

# BRAILLE : ⠠⠠⠠ DICTIONARY

Braille Navigator Guide – Words, Money-Folding,  
Signage & Everyday Skills for Blind

Compiled By  
Alan Dunbar



Version 1.60

## Table of Contents

<b>Page 1</b>	<b>Table of Contents</b>
<b>Page 2</b>	<b>Introduction and Project outline</b>
<b>Page 3</b>	<b>Purpose of the Braille Dictionary and Guide</b>
<b>Page 4</b>	<b>Braille Alphabet, Numbers, Cell Layout</b>
<b>Page 5</b>	<b>Braille Practice Sheets for Low-Vision</b>
<b>Page 6</b>	<b>Braille Dictionary – UEB Level 2</b>
<b>Page 20</b>	<b>Braille Punctuation</b>
<b>Page 22</b>	<b>Braille – Numbers &amp; Basic Math Symbols</b>
<b>Page 24</b>	<b>Braille Currency Symbols</b>
<b>Page 25</b>	<b>Braille Restroom Signs</b>
<b>Page 26</b>	<b>Braille Elevator Buttons</b>
<b>Page 27</b>	<b>Folding Money for Identification</b>
<b>Page 28</b>	<b>How to Guide someone who is Blind</b>
<b>Page 30</b>	<b>Agencies for the Blind</b>
<b>Page 31</b>	<b>VA Blind Rehabilitation Facilities</b>
<b>Page 32</b>	<b>Apps for the Blind (iPhone/iPad, Android)</b>
<b>Page 34</b>	<b>Accessibility Programs for Computers (MAC, Windows, Linux)</b>
<b>Page 39</b>	<b>Translating older Braille</b>
<b>Page 39</b>	<b>Afterwards – Summing it all up</b>

## Introduction & Purpose

The reason that I put together the Braille Dictionary and help guide together was to help organize myself while learning and becoming proficient in Braille. I became legally blind a short time ago and I have now had to learn to read with my finger tips.

I hope that putting in some structure and making things more accessible in this format helps people that have become blind. I would like to thank those people that have helped me to learn as much as I have to this point. I am a Veteran and I went to the VA in West Palm Beach, Florida and was helped there by very caring, talented, and patient instructors who encouraged me when I was newly blind and helped me to learn and healed me in many ways. The Braille Dictionary Project is dedicated to them and to the VA Staff in other BRC's.

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## Editor / Author

**Alan Dunbar** - Veteran, US Army, IRR (Individual Ready Reserve) & Georgia Army National Guard.

Download the latest version at: [BrailleDictionary.org](http://BrailleDictionary.org)

## Purpose for the Guide

The Braille dictionary is a quick reference to UEB (Unified English Braille) which replaces EBAE (English Braille: American Edition) which was fully adopted in 2012.

The book is designed as a quick way to reference Braille Level 2. Learning takes repetition and practice. The guide is still in Beta and being blind myself may contain some errors. You can use our Bug Report feature on the website to report things that you feel are not right and to request new features.

The practice sheets for low-vision learners will help you to learn the Braille alphabet, if you have enough vision.


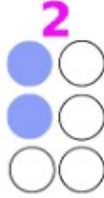
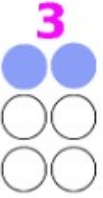

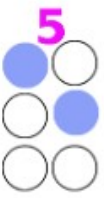


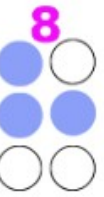
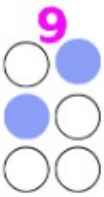


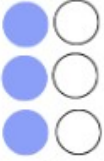

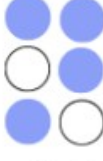
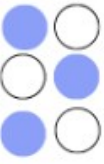
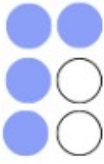

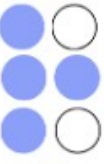
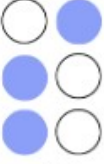



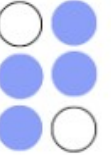

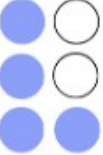




In the near future this guide will have a Braille overlay and be tactile. Be patient, the first milestone is combing thru and getting the format correct and accurate.

The Braille Dictionary project is an ongoing project and the updates and improvements are coming along well.



