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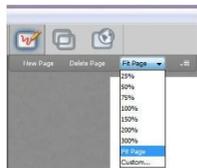
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Customize Your View

- Resize the Whiteboard where the Presentation slides are shown to make it smaller or larger by choosing from the drop down menu located above and to the left of the whiteboard. The default is “fit page”



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Customize Your View *continued*

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Signs: A Refresher

Presenters:



Paul Beatty



Dave Yanchulis

U.S. Access Board

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Session Agenda

- Access Symbols
- Tactile Signs
- Pictograms
- Visual Signs

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ADA & ABA Standards

ADA Standards apply to:

- state & local government facilities
- transportation facilities (DOT)
- places of public accommodation
- commercial facilities



ABA Standards apply to:

- federally funded facilities

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Coverage (§216, §F216)

Required signs:

- designated access symbols/ directional signs
- labels for certain exit doors
- floor levels on jambs at elevators (§407.2.3)
- rail station identification signs (§810.6)
- amusement rides

Otherwise, standards apply only
where signs are provided

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Exempt Signs

- temporary signs
- building addresses and directories
- company names and logos
- occupant names
- menus
- seat/row designations in assembly areas
- signs in non-public areas of detention/
correctional facilities

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Required Access Symbols



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Required Access Symbols

- non-glare finish
- contrast: light-on-dark or dark-on-light
- must comply with referenced symbol depicted (variations not recognized)

Not specified:

- colors or contrast level
- size
- verbiage (except for van parking spaces)



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International Symbol of Accessibility

- entrances
- toilet and bathing rooms
- check-out aisles
- parking
- existing elevators

Not required where *all* are accessible

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International Symbol of Accessibility



Original ISA
reprinted in the ADA & ABA
Standards (§703.7.2.1)



Current ISA



Accessible Icon Project
symbol

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ISA: Entrances

Unless *all* entrances are accessible:

- compliant entrances labelled by ISA
- directional signs with ISA at inaccessible entrances indicating nearest compliant entrance



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ISA: Entrances

Recommended: Locate directional signs to prevent or minimize back-tracking



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ISA: Toilet & Bathing Rooms

ISA must label accessible units if not all comply:

- clustered single-user toilet rooms of the same type (50%)
- portable single-user toilet or bathing units (5% min. in each cluster)



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ISA: Toilet & Bathing Rooms

Where existing toilet or bathing rooms do not comply:

- directional signs with ISA required to indicate location of nearest compliant toilet or bathing room
- ISA must label those that comply

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ISA: Check-Out Aisles

ISA must label compliant check-out aisles (near number/letter or function signs if provided)



Not required if all check-out aisles serving single function comply

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ISA: Parking Signs

ISA must label accessible parking spaces
(can be fixed to posts, walls, or ceilings)



Parking facilities: only requirements for parking and means of egress signs apply (§216.1, Ex. 2)

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ISA: Parking Signs

Sign not required at:

- residential facilities where spaces assigned to specific dwelling units
- sites with 4 or fewer parking spaces total

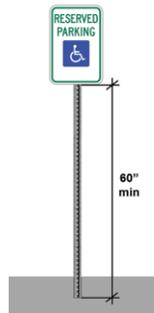


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ISA: Parking Signs

Sign must be 60" high min.
(visible when space occupied)

Surface decals do not suffice



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ISA: Parking Signs

Sign for van spaces must include “van accessible”
(informative, not restrictive)

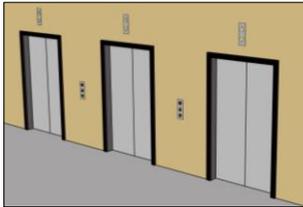


Can be on same or
separate sign

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ISA: Existing Elevators

Where there are existing elevators that do not
comply, elevators that do must be labelled by ISA



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International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss

Required to indicate availability of required
assistive listening systems at each assembly
area or ticket office/window



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International Symbol of TTY

Required to label
TTY-equipped
phones and provide
direction to them at
phone banks & on
pay phone
directional signs



