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MIL-HDBK-1271

10 April 1998

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
HANDBOOK**

**SYMBOLS TO SUPPLEMENT THE TEXT OF  
INSTRUCTION PLATES FOR MILITARY VEHICLES**



AMSC N/A

FSC 2320

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MIL-STD-1271

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301

Symbols to Supplement the Text of Instruction Plates for Military Vehicles MIL-STD-1271B.

1. This Military Standard is approved for use by all Departments and Agencies of the Department of Defense.

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## MIL-STD-1271

### FOREWORD

The intent of this standard is to supplement the information presently shown on instruction plates of military vehicles, with the further intent of providing a basis for an international standardization agreement within NATO countries.

The use of symbols provides a means for persons, not familiar with the English language, to understand the instruction plates and permits operators and maintenance personnel to perform their mission regardless of the variations of design within particular types of equipment. It also reduces personnel training time when individuals are transferred to different types of equipment.

This standard can be used to best advantage by Foreign Nationals using U.S. manufactured vehicles received under various Military Assistance Programs and by NATO troops.

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### 1. SCOPE

1.1 Purpose. The purpose of this standard is to establish a uniform system of pictorial symbols to label equipment controls where symbolic representation is desired.

1.2 Scope. This standard specifies symbols to be shown on military vehicle instruction plates in addition to the text. Controls, indicators and tell-tales of a road vehicle are provided with symbols to ensure their identification and facilitate their utilization. This standard also indicates the colors of possible optical tell-tales which warn the driver of the operation or malfunctioning of the devices and equipment connected to the corresponding controls.

1.3 Application. The symbols covered by this standard are applicable for automotive vehicles, trucks, off-the-road vehicles, construction equipment, and industrial transportation.

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### 2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

2.1 Issues of documents. The following documents, of the issue in effect on date of invitation for bids or request for proposal, form a part of this standard to the extent specified herein.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MIL-P-514                      - Plates, Identification, Instruction and Marking, Blank.

(Copies of specifications, standards, drawings, and publications required by contractors in connection with specific procurement functions should be obtained from the procuring activity, or as directed by the contracting officer.)

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### 3. DEFINITIONS - Not applicable.

### 4. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Deviations. The symbols shall be as given, except for deviations necessary to reproduce an accurate representation to the driver's line of sight.

4.2 Perspective. If, in a symbol, a vehicle or parts of a vehicle are shown in a side view, a vehicle driving from right to left shall be assumed, and shall be recognizable by the driver from his seated position.

4.3 Contrast. Symbols on controls and tell-tales shall contrast well with their background (preferably light symbol on dark background).

4.4 Size. The symbols covered by this standard may be of any size necessary to provide positive identification. When required, minimum or maximum sizes shall be specified in the vehicle or instruction plate specification or drawing.

4.5 Light rays. Focused light shall be represented by parallel rays and diffused light by divergent rays.

#### 4.6 Colors.

4.6.1 Heating and cooling systems. If color is used on heating and cooling systems, the color red shall be used to indicate hot and the color blue to indicate cold.

4.6.2 Optical tell-tales. When the following colors are used on optical tell-tales, they shall have the meanings indicated below:

- a. Red: Danger
- b. Yellow: Caution
- c. Green: Safe
- d. Blue: (Shall be used only for the driving light tell-tale)

4.7 Data plates. Data plates, when used, shall conform to MIL-P-514.



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### 5. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Symbols. The symbols shown in figures 1 through 40 represent those which are to be used for identification of controls on Military vehicles.

5.1.1 Symbols for lighting system control equipment. The symbols for lighting system control equipment shall be as shown in figures 1 through 13.

5.1.2 Symbols for ignition system control equipment. The symbols for ignition system control equipment shall be as shown in figures 14 through 18.

5.1.3 Symbols for fuel system control equipment. The symbols for fuel system control equipment shall be as shown in figures 19 through 23.

5.1.4 Symbols for power train control equipment. Symbols for power train control equipment shall be as shown in figures 24 through 27.

5.1.5 Symbols for special purpose control equipment. The symbols for special purpose control equipment shall be as shown in figures 28 through 31.

5.1.6 Symbols for accessory control equipment. The symbols for accessory control equipment shall be as shown in figures 32 through 40.

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### 6. NOTES

6.1 International agreement. All provisions of this standard are the subject of international standardization agreement NATO Stanag 4050. When revision, amendment, or cancellation of this standard is proposed, which will effect or violate the international agreement concerned, the preparing activity will take appropriate reconciliation action through international standardization channels, including departmental standardization offices, if required.

Custodian:  
Army - AT

Preparing Activity:  
Army - AT

Review Activity:  
Air Force - 99

(Project 2320-AC21)

User Activities:  
Army - ME  
Navy - YD, MC

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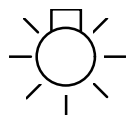


FIGURE 1. SWITCH-MAIN LIGHT

INSTR

FIGURE 2. SWITCH - INSTRUMENT  
PANEL LIGHT



FIGRUE 3. SWITCH - INTERIOR LIGHT



FIGURE 4. SWITCH - FOGLIGHT



FIGURE 5. SWITCH - LOW BEAM



FIGURE 6. SWITCH - HIGH BEAM

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FIGURE 7. SWITCH - PARKING  
LIGHT



FIGURE 8. SWITCH - BLACKOUT  
HEADLIGHT



FIGURE 9. SWITCH - BLACKOUT  
CLEARANCE LIGHT.



