

Deafblind Manual Alphabet

The Deafblind Manual is the best way to communicate with someone who is Deafblind. You can learn it quickly, and here's how you do it. Stick out your index finger (that's the long one next to your thumb) on your right hand. fold your other fingers out of the way. Think of this finger as your pen. You are going to use it to write - not on paper, but on your deafblind friends left hand which they will hold out for you.

First learn the vowels. They're easy. Just remember the order A,E,I,O,U.

- For A, Touch the tip of your friend's thumb.
- For E, Touch the tip of the index finger.
- For I, Is the middle finger.
- For O, Is the ring finger.
- For U, Is the little finger.

And now for the complete alphabet

- For A, Touch the tip of your friend's thumb.
- For B, Bunch the tips of your fingers and place them on your friends palm.
- For C, Use your index finger to make a circular movement that starts on the inside of your friend's thumb and ends at the top of their index finger.
- For D, Form a D shape using your thumb and index finger and placing it on your friend's index finger.
- For E, Touch the tip of the index finger.
- For F, Form an F shape using your first two fingers together, place across your friend's index finger.
- For G, Clench your fist and place it on your friend's palm, little finger downside.
- For H, Lay your open hand across your friend's palm and move it over the fingers and off the hand.
- For I, Is the middle finger.
- For J, Touch the tip of your friend's middle finger and draw your finger down to the palm and up the thumb. (Think of this as the letter I with a tail).
- For K, Bend your index finger and lay the top half of it against your friend's index finger.
- For L, Just lay your index finger across your friend's palm.
- For M, Lay your first three fingers across your friend's palm.
- For N, Lay your first two fingers across your friend's palm.
- For O, Is the ring finger.
- For P, Hold the tip of your friend's index finger between your finger and thumb.
- For Q, Completely circle the base of your friend's thumb with your thumb and index finger.
- For R, Bend your index finger and lay it across your friend's palm.
- For S, Grasp your friend's little finger with your index finger.
- For T, Touch the edge of your friend's palm, at the side away from the thumb.
- For U, Is the little finger.
- For V, Make a V shape with your first two fingers and lay it on your friend's palm.

- For W, Grasp the upper edge of your friend's fingers, bending your fingers around them.
- For X, Make a cross by laying your index finger over the top of your friend's index finger.
- For Y, Place your index finger in the joint between your friend's thumb and index finger.
- For Z, Either: place your finger tips against your friend's palm. Or place the outer edge of your hand across your friend's palm.

And now two quick signs that come in handy

- For YES, Just tap twice on your friend's palm.
- For NO, (or cancelling what you just said) do a rubbing out movement on your friend's palm.

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