourants

**2.2.2**
**pure black**
black generated only in black colourant in a printing device

**2.2.3**
**rich black**
black generated by a mixture of black colourant and other colourants in a printing device