



# Tech Info Library

## Font Character Sets: Standards (5/93)

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TOPIC -----

I need to know which ISO (International Standard Organization) standard character set Apple uses in System 7.

DISCUSSION -----

System 7 uses an extended version of the American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII).

Neither the North American English System 7 or 6 character sets are based on an ISO standard. As a matter of fact, when the Macintosh first came out it used a unique character set where the lower 128 characters were defined by ASCII (as was the case with most 8 bit character sets), but the upper 128 characters were mostly defined by Apple. Adobe further refined the upper characters and with System Software 6.0.4 we first accepted and used the Adobe character sets.

Unicode, a new ISO international industry standard used to encode written characters makes it possible to encode all of the characters used for written languages throughout the world in one table and is the next major step toward providing a multilanguage Macintosh. Apple was one of the founding contributors to the Unicode consortium and is an active participant. Apple plans to provide support for this ISO standard in future releases of system software.

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