

A Guide to the Braille Alphabet

Braille is a tactile system of reading and writing used by people who are blind or visually impaired.

Invented by Louis Braille, the system is based on a matrix of six raised dots, arranged in two columns of three.

There are 63 possible combinations of raised dots used to represent the letters of the alphabet, numbers, and punctuation.



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braille alphabet and numerals

a	b	c	d	e	f	g
·	⠨	⠠	⠡	⠢	⠣	⠤
h	i	j	k	l	m	n
⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨
o	p	q	r	s	t	u
⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨
v	w	x	y	z		
⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨	⠨		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠
8	9	0				
⠠	⠠	⠠				
,	;	:	.			
⠨	⠨	⠠	⠨			
!	?	—	,			
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠨			

The six dots of the braille cell are arranged and numbered like this:

1	●	●	4
2	●	●	5
3	●	●	6

The **capital sign** (dot 6) placed before a letter makes it a capital letter.

The **numeral sign** (dots 3, 4, 5, 6) placed before a character makes it a number instead of a letter.