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Tactile Signs

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Tactile Signs (§216.2)

Signs identifying “permanent” rooms & spaces:

- designations not likely to change over time (or without significant alteration of room/space)
- typically located at doorways



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Tactile Signs (§216.2)

- room and floor numbers/letters
- room names
- labels for restrooms, locker rooms, cafeterias, libraries, conference rooms, mechanical rooms, and other permanent rooms/spaces
- doors at exit stairways, exit passageways, and exit discharge (label required) [§216.4]
- signs identifying rail stations/entrances [§810.6]

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Tactile Signs (§703.2)

- raised characters (§703.2)
- grade 2 braille (§703.3)
- location at doorways (§703.4)
- visual access: finish and contrast (§703.5.1)
- pictograms (where provided) (§703.6)

Exception: raised & braille characters not required on exterior signs not located at door to the space they serve

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Tactile Signs

If visual and tactile characters are provided on separate signs:

Tactile Sign

- raised characters (§703.2), (smaller cap height allowed)
- braille (§703.3)
- location at doorways (§703.4)
- exempt: finish & contrast

Visual Sign

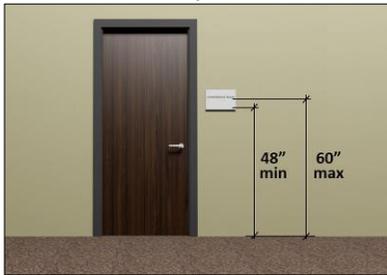
- compliant visual characters (§703.5), including finish & contrast



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Tactile Signs: Location

Latch side placement



Measured to baseline of lowest and highest tactile characters

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Tactile Signs: Location



18" x 18" clear floor space centered on tactile characters

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Tactile Signs: Location



No door can swing into this space when open to 45°

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Tactile Signs: Location



Sign can be located on push side of doors that have closers and don't have hold-open devices

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Tactile Signs: Location

Recessed doors



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Tactile Signs: Location



No space on latch side: on nearest adjacent wall

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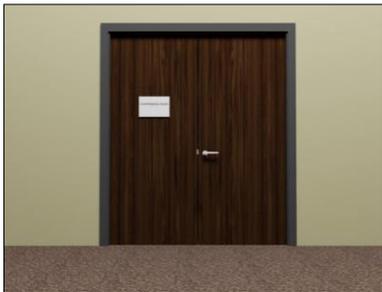
Tactile Signs: Location



Double doors (2 active leaves): right side

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Tactile Signs: Location



Double doors (1 active leaf): on inactive leaf

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Tactile Signs

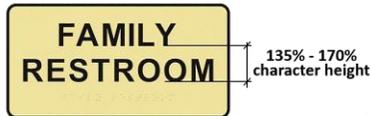
- non-glare finish
- light-on-dark or dark-on-light contrast (min. level not specified)



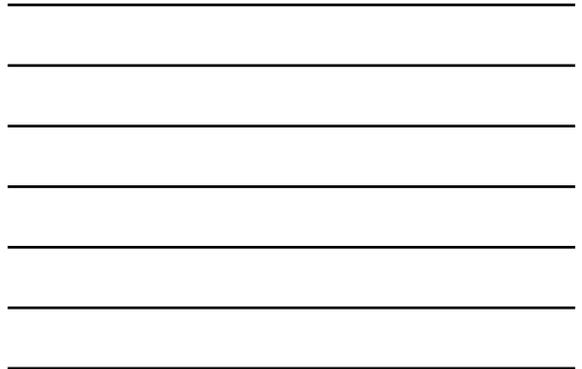
45

Raised Characters

- raised 1/32" min.
- uppercase
- sans serif; prohibited: italic, oblique, script, highly decorative, unusual forms
- 3/8" min. separation from raised borders & decorative elements
- line spacing

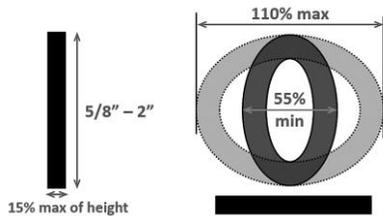


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Raised Characters

- character height & stroke width (uppercase "I")
- character proportion (uppercase "O")

