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Footwear sizing — Mondopoint system of sizing and marking

*Pointure des chaussures — Système Mondopoint de mesure et de
marquage*



Reference number
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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).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 137, *Footwear sizing designations and marking systems*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 9407:1991), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared with the previous edition are as follows:

- references have been added and alignment has been made to ISO/TS 19407 and ISO/TS 19408;
- new pictograms have been added.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

Mondopoint offers a simple and universal solution to the problem of communicating footwear sizing to customers in the global market, overcoming the present confusion resulting from labelling with multiple size systems. Online and mail-order customers are commonly encouraged to measure and report their foot length as a guide to shoe size selection. Mondopoint lends itself directly to this approach.

The last maker will use whatever last dimensions they consider necessary to produce the required footwear fitting properties, taking into account factors such as footwear type and style, modulus/stretch characteristics of the upper materials being used, and the thickness of hose appropriate to the type of footwear.

The length grading interval, which is the difference between adjacent whole shoe sizes (as defined in ISO/TS 19408:2015, 2.1.9), used by manufacturers aligning to the Mondopoint system, is normally 5 mm, although 7,5 mm is sometimes used in specialist footwear applications.

Some manufacturers, particularly in the Far East, use the Mondopoint sizing system but do not necessarily label it as Mondopoint, as shown in [Table 1](#), for example.

Table 1 — Example of a sizing system

Shoe	mm	CN	JP	Korea
1	260	260	260	260
2	265	265	265	265

Some manufacturers express size in centimetres rather than millimetres (e.g. 26 in place of 260 or 26,5 in place of 265). Other manufacturers give size markings that relate to last length rather than foot length. Neither of these expressions of size conform to this document.

Regarding the linear width of the foot (or indeed, the joint girth of the foot or any other foot dimension):

- a) it is good commercial practice to design footwear to fit the average foot in a given market based on knowledge of foot morphology for the demographic or ethnic group, and on statistical average foot dimension values for each shoe size in the specific market;
- b) because the statistical distribution of the dimensions of the feet to be fitted differs from one country to another according to the characteristics of the population and because of the diversity of grading systems in different countries, it is not considered possible at present to define a width designation system at the international level, other than as given in this document;
- c) other sizing systems use various codes to indicate the joint girth of the foot fitting properties of footwear; usually each market decides which joint girth designation reflects the "average" population girth and what joint girth value to associate with each designation.

EXAMPLE China uses decimal notation: 2,0, 2,5, 3,0, 3,5...; the UK, US and Japan use letters: A, B, C, D...; the EU uses letters or whole numbers: 3, 4, 5, 6...; and Germany additionally uses WMS (weit-mittel-schmal or wide-medium-small/narrow) for children's footwear.