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*for Information Systems -  
Optical Character Recognition (OCR)-  
Guidelines for OCR Print Quality*

**Developed by**



*Where IT all begins*



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ANSI®  
X3.99-1983

American National Standard  
for Information Systems –  
Optical Character Recognition (OCR)–  
Guidelines for OCR Print Quality

Secretariat

**Computer and Business Equipment Manufacturers Association**

Approved July 1, 1983

**American National Standards Institute, Inc**

## American National Standard

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# Foreword

(This Foreword is not a part of ANSI X3 99-1983 )

These guidelines are supplemented by other OCR documents for character shapes, character positioning, inks, papers, and forms design.

The material contained in these guidelines originally appeared in American National Standard Character Set and Print Quality for Optical Character Recognition (OCR-A), ANSI X3.17-1977. In 1981, ANSI X3.17-1977 was revised and became a standard for OCR-A character shapes and size only (American National Standard Character Set for Optical Character Recognition (OCR-A), ANSI X3.17-1981). The print quality information that was deleted in the revision is now provided in these guidelines. No new quality requirements have been added.

This document, while based on OCR-A and OCR-B, can serve as a print quality guideline for other constant-stroke-width machine-readable fonts.

The terms, *uppercase* and *lowercase*, are widely used and accepted in the United States and have been used in these guidelines in place of the International Standards Organization terms, *letter* and *small letter*. In this document, these terms have the same meaning and can be used interchangeably.

Suggestions for improvement of this standard will be welcome. They should be sent to the Computer and Business Equipment Manufacturers Association, 311 First Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20001.

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by American National Standards Committee on Information Processing Systems, X3. Committee approval of the standard does not necessarily imply that all committee members voted for its approval.

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