

# The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary

Richard A. Tennant  
Marianne Gluszak Brown

- Illustrations of More Than 1,600 Signs Arranged by Shape for Easy Identification
- Introduction to Deaf Culture and ASL Etiquette
- Comprehensive Index of English Vocabulary for All Signs



Illustrated by Valerie Nelson-Murley



# The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary



Richard A. Tennant  
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Valerie Nelson-Metlay



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*This work is dedicated to those who struggle to learn to communicate with others, and to those teachers who devote themselves to bringing these desires to fruition.*

**R. T.**

*To the Deaf community that has nurtured me since birth, and to all who seek to understand the beauty of American Sign Language.*

**M. G. B.**

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# Preface



*The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary* departs from most sign language dictionaries in that it is organized by the various shapes of the hands used to form signs rather than in English alphabetical word order. This unique format allows users to search for a sign that they recognize but whose meaning they have forgotten or for the meaning of a new sign they have seen for the very first time.

*The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary* will be especially helpful to new sign language students, and it will be a handy reference for people who know some signs but want to increase their vocabulary. The dictionary will also be valuable to Deaf people who want to know the various English words that are used to signify the same concept conveyed in a particular sign. Finally, the Index of English Glosses provides an English to American Sign Language (ASL) listing of all the signs in the book so that new signers can look up a word in English to learn the conceptually correct sign to use to express a specific idea. This dual-language feature enables users to go from ASL to English or English to ASL easily and quickly.

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# Introduction

American Sign Language (ASL) is a visual/gestural language. It is a *natural* language, meaning that it has developed naturally over time by its users, Deaf people. ASL has all of the features of any language; that is, it is a rule-governed system using symbols to represent meaning. In ASL, the symbols are specific hand movements and configurations that are modified by facial expressions to convey meaning. These gestures or symbols are called *signs*.

Contrary to common belief, ASL is not derived from any spoken language, nor is it a visual code representing English. It is a unique and distinct language, one that does not depend on speech or sound. ASL has its own grammar, sentence construction, idiomatic usage, slang, style, and regional variations—the characteristics that define any language.

American Sign Language is the shared language that unites Deaf people in what is known as the Deaf community. *Deaf* with a capital *D* is used in publications to recognize the cultural and linguistic affiliation of Deaf people who are members of the Deaf community, whereas *deaf* with a lowercase *d* is used to refer to deaf people who do not embrace ASL or involve themselves with the values, organizations, and events that are heralded by signing Deaf people. The Deaf community is not bound by geographic borders, but rather comprises those people who elect to become members by using ASL as their preferred mode of communication and by accepting the cultural identity of Deaf people. It is difficult to give an accurate number of how many people are in the Deaf community because census takers typically lump together all people who have a hearing loss. Many researchers believe that approximately 10 percent of the general population has some degree of hearing loss and that 1 percent of that number represents Deaf people, for a total of about half a million people in the Deaf community.

The people most likely to be native users of ASL are those who have Deaf parents. People who lose their hearing as infants, before they begin to speak, may become native signers if they are exposed to ASL at an early age. These people, who are unable to hear English and learn it naturally, must be taught English through formal means. Hearing children of Deaf parents also acquire ASL as a first language. However, their enculturation tends to cross the cultures of the Deaf and hearing worlds. These children, like their Deaf counterparts, are often referred to as bicultural and bilingual.

## History of Sign Language in America

Not much is known about deaf people who came to America before the beginning of the nineteenth century, although evidence suggests that they brought the sign languages of their native countries with them. Because there were no schools specifically for them and traveling was difficult, deaf people probably had very little contact with one another.

This situation began to change in the early 1800s when Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, a Connecticut clergyman, embarked on a voyage abroad at the request of a Hartford physician who had a deaf daughter. Gallaudet had heard that successful methods of educating deaf children were being used in Europe, and he was eager to learn these teaching methods and bring them back to America so that he could open a school for children who were deaf. After a lukewarm welcome by the administrators of the school for the deaf in England, Gallaudet moved on to the Royal Institution for the Deaf in Paris, where he was well received. He studied French signs and methods of teaching deaf children using sign language. When Gallaudet was ready to return to Hartford, he contracted with Laurent Clerc, a graduate of the Royal Institution and one of the best teachers at the school in Paris, to return with him to America. Clerc played an important role in the emergence of early versions of ASL by bringing French Sign Language to the United States to intermingle with existing sign languages.