FIGURE 10. SWITCH - INFRARED.

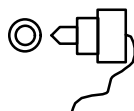


FIGURE 11. SWITCH - HANDLIGHT  
(TROUBLE LIGHT).



FIGURE 12. SWITCH - WARNING LIGHT  
(FLASHING OR ROTATION).

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S

FIGURE 13. SWITCH - SIGNAL LIGHT

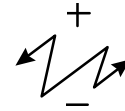


FIGURE 14. CONTROL - SPARK  
ADVANCE



FIGURE 15. SWITCH - BATTERY

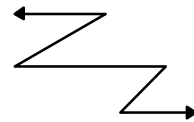


FIGURE 16. SWITCH - IGNITION

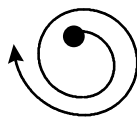


FIGURE 17. SWITCH - STARTER

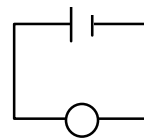


FIGURE 18. SWITCH - BATTERY SLAVE

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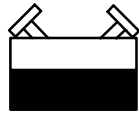


FIGURE 19. SWITCH - FUEL  
TANK SELECTOR

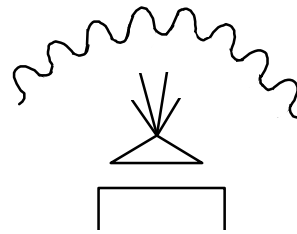


FIGURE 20. CONTROL -  
PRIMER PUMP

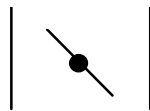


FIGURE 21. CONTROL - CHOKE

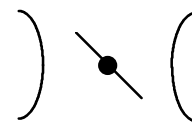


FIGURE 22. CONTROL - HAND  
THROTTLE

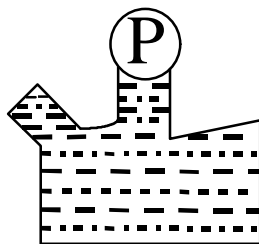


FIGURE 23. CONTROL - AUXILIARY  
IN-TANK FUEL PUMP

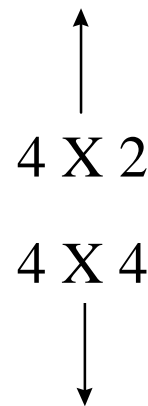


FIGURE 24. CONTROL - FRONT  
WHEEL DRIVE

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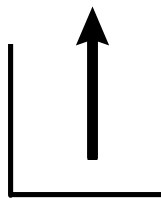


FIGURE 25. CONTROL -  
HIGH RATIO GEAR

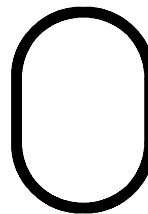


FIGURE 26. CONTROL -  
NEUTRAL GEAR

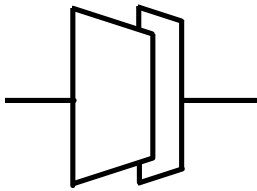


FIGURE 27. CONTROL -  
CLUTCH

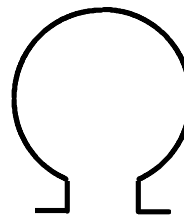


FIGURE 28. CONTROL -  
WINCH BRAKE

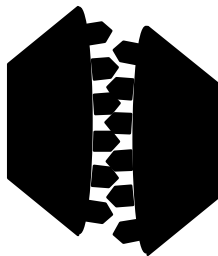


FIGURE 29. CONTROL -  
POWER TAKE-OFF  
ENGAGED

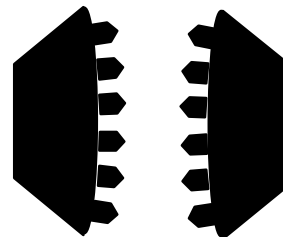


FIGURE 30. CONTROL -  
POWER TAKE-OFF  
NOT ENGAGED

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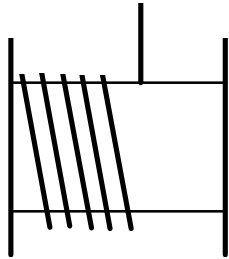


FIGURE 31. CONTROL -  
WINCH

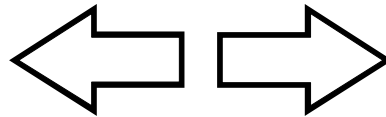


FIGURE 32. SWITCH -  
DIRECTION  
INDICATOR

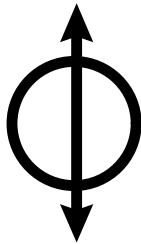


FIGURE 33. SWITCH -  
UP-DOWN /  
TOP-BOTTOM



FIGURE 34. HORN

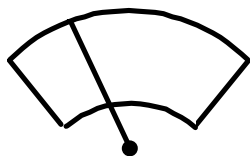


FIGURE 35. CONTROL -  
WINDSHIELD WIPERS

## RADIO

FIGURE 36. SWITCH -  
RADIO



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FIGURE 37. SWITCH -  
HEATER



FIGURE 32. SWITCH -  
PRE-HEATER



FIGURE 39. CONTROL -  
CABIN VENTILATION

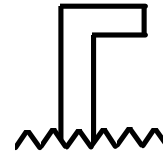


FIGURE 40. CONTROL -  
SNORKEL