

ISO

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION

Transposed

ISO RECOMMENDATION R 517

LENS APERTURE MARKINGS FOR STILL CAMERAS

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BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 517, *Lens Aperture Markings for Still Cameras*, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 42, *Photography*, the Secretariat of which was held by the American Standards Association, Inc. (ASA).

Work on this question by the Technical Committee began in 1955 and led, in 1959, to the adoption of a Draft ISO Recommendation.

In August 1961, this Draft ISO Recommendation (No. 424) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry. It was approved by the following Member Bodies:

Belgium	Italy	Switzerland
Brazil	Japan	United Kingdom
Canada	Netherlands	U.S.A.
Chile	New Zealand	U.S.S.R.
France	Romania	
Germany	Sweden	

No Member Body opposed the approval of the Draft.

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided, in November 1966, to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

LENS APERTURE MARKINGS FOR STILL CAMERAS

1. SYMBOL FOR RELATIVE APERTURE

The symbol for relative aperture of a lens should be 1: followed by the numerical value of the quotient of the focal length divided by the effective aperture, as in the example 1: 8.

Where preferable, the symbol $f/$ or the symbol f : followed by the numerical value may be used.

2. TOLERANCE ON MAXIMUM APERTURE

The diameter of the bundle of parallel entering rays which pass through the maximum aperture should be at least 95 per cent of the quotient obtained on dividing the measured focal length by the denominator of the marked relative aperture.

3. STANDARD SERIES OF DIAPHRAGM MARKINGS

The standard series of diaphragm markings should be as follows: 0.7 - 1.0 - 1.4 - 2.0 - 2.8 - 4.0 - 5.6 - 8 - 11 - 16 - 22 - 32 - 45 - 64 - 90 - 128.

4. MARKING OF MAXIMUM RELATIVE APERTURE

The maximum relative aperture marked on a lens need not be selected from the above series, but should be followed by the above series of diaphragm markings beginning with the next larger number, whenever practicable, and progressing as far as required in the individual application.

Example: a 1:1.9 lens might be marked 1.9-2.8-4-5.6-8, etc., if it were believed that to mark it 1.9-2.0-2.8-4.0-5.6 etc., would confuse the markings at the 1.9 end of the scale.