Gallaudet and Clerc established the first permanent school for deaf children in the United States. The school opened in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1817. This event is viewed as a milestone for the Deaf community in that it brought large numbers of Deaf people together for the first time. The school became a forum for sharing ideas, experiences, beliefs, and values unique to Deaf life. The founding of this school helped to create, develop, and nurture an enduring sense of community—the Deaf community.

American Sign Language, formed of a fusion between sign languages already in existence (including the newly imported French Sign Language), did what most languages do: it evolved. It was flexible enough to be able to respond to the ever-changing American society, and today it has evolved into one of the richest sign languages in the world. We are indebted to Gallaudet, to early Deaf pioneers, to the French for the head start they gave us, and for the conditions here in the United States that have nurtured ASL.

# Signs—The Vocabulary of American Sign Language

A sign is a gesture or movement that conveys a concept. Each sign is made with a specific hand configuration or handshape, placed at various locations on or near the signer's body. If the handshape, movement, or location changes, the meaning of the sign also changes. Signs are the basic semantic units of sign languages, much as words are the basic semantic units of spoken languages.

The signs of ASL are formed with one hand or two hands. When a sign is formed using only one hand, the hand used is determined by the signer's natural dominance. The same is true for two-hand signs in which only one hand moves. The hand that moves is called the *dominant* hand, while the other hand is called the *passive* hand. The illustrations in this dictionary show models with a right-hand dominance.

Two-hand signs can be produced in one of three ways: (1) both hands form identical handshapes and both hands move; (2) both hands form identical handshapes but only the dominant hand moves; or (3) the hands form

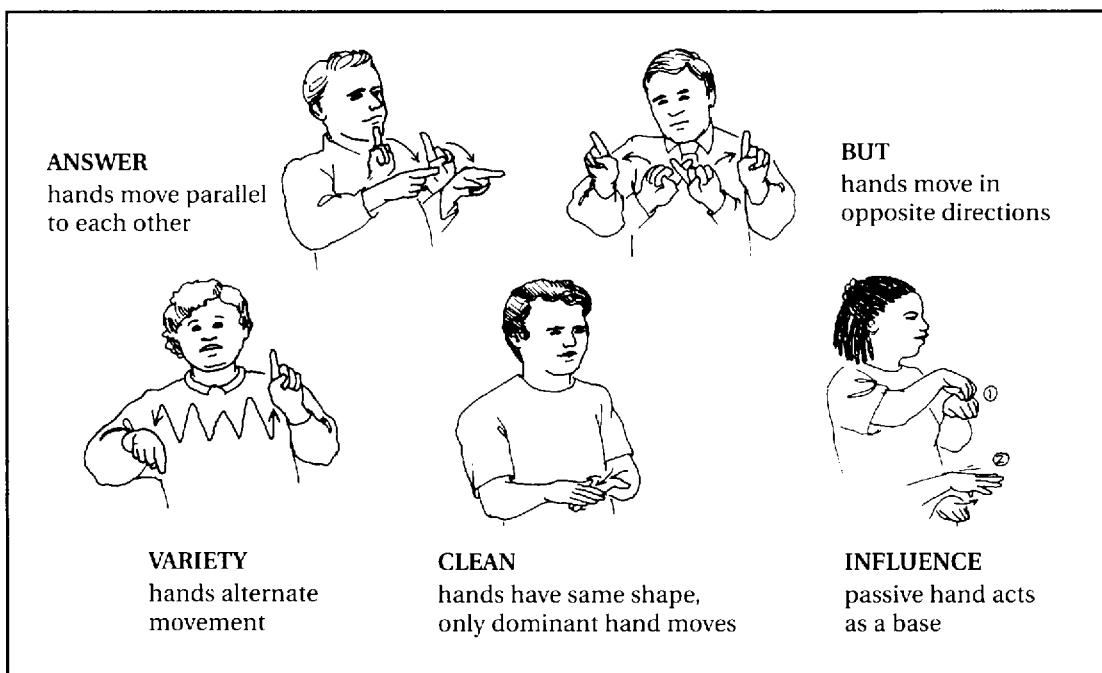
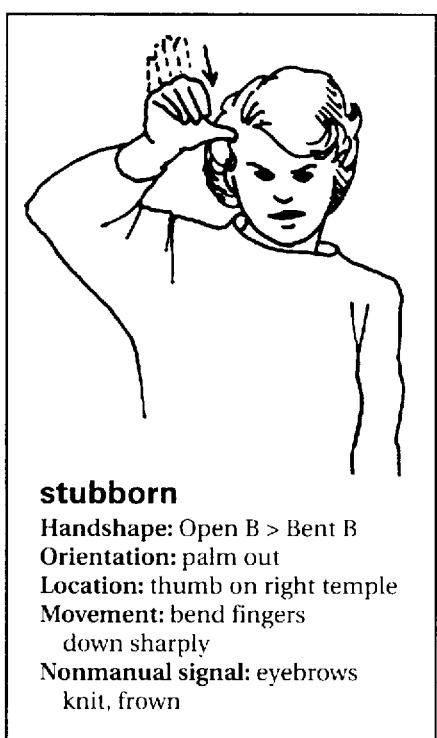