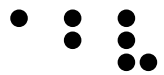

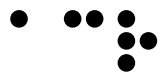

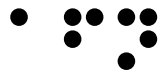
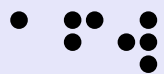

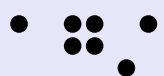
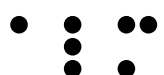
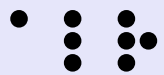
## What's New in Version 1.60

- Corrections and bug-fixes that have been submitted
- PDF Screen Reader Enhancements
- Expanded Symbols and Punctuation section
- Numbers 1-20 – Explained and included for reference
- Agencies for the Blind (Community)
- Apps for the Blind (iPhone/iPad, Android)
- Accessibility Programs for Computers (MAC, Windows, Linux)
- Cheat Sheets For Screen Readers
- Help with older styles of Braille













## Braille Alphabet and Numbers





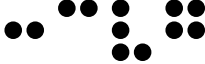







																
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>										
1	12	14	145	15	124	1245										
																
<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>N</b>										
125	24	245	13	123	134	1345										
					<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <table border="0" style="text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>KEY</b></td> </tr> </table> </div>		1	4	2	5	3	6			<b>KEY</b>	
1	4															
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<b>KEY</b>																
<b>O</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Q</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>												
135	1234	12345	1235	234												
																
<b>T</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Z</b>										
2345	136	1236	2456	1346	13456	1356										














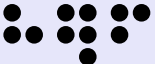
Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>A</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>Letter Word</b>
	<b>About</b>		<b>1--12</b>	<b>Short Form (AB)</b>
	<b>Above</b>		<b>1--12--1236</b>	<b>Short Form (ABV)</b>
	<b>According</b>		<b>1--14</b>	<b>Short Form (AC)</b>
	<b>Across</b>		<b>1--14--1235</b>	<b>Short Form (ACR)</b>
	<b>After</b>		<b>1--124</b>	<b>Short Form (AF)</b>
	<b>Afternoon</b>		<b>1--124--1345</b>	<b>Short Form (AFN)</b>
	<b>Afterward</b>		<b>1--124--2456</b>	<b>Short Form (AFW)</b>
	<b>Again</b>		<b>1--1245</b>	<b>Short Form (AG)</b>
	<b>Against</b>		<b>1--1245--34</b>	<b>Short Form (AG+ST)</b>
	<b>Almost</b>		<b>1--123--134</b>	<b>Short Form (ALM)</b>
	<b>Already</b>		<b>1--123--1235</b>	<b>Short Form (ALR)</b>


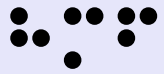

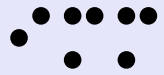








Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>A</b>	Also		1--123	Short Form (AL)
	Although		1--123--1456	Short Form (AL+TH)
	Altogether		1--123--2345	Short Form (ALT)
	Always		1--123--2456	Short Form (ALW)
	<i>ance</i>		46--15	46-Word
	And		12346	Contraction
	<i>ar</i>		345	Short Form (AB)
<b>B</b>	B/But		12	Letter Word
	Be		23	Contraction
	Because		23--14	Short Form (BE+C)
	Before		23--124	Short Form (BE+F)
	Behind		23-125	Short Form (BE+H)













Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>B</b>	Below		23-123	Short Form (BE+L)
	Beneath		23--1345	Short Form (BE+N)
	Beside		23--234	Short Form (BE+S)
	Between		23--2345	Short Form (BE+T)
	Beyond		23--13456	Short Form (BE+Y)
	<i>ble</i>		3456	Contraction
	Blind		12--123	Short Form (BL)
	Braille		12-1235-123	Short Form (BRL)
<b>C</b>	Can		14	Letter Word
	<i>cc</i>		25	Contraction
	<i>ch</i>		16	Contraction
	Character		5-16	Dot 5



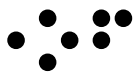


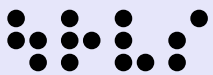






Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>C</b>	Child		16	Contraction
	Children		16-1345	Short Form (CH+N)
	<i>con</i>		25	Contraction
	Conceive		25-14-1236	Short Form (CON+CV)
	Conceiving		15-14-1236-1245	Short Form (CON+CVG)
	Could		14-145	Short Form (CD)
<b>D</b>	Day		5-145	Dot 5
	Deceive		145-14-1236	Short Form (DCV)
	Declare		145-14-123	Short Form (DCL)
	Declaring		145-14-123-1245	Short Form (DCLG)
	<i>dis</i>		256	Contraction
	Do		145	Letter Word

