

ECMA-132, Method for Measuring Printer Throughput

SCOPE

This ECMA Standard specifies a method for measuring the throughput of printing devices. It specifies three different test patterns:

- a standard business letter in German,
- a spreadsheet with English words,
- a graphic pattern.

Depending on the test pattern the printer under test shall be submitted to one or two performance tests and one endurance test or only to a performance test.

These tests are intended to measure only the printer throughput and not to evaluate any other printer features such as character shaping, print compressions, network/controller performance, paper handling, colour etc. The method is relevant to all general purpose printer types (e.g. dot matrix, daisy wheel, ink jet, thermal transfer, laser printers) and to all configurations (e.g. tractor feed, cut sheet feed, 80-column and over 132-column print width etc.). It may not be the most suitable for comparing performance of high-speed printers.