Figure 1. Examples of how two-hand signs can be formed.

different handshapes and only the dominant hand moves, while the passive hand is restricted to a limited set of handshapes (see figure 1).

When both hands move, a *symmetry* condition exists, which means that the handshapes and movements must be identical. These movements may be made either in unison or alternatingly. In addition, when the hands move in unison the movement can be parallel or in opposite directions. For two-hand signs in which the handshapes are not identical, a *dominance* condition exists in that the passive hand remains static while the dominant hand executes the sign. The handshape of the dominant hand is more significant than the shape of the passive hand. The dominant hand carries the essential information whereas the other hand acts primarily as a base and, as such, is usually stationary and limited in the handshapes that it can have. The dominant hand can display any of approximately 150 different handshapes, but the passive hand can assume only about seven handshapes. Because the passive hand plays a lesser role, that hand is often less carefully articulated.



Native signers are naturally consistent in their adherence to the rules regarding symmetry and dominance. Someone who does not observe these rules is awkward to watch, particularly if the person alternatingly uses the left and the right hand for one-hand signs.

## Parameters of a Sign

Every sign is a composite of basic components or *parameters*. The parameters of a sign are handshape, palm orientation, location, movement, and nonmanual features or signals. If one of these five parameters changes, a completely different sign may be formed. You will notice that the sign descriptions written for each sign illustration in this dictionary include each of these parameters (see figure 2).

Figure 2. All sign descriptions include the five parameters of a sign.

## **Handshape**

The handshape is probably the most apparent parameter of a sign. It is the configuration the hand assumes when beginning to make a sign. The most frequently used handshapes are the letters of the American Manual Alphabet and the manual numbers (see pages 20 and 26); however, linguists have identified a large number of discrete handshapes. In order to make this book as accessible as possible, the signs have been organized using forty of the possible handshapes. Handshapes that are quite similar to each other (for example, K and P) have been arbitrarily grouped under one of these handshapes.

## **Palm Orientation**

The next parameter of a sign is its orientation, or the direction in which the hand is turned. The direction that the palm of the hand faces (up, down, left, or right) is a useful way of describing the orientation because once the palm is described, the direction of the fingers and back of the hand is obvious.

## **Location**

Signs are formed on or near only certain areas of the body. Approximately 75 percent of all signs are formed in the head and neck area because there they can be seen more easily. For the same reason, over time, signs that used to be formed near the waist or elbows have moved up and in toward the chest. The location of a sign frequently contributes to its meaning. For example, many signs that denote feelings are formed near the heart, whereas signs related to cognitive concepts are formed near the head.

## **Movement**

Much of the meaning of signs may be expressed through movement. The direction in which a sign moves may indicate the doer or recipient of the action. For example, if the sign HELP<sup>1</sup> moves from the signer toward another person, help is offered to that person. If the sign moves in toward the signer, another person might be helping the signer. The repetition of the movement may indicate several things—the frequency of an action, the plurality of a noun, or the distinction between a noun and a verb. The size of the movement may indicate volume or size. And the speed or vigor of the movement combined with the appropriate nonmanual signals may convey many adverbial aspects of what is being expressed. Generally, the signs in this book show basic movements to which a skilled signer may add the semantic variations.