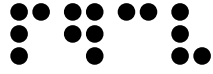
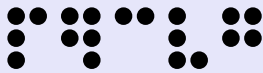
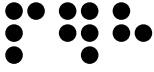








Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>E</b>	<i>ea</i>	•	2	Contraction
	<i>ed</i>	••	25	Contraction
	<b>E</b> ither	••••	1524	Contraction
	<i>en</i>	••	26	Contraction
	<i>er</i>	••••	12456	Contraction
	<b>E</b> nough	••	26	Contraction
	<b>E</b> ver	••	15	Contraction
	<b>E</b> very	•••	5--15	Dot 5
<b>F</b>	<b>F</b> ather	••••	5--124	Dot 5
	<i>ff</i>	••	235	Contraction
	<b>F</b> irst	••••	124--34	Short Form (F+ST)
	<b>F</b> riend	••••	145--1235	Short Form (FR)







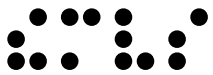





Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>F</b>	From		124	Letter Word
	For		123456	Contraction
	<i>ful</i>		56--123	Contraction
<b>G</b>	<i>gg</i>		2	Contraction
	<i>gh</i>		25	Contraction
	Go		1524	Contraction
	Good		26	Contraction
	Great		12456	Contraction
<b>H</b>	Had		456-125	Dot 456
	Have		125	Letter Word
	Here		5--125	Dot 5
	Herself		125--12456-124	Short Form (H+ER+S)



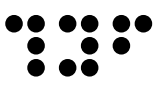


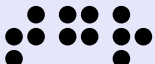
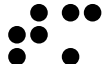




Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>H</b>	Him		124--34	Short Form (HM)
	Himself		125-134-124	Short Form (HMF)
	His		124	Contraction
<b>I</b>	Immediate		24--134-134	Short Form (IMM)
	In		35	Contraction
	<i>ing</i>		346	Contraction
	It		1346	Letter Word
	Its		1346--234	Short Form (XS)
	Itself		1346--124	Short Form (XF)
<b>J</b>	Just		245	Letter Word
<b>K</b>	Know		125	Letter Word
	Knowl <u>ed</u> ge		5--125	Dot 5





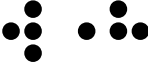







Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>L</b>	Letter		123--1235	Short Form (LR)
	Like		123	Letter Word
	Little		123--123	Short Form (LL)
	Lord		5--123	Dot 5
<b>M</b>	Many		456-134	Dot 456
	More		134	Letter Word
	Mother		5-134	Dot 5
	Must		134--34	Short Form (M+ST)
<b>N</b>	Name		5--1345	Dot 5
	Necessary		1345--15--14	Short Form (NEC)
	Neither		1345--15--24	Short Form (NEI)
	Not		1345	Letter Word






Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>O</b>	Of		12356	Contraction
	One		5--135	Dot 5
	Oneself		5--135--124	Dot 5
	Ought		5--1356	Dot 5
	<i>ou</i>		1256	Contraction
	Ourselves		1256--1235-- 123--234	Short Form (OU+ RLS)
	Out		1256	Contraction
	<i>ound</i>		46--145	Dot 46
	<i>ow</i>		246	Contraction
<b>P</b>	Paid		1234--145	Short Form (PD)
	Part		5--1234	Dot 5
	People		1234	Letter Word

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>P</b>	Perceive		1234--12456-- 14--1236	Short Form (P+ER+CV)
	Perceiving		1234--12456-- 14--1236--1245	Short Form (P+ER+CVG)
	Perhaps		1234--12456-- 125	Short Form (P+ER+H)
<b>Q</b>	Quick		12345-13	Short Form (QK)
	Quite		12345	Letter Word
	Question		5-12345	Dot 5
<b>R</b>	Rather		1235	Letter Word
	Receive		1235--14--1236	Short Form (RCV)
	Rejoicing		1235--245-- 14--1245	Short Form (RJCG)
	Right		5--1235	Dot 5
<b>S</b>	<i>Sh / Shall</i>		146	Contraction












Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>S</b>	Should		146--145	Short Form (SH+D)
	<i>sion</i>		46-1345	Dot 46
	Some		5--234	Dot 5
	<i>st / Still</i>		34	Contraction
	Such		234--16	Short Form (S+CH)
<b>T</b>	That		2345	Letter Word
	Themselves		2346--134--234	Short Form (THE+MVS)
	<i>th</i>		1456	Contraction
	The		2346	Contraction
	There		5--2346	Dot 5
	These		45--2346	Dot 45
	This		1456	Contraction

