

## Glyph change request for U+238C UNDO SYMBOL

Author: Karl Pentzlin ([karl-pentzlin@acssoft.de](mailto:karl-pentzlin@acssoft.de))

Date: 2025-06-16

### Summary

U+238C UNDO SYMBOL appears the current Unicode charts (version 16.0) as follows:



In this document, it is requested to change the glyph to:



or similar, i. e. showing the right circle in black (i. e. filled).

### Background



The symbol was introduced as a keyboard symbol for the “Undo” functions in the 1990s or earlier. Based on this, it was encoded in 1998 in ISO 10646 Amendment 22 “Keyboard Symbols” and published in 1999 in Unicode 3.0 subsequently.

With release date 2004-01-15, it was standardized in ISO 7000 “Graphical symbols for use on equipment” as symbol #2106, with name “Undo” and description “To identify the control that deletes the most recently taken action and returns the document to its immediately preceding status.” There, the standardized appearance of the symbol is:



It can be assumed that the blackness of the right circle was applied with intent, to emphasize that the “undo” action causes a state change.

Also, the symbol is contained as symbol #30 in ISO/IEC 9995-7 “Information technology — Keyboard layouts for text and office systems — Part 7: Symbols used to represent functions”, at least since its 2009 edition. Currently, this standard is in revision by ISO/IEC JTC1 SC35/WG1, and the current draft document uses the ISO 7000 depiction.

In fact, since no keyboard with a dedicated “Undo” key has been able to achieve widespread use, the symbol itself has not gained widespread use or recognition. Therefore, neither of the forms  or  can be found being the preferred one based on any actual prevailing usage.

Thus, as the symbol is in fact rarely used, but is listed in three different standards (or even four, if you count Unicode and ISO/IEC 10646 separately), at least its appearance should be uniform throughout these standards.

Therefore, this document requests the glyph change shown in the summary above, to get the appearance of the Undo symbol in Unicode and ISO/IEC 10646 in accordance with the one in ISO 7000.