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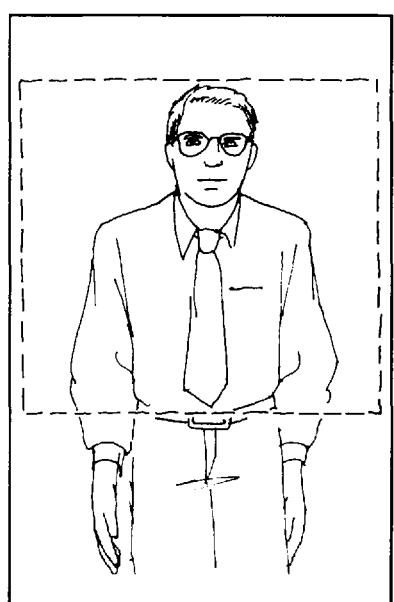
<sup>1</sup> ASL signs are indicated by using small capital letters for the English glosses of root signs.

## Nonmanual Signals

If you have executed each of the first four parameters, you can succeed in correctly making a sign. However, being a good signer involves more than just executing signs correctly. In spoken languages, additional semantic information is carried through one's tone of voice. In sign language, additional semantic information is carried through one's body and facial expressions. This nonmanual parameter occurs at the same time that the sign is being executed to contribute to its meaning. The signed message is quite different if you shake your head no or nod your head yes while signing HAPPY. When one signs using all of the parameters including the nonmanual parameter, there is a complete thought—a sentence. Without the nonmanual parameter, there is merely a string of signs.

Some attempt has been made in this book to illustrate or to describe the nonmanual parameter of each sign, although often the nonmanual signals are dictated by the context in which the sign is used. Keep in mind that while the dictionary offers an extensive inventory of "root" signs, the nonmanual signals as well as the signs themselves can be inflected and combined in myriad ways, producing more variations than can be shown in a printed dictionary. Because sign language is three-dimensional, and because grammatical inflections and nonmanual signals are expressed simultaneously with the signs, it is difficult to present ASL in the two-dimensional medium of a book. It is important that you take a sign class to become aware of the

nuances of this beautiful language. And to supplement that instruction, you should interact with the Deaf community to acquire a deeper appreciation of the language in the context of its people and their culture.



*Figure 3. The signing space*

## Signing Space

When Deaf people sign, they use a defined space that approximates a rectangle. This rectangle starts at waist height, extends to slightly above one's head, reaches out no more than a foot in front of the body, and rarely extends more than a foot left or right beyond the torso (see figure 3). This area provides for optimum viewing of signs as they are formed. The signing space becomes proportionately larger and the signs may be exaggerated when signing to

large audiences. Likewise, the signing space may become more confined for purposes of more rapid signing or in order to be secretive.

## Grammatical Features

American Sign Language, like all languages, has definite rules of grammar. These rules specify how signs can be used and combined in order to allow for communication. Some of the basic features are discussed here as an introduction to the sophistication and versatility of ASL as a language.

### Verb Types

Most verbs are explicitly signed along with the subject and object of the sentence. These *regular* verbs cannot take advantage of variable movement and space to create modifications on the root sign. However, some verbs can use space to incorporate both the subject and object of the sentence in the verb sign itself. These *directional* verbs use movement to or from the signer to express who or what gives or receives the action. Examples of directional verbs are GIVE, INFORM, DEFEND, and BORROW. Directional verbs are very efficient since an entire sentence is expressed with the use of one sign (see figure 4). With some directional verbs, the palm orientation may reverse. For example, for the sign PITY, the palm faces in toward the body when signing YOU-PITY-ME and faces out toward the referent when signing I-PITY-YOU.

*Locational* verbs are signed on or near the area of the body to which the action refers. Signing HURT near the mouth indicates a toothache; near the head, a headache; and so on. Similarly, signing SURGERY near the appendix versus signing it near the heart gives clear information about what kind of surgery was performed.

### Noun/Verb Pairs

Signs for related ASL nouns and verbs (i.e., are based on the same concept) are formed in very similar ways. In a two-dimensional illustration, the signs may actually



Figure 4. Directional verbs allow the signer to incorporate the subject and object of the sentence into the verb.