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>T</b>	Those		45--1456	Dot 45
	Through		5--1456	Dot 5
	Thyself		1456--13456-- 124	Short Form (TH+YF)
	Time		5-2345	Dot 5
	Today		2345--145	Short Form (TD)
	Together		2345--1245-- 1235	Short Form (TGR)
	Tomorrow		2345--134	Short Form (TM)
	Tonight		2345--1345	Short Form (TN)
<b>U</b>	Under		5--136	Dot 5
	Upon		45--136	Dot 45
	Us		136	Letter Word

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>V</b>	Very		1236	Letter Word
<b>W</b>	Was		356	Contraction
	Were		2356	Contraction
	<i>Wh / Which</i>		156	Contraction
	Where		2456--5-125	Short Form (W+HERE)
	Whose		45--156	Dot 45
	Will		2456	Letter Word
	Whose		45--156	Dot 45
	Will		2456	Letter Word
	With		23456	Contraction
	Word		45--2456	Dot 45
	Work		5--2456	Dot 5



Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Type
<b>W</b>	WouLd		2456--145	Short Form (WD)
<b>X</b>	It		1346	Letter Word
<b>Y</b>	You		13456	Letter Word
	Young		5--13456	Dot 5
<b>Z</b>	As		1356	Letter Word

## Punctuation





















Punctuation	Mark	Braille Symbol	Cell Numbers
Ampersand	&		4--12346
Apostrophe	'		3
At Symbol	@		4-1
Bullet	•		456-235
Colon	:		25
Comma	,		2
Dash (long)	—		6-36
Ellipsis	...		256-256-256
Exclamation	!		235
Forward Slash	/		456-34
Hyphen (Short Dash)	-		36

Punctuation	Mark	Braille Symbol	Cell Numbers
Period	.		256
Question Mark	?		236
Quote (Closing)	”		356
Quote (Opening)	“		236
Semi-Colon	;		23
Left Curly Bracket	{		456 -- 126
Right Curly Bracket	}		456--345
Left Parenthesis	(		5--126
Right Parenthesis	)		5--345
Left Square Bracket	[		46--126
Right Square Bracket	]		46--345

## Numbers & Basic Math Symbols

In Braille numbers are made up of the number indicator (  ) and the Letters “A” to “I” (1 to 9) and “J” being zero. So the number 20 would be the number indicator “B” and “J”(  ).

### Numbers 1-20

<b>1</b>		<b>3456--1</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>3456--1--1</b>
<b>2</b>		<b>3456--12</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>3456--1--12</b>
<b>3</b>		<b>3456--14</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>3456--1--14</b>
<b>4</b>		<b>3456--145</b>	<b>14</b>		<b>3456--1--145</b>
<b>5</b>		<b>3456--15</b>	<b>15</b>		<b>3456--1--15</b>
<b>6</b>		<b>3456--124</b>	<b>16</b>		<b>3456--1--124</b>
<b>7</b>		<b>3456--1245</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>3456--1245</b>
<b>8</b>		<b>3456--125</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>3456--1--125</b>
<b>9</b>		<b>3456--24</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>3456--1--24</b>
<b>10</b>		<b>3456--1--245</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>3456--12--245</b>

## Basic Math Symbols

Punctuation	Mark	Braille Symbol	Cell Numbers
Addition (Plus)	+	⠠⠨⠶	5-235
Division	÷	⠠⠨⠼	5-34
Equals	=	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	5-2356
Greater Than	>	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	4-345
Less Than	<	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	4-126
Multiplication (Dot)	•	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	4-236
Multiplication (x)	x	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	4-256
Square Root	√	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	345-345
Summation	∑	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	1246-234
Integral	∫	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	1246-24
Percent	%	⠠⠨⠼⠨⠶	46-356

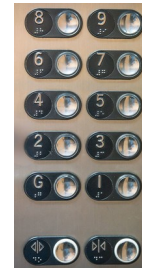
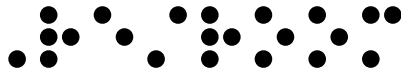
## Currency Symbols










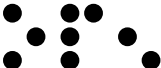


Currency	Mark	Braille Symbol	Cell Numbers
British Pound	£	⠠⠢	4--123
Cent	¢	⠠⠨	4--14
Dollar	\$	⠠⠵	4--234
Euro	€	⠠⠠	4--15