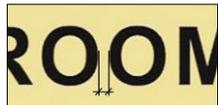


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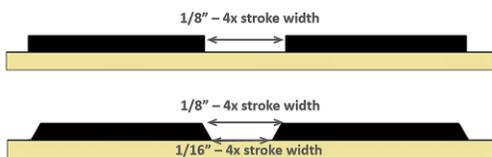


Raised Characters

Spacing between closest points of adjacent characters (excluding word spaces)



Cross section



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Braille (Grade 2)

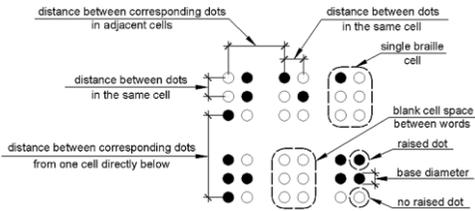
Braille is read with a light, sweeping touch
- dots must have domed or rounded shape



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Braille

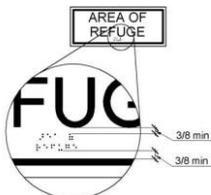
Dot height, diameter, and spacing within and between cells specified in the standards



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Braille

- Placed below raised text (including where multi-lined)
- 3/8" min. separation from raised text, borders, decorative elements

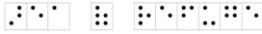


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Braille

Uppercase notation limited to: proper nouns/
names, individual letters, initials/acronyms, and
first word of sentences

no caps



First Letter Caps



ALL CAPS



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Braille

In this example, there is no braille capitalization
(though raised characters are all uppercase)



No braille capitalization for this content
(no proper noun, name, initial etc.)

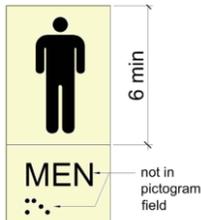
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Tactile Signs: Pictograms

Required for pictograms that *designate a permanent room or space* [§216.2]:

- text descriptors (raised & braille)
- 6" min. field height
- non-glare finish
- contrast (dark-on-light or light-on-dark)

Pictogram is *not* required to be raised



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Pictograms

Examples of pictograms that designate permanent rooms & spaces:



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Other Pictograms

Examples of informational/directional pictograms (i.e., that do *not* designate permanent rooms & spaces)



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Exit Doors (§216.4)

Tactile signs must be provided to label exit doors at:

- exit stairways
- exit passageways (horizontal fire-resistance-rated component leading to exit discharge/public way)
- exit discharge

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Exit Doors

Separate visual and tactile signs



Visual sign (§703.5)

Tactile sign (§703.2 - §703.4)

- no finish & contrast requirements
- ½" min. cap height allowed

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Means of Egress Signs

Signs required by IBC that must meet visual requirements (703.5):

- instructions in areas of refuge (§216.4.2)
(area of refuge label must be tactile)
- directions to accessible means of egress (§216.4.3)



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Transportation Facilities (§810)

Rail Stations:

- if station/entrance signs provided, tactile sign required at each entrance (or central location if no defined entrance) (§703.2)
- tactile station ID sign required on each platform/boarding area in uniform location (§703.2)
- station name signs required that are clearly visible from vehicles (§703.5)
- list of stations, routes, destinations served by station must be visual, excluding maps (§703.5)
Exception where audible signs provided



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Transportation Facilities (§810)

Bus Stops: Route ID Signs (where provided)



- Must meet visual requirements (§703.5) – except height (40" min.), line spacing
 - Min. character height applies to max. extent practicable
- Exempt: bus schedules, timetables, maps

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Visual Signs

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Visual Access (§216.3)

Required for signs providing direction to, or information about, interior spaces and facilities



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Visual Characters (§703.5)

- height from floor/ground (40" min.)
- non-glare finish
- light-on-dark or dark-on-light contrast
- stroke thickness
- character style, proportion, height, spacing
- line spacing