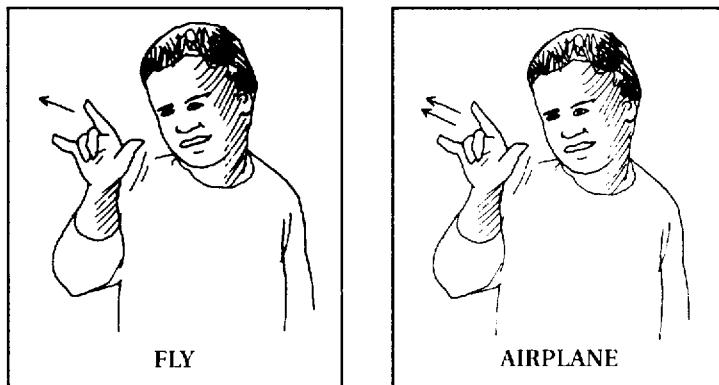


Figure 5. The only difference between some noun and verb signs is indicated in the movement.

look identical because the difference in movements cannot be shown easily. Typically the verb forms have a single large movement, whereas their noun counterparts are often signed smaller and with a double movement (see figure 5). Some examples of ASL noun/verb pairs

are AIRPLANE and FLY, CHAIR and SIT, and FOOD and EAT.

In this dictionary, you may notice that only the noun or only the verb form of a sign is illustrated. The difference between the two forms is indicated by the notation *SM* (single movement) or *DM* (double movement) after the English entry for the sign. It is up to you, the user, to remember that the single movement, typically used for verbs, is larger than the double movement, which is usually several small quick movements. Because there are many noun/verb pairs in ASL, it would have been repetitive to illustrate each noun and verb since in the illustration they would look identical except for the arrow.

## Agent Markers

The *agent marker* is a sign added to a root sign to indicate that one is referring to a person (see figure 6). The agent marker is referred to as the *-er* sign, and it often marks the distinction between a noun and a verb (for example, TEACH + agent marker =TEACHER). It also conveys the same idea as the inflections *-an*, *-ist*, *-ent*, and *-or* in

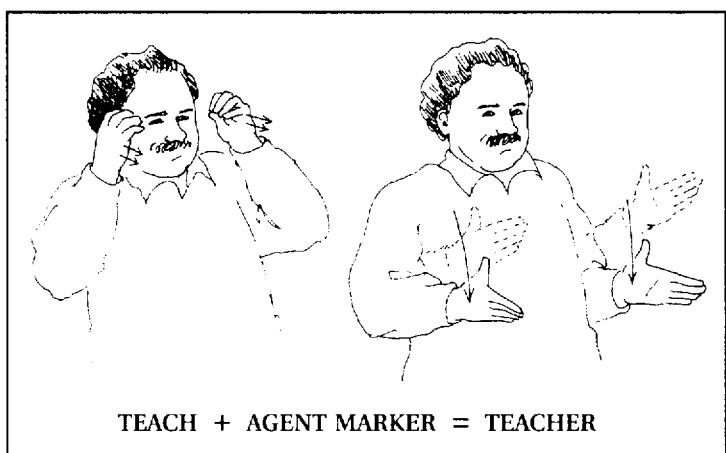


Figure 6. The agent marker is added to a noun sign to indicate a person. This allows the signer to specify an occupation or nationality.

English (for example, STUDY + agent marker = STUDENT; POLITICS + agent marker = POLITICIAN).

## Plurals

There are several ways to show the plurality of people and objects. One of the most common techniques is to repeat the noun sign a number of times. Signs that are made in space off the body are likely candidates for this way of making the sign plural. Sometimes the sign will be moved slightly to the right while it is being repeated.

ASL singular:	BOOK I HAVE.
English:	I have a book.
ASL plural:	BOOK, BOOK I HAVE.
English:	I have some books.

Some signs cannot be pluralized by repeating the sign. In such cases, there are several other ways to express plurals, including adding a plural pronoun, a number, or a quantifying sign (for example, MANY) to the noun sign.

ASL singular:	MAN I SEE.
English:	I see a man.

## Pronoun

ASL plural:	MAN THEY I SEE.
English:	I see some men.

## Number

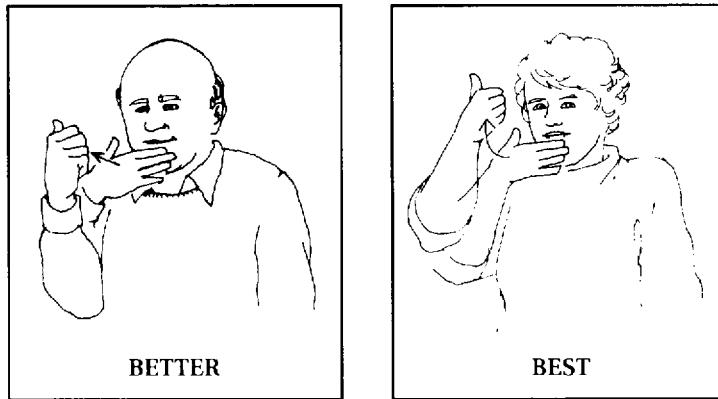
ASL plural:	MAN THREE I SEE.
English:	I see three men.