## Braille Elevator Signs

### Elevator



Picture	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Dot Numbers
	Main		12--1-35	Short Form (MA+IN)
	Alarm		1--456-345--134	Short Form (AI+AR+M)
	Phone		1234--125--5--135	Short Form (PH+ONE)
	Stop		34--135--1234	Short Form (ST+OP)
	Open		135--1235--26	Short Form (OPN)
	Close		135--123--26	Short Form (CLS)

# Folding Money For Identification



One Dollar Bills are not folded



Five Dollar Bills are folded in half



Ten Dollar Bills are folded in half lengthwise



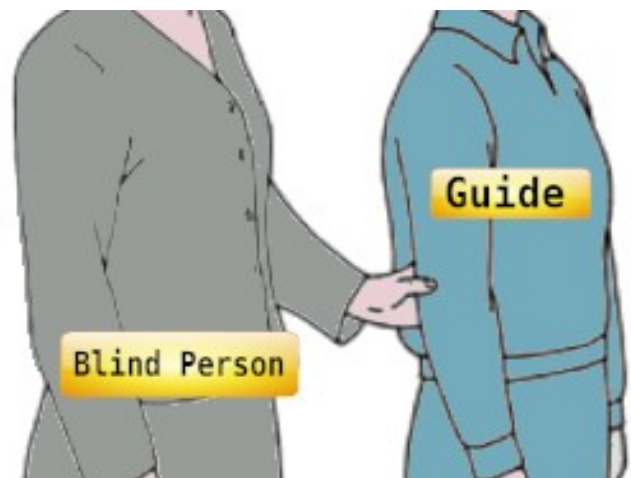
Twenty Dollar Bills are folded in half and then half again

## Guiding the Blind

Getting help when you need it is important. Teaching someone to help you will help you and put them at ease. Here is a handy guide to let them know how to do it properly.

**1.** Ask if they need assistance. If they accept, ask which side they prefer to be on, as this may depend on their cane usage or personal preference.

**2.** The standard human guide technique involves the person being guided placing a firm grasp just above the guide's elbow. The guide should keep their arm relaxed and extended downward, allowing the traveler to feel subtle movements and directional changes. This standard method can be modified to accommodate height differences, personal preferences, or physical challenges.



The guide should walk about a half step ahead of the person being guided.

**3.** When approaching a narrow area or doorway, the sighted guide will move their forearm and hand to rest against the lower portion of their back, palm facing outward. The person being guiding should slide their hand down to their guide's wrist and move directly behind the guide, at arm's length.



4. When Opening a door, Tell the person who you are guiding how the door opens. “*The door opens inwards to the right.*” This allows them to know if the door is swinging inwards or out and which side it is on.

5. When approaching stairs, the guide should pause and proceed slowly, allowing the traveler to sense the movement. In familiar environments, the traveler may independently reach for the railing.



Keep the pace slow, but match the abilities of the person that you are guiding.

If the person you are guiding is not familiar with the area additional time may be needed.

6. When approaching a seat, the guide should tell the person they are guiding that they are in front of or beside the seat. The guide will then place their guide arm hand on the chair back or chair arm and allow the guided person to follow the guide’s arm down to the seat. Some people tap the seat to give an audio clue as to where the seat is.

**7. Other Helpful information:**

- When pointing out things that are in someones path such as curbs, Give specific information: “*There is a curb coming up in about 5 feet.*” This allows them to know ahead of time and if they wish they can use their cane or you can say that you are at the curb and to step up.
- Do not move furniture around. This will confuse us or cause injury.
- When you are about to leave a room – Tell the person you are leaving with so they know.

## Agencies to Get Support

- **American Council of the Blind (ACB)** – [ <https://www.acb.org> ] - To increase the independence, security, equality of opportunity, and quality of life for all blind and visually impaired people.
- **American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)** – [ <https://www.afb.org> ] - The mission of the AFB is to create equal opportunities and expand possibilities through advocacy, thought leadership, and strategic partnerships.
- **Blinded Veterans Association (BVA)** – [ <https://bva.org> ] - BVA serves as ambassadors and mentors for all veterans and their families coping with sight loss.
- **Disabled American Veterans (DAV)** – [ <https://www.dav.org> ] – DAV helps veterans with disabilities.
- **Hadley Helps** - [ <https://hadleyhelps.org> ] - Handy tips for the blind and low vision.
- **Lighthouse Guild International** – [ <https://lighthouseguild.org> ] - Has group meetings by phone.

