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Fourth edition  
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## **Plain bearings — Terms, definitions, classification and symbols —**

### **Part 1: Design, bearing materials and their properties**

*Paliers lisses — Termes, définitions, classification et symboles —  
Partie 1: Conception, matériaux pour paliers et leurs propriétés*



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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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 123, *Plain bearings*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Terms and common items*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 4378-1:2009), which has been technically revised. The following changes have been made:

- editorial revision of the document;
- addition of [Figures 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 18, 19, 36, 37, 40, 44](#) and [49](#) and technical revision of the other figures;
- revision of clause numbers.

A list of all the parts in the ISO 4378 series can be found on the ISO website.

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## Introduction

As there is a large number of multiple designations in the domain of plain bearings, there is a considerable risk of error in the interpretation of standards and technical literature. This uncertainty leads to the continuous addition of supplementary designations, which only serves to increase the misunderstanding.

This document is an attempt to establish a uniform basic system of designations of design, bearing materials and their properties.