## Quantifier

ASL plural:	MAN SEVERAL I SEE.
English:	I see several men.

## Comparatives

ASL has two methods of comparing two persons, places, things, or ideas. One method makes use of space. When discussing the first item being compared, the signer shifts the shoulders toward the right, looks in



*Figure 7. The difference between the comparative and superlative form can be shown in the degree of movement.*

this method would be as follows:

ASL:	CANDY (shift body right), ICE CREAM (shift body left), ME LIKE BOTH (body center).
English:	I like both candy and ice cream!

The second way of comparing items is to add an inflection to the root adjective describing the two items. The inflection sign for the comparative form (*-er*) is made by jerking the thumb of the Open A hand upward a short distance; the superlative form (*-est*) is made by a larger movement upward (see figure 7). These movements are accompanied by appropriate facial expressions, and they can be exaggerated to show just how much difference is indicated in the comparison.

## Variation in Sign Language

Language is the creation of the community of people who use it and shape it. Yet, subgroups exist within any community. Factors such as gender, geography, race, socioeconomic background, level of education, and age, play a role in creating language variations. These kinds of variations do not prevent speakers or signers of different backgrounds from being able to converse with one another, rather they identify certain characteristics about the individuals. For instance, a particular sign may reveal which school for the deaf the person attended. The manner of signing or the pace of signing may indicate the region someone comes from—the Midwest, Southeast, and so on.

that direction, and signs everything related to that item on that side of the body. Then when discussing the second item, the signer shifts left, looks left, and signs toward the left for the other item. This shifting continues throughout the conversation as the signer refers to either item. An example of

## Changes in Signs

Over time and through use, signs change. Some of the changes are a result of the personal and practical needs of the current users. After all, a language must possess the flexibility and creativity necessary to express new ideas, inventions, and events. For example, ASL has signs for *microwave* as well as adaptations of the old signs TELEPHONE and WASH-CLOTHES to reflect modern appliances. Other changes have occurred to make signs easier to produce or recognize. One such change is that signs now are produced in a smaller space closer to the center of the body than years ago. SUPPORT and HELP are examples of signs that have moved from being formed on the arm to being formed on the hand held in front of the chest.

Still other changes are due to the trend to use one-hand signs when there is an identical two-hand version. This is particularly true of *iconic* signs (signs that visually resemble the concept they represent) that used to require both hands, but now require only one hand; for example, COW, DEVIL, or CAT (see figure 8). Following the pattern of all languages, ASL is evolving to allow quick, easy, and concise communication.

Many times people prefer to use one-hand signs for conversational purposes because it frees the signer to use the passive hand for another activity like holding a drink or a baby. In two-hand signs where there is a dominance condition, the passive hand is not typically dropped, though it can be if the signer's left hand is occupied.

In this dictionary, not all one-hand and two-hand variations are illustrated. The book would have become too unwieldy if all possible permutations had been included.

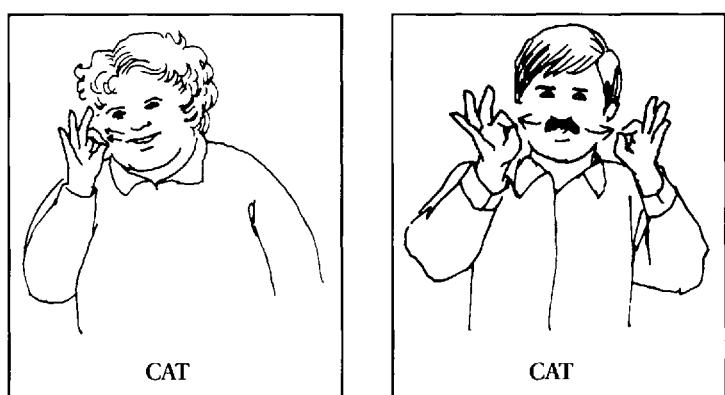


Figure 8. One of the changes ASL has undergone is a preference for one-hand over two-hand signs.