## VA Blind Rehab and VIST Teams

The VA has residential Blind Rehabilitation centers throughout the US and each state has teams of people to help and get you the resources you need. Call the center nearest you to get more information. You can also call the **VIST** (*Visual Impairment Services Team*) coordinator phone **(202-461-7317)** for the national office.

Facility	Phone
Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind & Vision-Impaired - Richmond, VA	<b>(804) 371-3151</b>
Central BRC - Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital - Hines, IL	<b>(601) 364-2700</b>
Western BRC - Palo Alto, CA	<b>(650) 724-3300</b>
Long Beach BRC - Long Beach, CA	<b>(562) 494-2100</b>
Augusta BRC - Augusta, GA	<b>(706) 721-3100</b>
Southeastern BRC - Birmingham, AL	<b>(205) 254-3000</b>
Puerto Rico BRC - San Juan, PR	<b>(787) 722-2200</b>
Southwestern BRC - Tucson, AZ	<b>(520) 791-2600</b>
American Lake BRC - Tacoma, WA	<b>(253) 572-3000</b>
Waco BRC - Waco, TX	<b>(254) 752-3000</b>
Eastern BRC - West Haven, CT	<b>(203) 974-3000</b>
Louis Stokes Cleveland BRC - Cleveland, OH	<b>(216) 844-3000</b>
West Palm Beach BRC - West Palm Beach, FL	<b>(561) 295-3000</b>

## Apps for the Blind

### iOS / iPad OS

App	Function	Why it's useful
<b>Be My Eyes</b>	Live video call to sighted volunteers	Real-time visual assistance for everyday tasks (reading labels, locating objects, etc.)
<b>Aira</b>	On-demand agents	Agents can give detailed navigation help, airport gate finding, document reading
<b>Seeing AI</b>	AI-powered object, text, and scene description	Scans documents, currency, faces, and describes surroundings without a human helper
<b>TapTapSee</b>	Photo-based object recognizer	Snap a picture, get spoken description of the object; works in low-light conditions
<b>Giraffe Reader</b>	OCR + text-to-speech for printed material	Reads books, magazines, and PDFs aloud; supports multi-column layouts
<b>BlindSquare</b>	GPS navigation tuned for blind users	Announces street names, points of interest, and turn-by-turn directions with audible landmarks
<b>iDentifi</b>	Barcode & UPC scanner	Reads UPC codes, tells you the product name, ingredients, allergens – useful in grocery stores
<b>Seeing Eye GPS</b>	Turn-by-turn navigation with blind-specific UI	Large tactile-friendly buttons, spoken POI alerts, and “road-edge” warnings
<b>BARD Mobile</b>	Access to audio books & braille e-books	Streams library titles to the phone; can pair with a Bluetooth refreshable braille display
<b>Light Detector</b>	Converts light intensity to audible tones	Helps locate light sources (e.g., a stove burner that is on) when vision is limited.
<b>Magnifier</b>	Simple screen-magnifier (triple-click shortcut)	No extra download; instantly enlarges anything on-screen with adjustable zoom (built-in iOS feature)
<b>VoiceOver</b>	Reads everything on screen, supports Braille displays	Core accessibility layer; works across all apps - (built-in screen reader).(built-in iOS feature)

## Android Apps

App	Function	Why it's useful
<b>Be My Eyes</b>	Live video help from volunteers	Same as iOS version – instant visual assistance
<b>Aira</b>	Professional agents via video/audio	Trained agents give detailed navigation & task help
<b>Lookout</b>	AI object, text, and currency recognition	Works offline; reads signs, receipts, and money
<b>TapTapSee</b>	Crowd-sourced + AI object identifier	Takes a photo, returns spoken description
<b>BlindSquare</b>	GPS navigation with audible feedback	Announces street names, intersections, and nearby landmark
<b>Soundscape</b>	3-D audio navigation cues	Provides spatial audio “beacons” for orientation
<b>iDentifi</b>	Barcode scanner + product info	Reads grocery barcodes, tells you what the item
<b>Claro MagX</b>	High-definition magnifier	Zooms the screen, offers contrast & color filters
<b>TalkBack</b>	Reads UI elements, supports gestures & BrailleBack	Core accessibility service; works system-wide – A built-in Android screen reader
<b>Voice Access</b>	Voice-only navigation & control	Hands-free operation for opening apps, scrolling, typing – Built into the Android OS
<b>Select-to-Speak</b>	Read-only text-to-speech on demand	Tap any element, a floating speaker reads it aloud – Built into the Android OS
<b>Lazarillo</b>	Background GPS guidance for blind users	Provides turn-by-turn voice directions even when the app is in the background
<b>Google Assistant</b>	Voice commands for calls, messages, navigation	Hands-free control of the device, useful for low-vision users – Uses Android Auto