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Contrast

light-on-dark or dark-on-light contrast -
min. level not specified (the higher the better)

Contrast

Contrast

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Contrast

Examples of poor contrast

Contrast

Contrast

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Visual Characters

- uppercase and/or lowercase
- conventional form
- prohibited: italic, oblique, script, highly decorative, unusual forms
- line spacing: 135% - 170% character height

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Sign Height

Character baseline: 40" min. above finish floor/ground

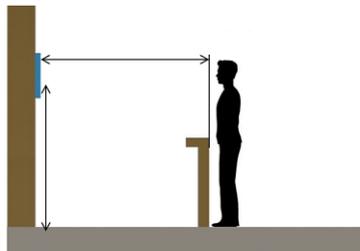


Signs above circulation paths must provide 80" min. headroom clearance (§307.4)

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Character Height

Determined by height from floor/ground (measured to character baseline) & viewing distance (based on obstruction preventing further approach)



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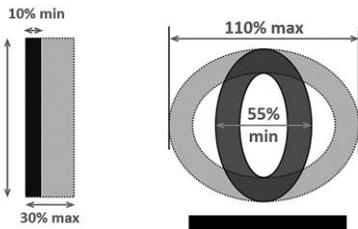
Character Height

Height above Floor	Min. Character Height (based on uppercase "I")
40" – 70"	5/8" (+ 1/8" / foot of viewing distance above 6')
>70" – 10'	2" (+ 1/8" / foot of viewing distance above 15')
> 10'	3" (+ 1/8" / foot of viewing distance above 21')

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Stroke Thickness & Character Proportion

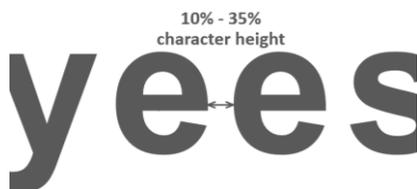
based on uppercase "I" and "O"



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Character Spacing

measured to closest points of adjacent
characters excluding word spaces



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Visual v. Tactile Signs

Visual

- no tactile characters
- height: 40" min.
- upper & lower case
- "conventional" form
- character spacing
- character height based on viewing distance and height
- stroke thickness: 10% - 30%

Tactile

- raised & braille characters
- height: 48" – 60"
- uppercase only
- sans serif
- character spacing
- character height: 5/8" – 2"
- stroke thickness: 15% max
- pictograms (text, field height)

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Recap: Application

Tactile & Visual

"Room 123"
 "Restroom"
 "Mechanical Room"
 "Exit" (at certain doors)
 "Floor B"
 "Ballroom A"
 "C. Smith Room"

Visual Only

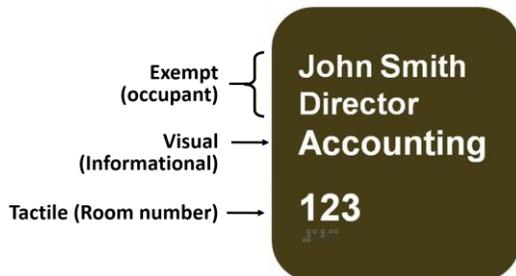
"Exit →"
 "Employees Only"
 "Visitors must sign in"

Exempt

building directory
 "Mr. C. Smith, Accountant"

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Example Sign



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Outdoor Areas: Trails

ABA Standards: provisions for outdoor developed areas on Federal lands

If provided at trail heads, signs must include:

- trail length
- surface type
- tread width (min. & typical)
- running & cross slope (max. & typical)
- trail name, if indicated, must be visual (§703.5)



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Other Topics

- display screens and electronic signs
- audible signs
- “effective communication”
- illumination levels

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Technical Guides on the Standards

Available on the Board’s website



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Questions?

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Continuing Education



AIA Provider Number: I017
LA CES Provider Name: Great Lakes ADA Center



Course Title: Accessible Signage (A Refresher)
AIA Course Number: GL20161006
LA CES Course Number: GL20161006
Date: October 6, 2016

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