## Fingerspelling

The American Manual Alphabet has a handshape to represent each letter of the English alphabet (see figure 9). *Fingerspelling* uses the manual alphabet to provide a visual representation of English words. Because finger-spelling is derived from English, its role in ASL is generally limited to proper names of people and places, brand names, and titles. Technical terms are fingerspelled only if no sign currently exists and the English term is important to know. However, a combination of signs may be enough to carry the concept until a more efficient sign is created by the Deaf community.

The following list describes how to fingerspell properly. When following the techniques on the list, keep in mind that fingerspelling should feel comfortable. Take your time, perhaps practice in front of a mirror to view both the expressive and receptive perspectives simultaneously, and above all—relax.

1. Raise the dominant hand so that the elbow is about waist high.

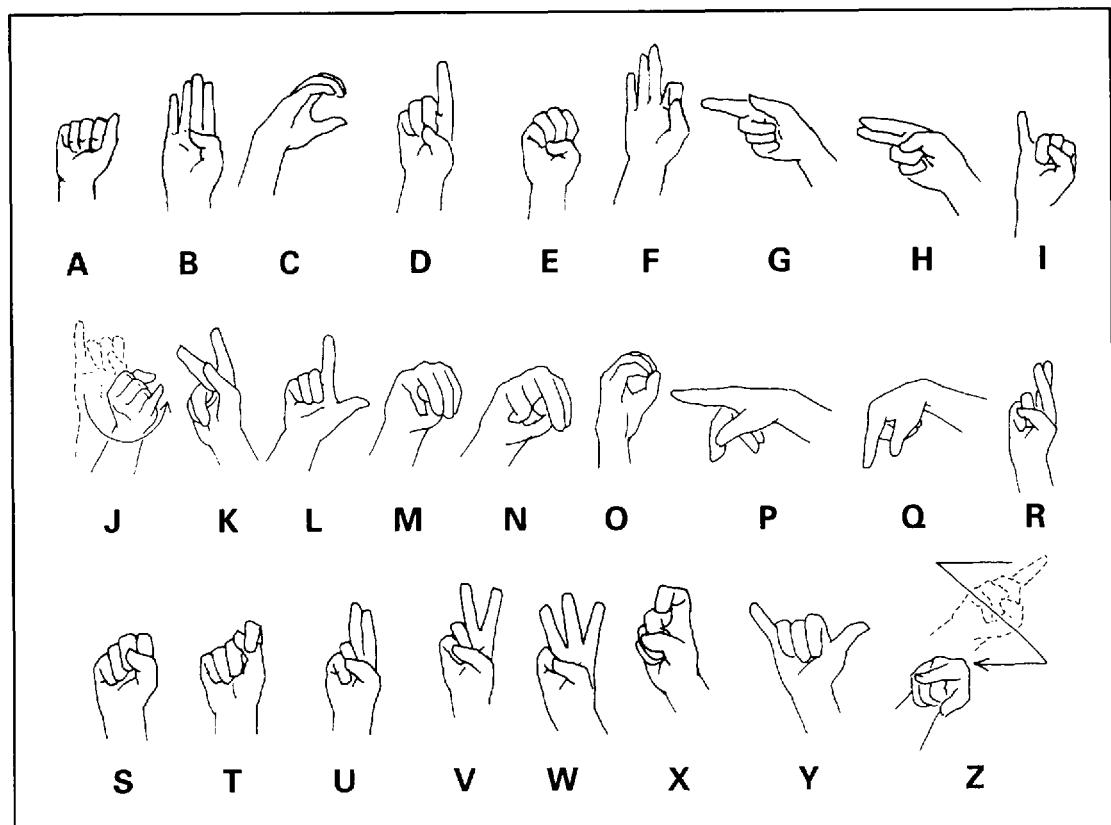


Figure 9. The American Manual Alphabet

2. The palm should face forward and slightly toward the left (except for letters G and H, where the palm faces the body).
3. The hand should be approximately eight to ten inches in front of the chest.
4. The hand moves slightly toward the right while spelling.
5. Spelling should be rhythmic. The focus should not be on the individual letters.
6. Do not bounce the elbow or twist the wrist.
7. Hold the last letter of a word for an extra beat before spelling the next.

Reading fingerspelling seems to be more difficult for learners to master than doing the fingerspelling. Historically, the emphasis in instruction has been on expressing rather than receiving. This leaves many students without concrete advice on developing and maintaining good receptive skills.