## Accessibility Programs



### Windows – Narrator (built-in)

#### Setup

1. **Win + Ctrl + Enter** – turn Narrator on/off.
2. First-time wizard: follow spoken prompts.
3. **Settings** → **Ease of Access** → **Narrator** → adjust:
  - **Voice** (speed, pitch)
  - **Verbosity** → “Brief” (default is “Full”).
  - **Keyboard shortcuts** → enable “Caps Lock as Narrator modifier” (optional).

## Windows Narrator – Cheat-Sheet

Gesture / Shortcut	Action
Caps Lock + M	Start reading from the current item.
Caps Lock + P	Pause/resume reading.
Caps Lock + R	Read the entire window.
Caps Lock + Arrow Right/Left	Move focus to next/previous item.
Caps Lock + Space	Activate the focused control.
Caps Lock + Ctrl + Enter	Open Narrator settings.
Caps Lock + Ctrl + F	Find on page.
Caps Lock + Ctrl + H	Read heading.
Caps Lock + Ctrl + L	Read list.
Caps Lock + Ctrl + T	Read table.
Caps Lock + Ctrl + N	Read notification.
Ctrl + Alt + Num Pad 5	Toggle “Scan mode” (read by character).
Ctrl + Alt + Num Pad 6	Scan mode – read by word.
Ctrl + Alt + Num Pad 7	Scan mode – read by line.
Ctrl + Alt + Num Pad 8	Scan mode – read by paragraph.
Ctrl + Alt + Num Pad 9	Scan mode – read by document.

## Windows – NVDA (free, open-source)

### Setup

1. Download from <https://www.nvaccess.org> → run installer.
2. Launch NVDA (shortcut **Ctrl+Alt+N**).
3. First-time wizard → choose language, voice, “**Start NVDA on login**” (optional).
4. **NVDA Settings (Insert+N)** → adjust:
  - **Speech** → **Rate, Pitch**
  - **Browse Mode** → **Simple Review** (on/off)
  - **Keyboard** → **Use Caps Lock as NVDA modifier** (default) or CAPLOCK

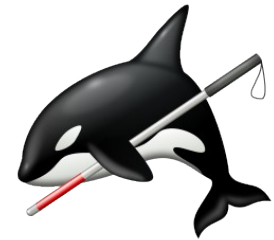
### Cheat-Sheet

Shortcut	Action
NVDA + T	Read title of current window.
NVDA + H	Read next heading.
NVDA + Shift + H	Read previous heading.
NVDA + L	Read next list.
NVDA + Shift + L	Read previous list.
NVDA + Tab	Cycle through focusable objects.
NVDA + Space	Activate the focused control.
NVDA + Down Arrow	Read next line.
NVDA + Up Arrow	Read previous line.
NVDA + Right Arrow	Read next character.
NVDA + Left Arrow	Read previous character.
NVDA + Ctrl + B	Read current button.
NVDA + Ctrl + F	Open Find dialog.
NVDA + Ctrl + S	Open speech viewer (shows spoken text).
NVDA + Shift + S	Toggle speech synthesizer on/off.
NVDA + Q	Quit NVDA.
NVDA + 1-0	Switch to a specific speech profile (Verbosity)

**Linux – Orca (GNOME Screen Reader)**

**Setup**

1. **Alt + Super + S** (or **Super + Alt + S**) – toggle Orca on/off.
2. First-time wizard runs – follow spoken prompts.
3. **Settings** → **Universal Access** → **Screen Reader** → ensure **Orca** is enabled.
4. Open **Orca Preferences** (**Insert + Space** when Orca is on) → adjust:
  - **Speech** → **Rate, Pitch**
  - **Verbosity** → **Brief** (under “Speech”).
  - **Keybindings** – you can change the “modifier key” (default: **Insert** for Desktop - **CAPLOCK** for Laptops).



**Cheat-Sheet (key bindings)**

<b>Shortcut (default modifier = Insert)</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Insert + Space</b>	Open Orca preferences.
<b>Insert + Right/Left Arrow</b>	Move focus to next/previous object.
<b>Insert + Down/Up Arrow</b>	Read next/previous line.
<b>Insert + Enter</b>	Activate the focused control.
<b>Insert + H</b>	Read next heading.
<b>Insert + Shift + H</b>	Read previous heading.
<b>Insert + L</b>	Read next list.
<b>Insert + Shift + L</b>	Read previous list.
<b>Insert + T</b>	Read next table.
<b>Insert + Shift + T</b>	Read previous table.
<b>Insert + F</b>	Open <b>Find</b> dialog.
<b>Insert + Ctrl + S</b>	Speak the current <b>status bar</b> .
<b>Insert + Ctrl + R</b>	Read the <b>current region</b> (selection).
<b>Insert + Ctrl + M</b>	Read the <b>window title</b> .
<b>Insert + Ctrl + P</b>	Pause/resume speech.
<b>Insert + Ctrl + Q</b>	Quit Orca.
<b>Insert + Shift + N</b>	Toggle <b>numeric keypad mode</b> (reads numbers individually).

## Windows – JAWS (Paid)

JAWS is a paid screen reader for Windows that was originally released in 1995. JAWS is frequently sold with ZoomText, a screen magnifier, in a package called Fusion.








### Basic Cheat Sheet

Command	What it Does
<b>CTRL</b>	Stop Reading
<b>INS + Down Arrow</b>	Read All (From Current Position)
<b>TAB</b>	Next
<b>Shift + Tab</b>	Previous
<b>H</b>	Next Heading
<b>1-6</b>	Next Heading (Headings are 1-6)
<b>Shift + 1-6</b>	Previous Heading (1-6)
<b>L</b>	Next List Item
<b>Shift + L</b>	Previous List Item
<b>F</b>	Next Form Element
<b>Shift + F</b>	Previous Form Element
<b>Up Arrow</b>	Say Previous Line
<b>Down Arrow</b>	Say Next Line
<b>CTRL + F</b>	Find a word / Phrase on the page
<b>Insert + Num Pad 5 twice</b>	Spell from cursor
<b>Insert + F7</b>	List Links on page

## Translating Older Braille

One of the problems that I encountered when checking out Braille books from the Library is that many of them were published before UEB Braille was in use. This makes things difficult when you learn something and are suddenly looking up many of the symbols just to make coherent sentences.

I have put together a list of symbols that will help to translate most of these from **EBAE** (*English Braille American Edition*) to UEB that is taught now. The alphabet has not changed, thankfully, but the second-level Braille has.

Word	EBAE Braille	Cell Numbers	Note
ally		1--13456	No Longer Used
ation		1--1345	No Longer Used
by		356	No Longer Used
com		36	No Longer Used
dd		256	No Longer Used
into		35--235	No Longer Used
to		345	No Longer Used

## Afterwards

Thank you for downloading and using The Braille Dictionary. It is an ongoing project that is maintained by a Veteran for Veterans. It can be used and modified to help any person that is blind. I developed this because of my own sudden blindness and it is becoming the “manual” that I wish I had when I became blind. It not only helps with Braille, but it helps with life skills and resources that are needed.

Updates are available by going to [BrailleDictionary.org](http://BrailleDictionary.org) and pushing the “Download” button. It is free and you can freely distribute it to those in need.

## If you wish, you can participate by:

- **Helping to spread the word:** Tell others about the Braille Dictionary. Share this resource with others (Social media, in group chats, just an email).
- **Give us your feedback:** Yes, your opinion actually matters, if you find something that is incorrect it will be corrected in the next update. I am only one person with a mission, but I do not have all the answers. Suggestions for other things to include are also welcome.
- **Talk to your caregivers and the VA:** Many of the people who are working in healthcare on the Low Vision and Blind arena do not know about The Braille Dictionary Project – Let them know so they too can share.

## Plans for the Future

I am working with several Braille publishing houses to find the best fit to move forward. The next edition will be printed (PDF) and also a separate file for Braille Embossers and refreshable Braille readers. This will also be “bundled” via a zip file so that you can download both.

The PDF is screen readable if you prefer to learn that way.

I am moving slowly to get this into the VA system and make it available to all Blind and Low Vision Veterans.