Think about good readers. Readers do not read text letter by letter! Readers see whole words and the configuration of words or phrases. In addition, they use context. The principles of learning how to read text apply to reading fingerspelling as well. Don't look for individual letters when someone is finger-spelling, rather look for clues to help you make an educated guess.

Here is a list of techniques that may help you improve your receptive skills.

1. Maintain eye contact. Resist the temptation to look at the signer's hand.
2. Use clues such as the length of a word, its position in the sentence, the configuration of the word, easily recognized letters, and context.
3. Sometimes a phonetic approach is useful.

Below are some exercises that may help either to break bad reading habits or prevent any from developing.

1. Starting with three-letter words, say the word and spell it simultaneously. Then try progressively harder words, again making sure to begin and end vocalization and spelling at the same time.

- With a partner, tell each other stories with a lot of contextual clues. For instance, talk about your experience at a pet shop trying to choose a dog, and be sure your partner understands the topic before moving on with the story. Narrow the field to help your partner hone in on the kinds of words that are likely to appear in your story. For example, give plenty of clues about the appearance and behavior of the dog's breed before spelling it. Fingerspell the type (for example, collie), at a moderate to fast clip. If your partner misses the word you might want to give more clues before spelling it again.

Do not fingerspell the words slowly under any circumstances. Encourage your partner to see the whole word by asking her to guess. Remember, it is very important that you not let your partner look at your hand while you spell. Doing this kind of exercise routinely will help you build confidence in your ability to successfully read fingerspelled words. Remember, often there are a lot of clues to aid in making intelligent guesses. This is what Deaf people have learned to do. You can do it too!

## Fingerspelled Loan Signs

Borrowing from both ASL and English, fingerspelled *loan* signs are a combination of English letters and ASL movements. For example, although there are several signs in ASL for *dog*, the loan sign #DOG<sup>2</sup> is a D handshape twisting into the G handshape, omitting the letter *o*. The sign itself does not appear as ordinary fingerspelling; it has taken on a unique character of its own, heavily defined by its movement and use of space. Loan signs begin as fingerspelled English words, and through repeated usage over time they change so that they look more like ASL signs. Fingerspelled loan signs tend to keep the first and last letter of the word and delete the medial letters. Some examples of loan signs are #JOB, #WHAT, and #BACK. Many fingerspelled loan signs only have two letters that are either an abbreviation of the English word or the whole word. Some examples of two-letter loan signs are #HA, #NG (for "no good"), #OK, and #NO.

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<sup>2</sup> The # symbol is used to show the difference between a fingerspelled loan sign and a regular sign. The fingerspelled word is written with hyphens between the letters (ex., D-O-G).

## Conclusion

All living human languages, as we have said, are constantly changing, and ASL is no exception. In this dictionary, we offer a description of ASL as it now exists. Loan words to describe new processes and technologies, borrowed terms from sign languages elsewhere in the world, and the inventiveness of its native speakers will doubtless alter and enrich ASL in the coming years, and we look forward to keeping up with that growth.



## How to Use This Dictionary

When studying a foreign language, it is usually necessary to acquire a two-way dictionary. To study German, for example, you would want to have an English-German, German-English dictionary close at hand. The primary purpose of *The ASL Handshape Dictionary* is to provide sign language students with the ASL equivalent of a two-way dictionary. The signs are arranged by the shape the hand assumes when beginning to make a sign. This allows students to locate a sign they know, or have just seen, to find out its meaning. At the same time the book offers students, through its comprehensive index of English glosses, the means for locating a sign that is needed to express an English concept.

If a sign is a symbol that represents a concept, then what is the best way to convey a translation of that concept? The concept could be illustrated, but many concepts are abstract and difficult to convey in a picture. Thus, in most sign language dictionaries, English words, or *glosses*, appear with each sign illustration as an attempt to translate the meaning of the sign. Most of the sign illustrations in this dictionary include more than one English gloss. These English words may not represent all possible instances in which the sign may be used. Sometimes remarks or parts of speech are given in parentheses with an English gloss to specify the meaning or appropriate use of the sign. Sometimes such limits for using a sign can be derived by looking at the other glosses in the list. For example, by examining the glosses for the sign DRUM, you would see that you cannot appropriately use that sign to mean "drumming up business" because the other gloss with the illustration is "play drums." This makes it clear that the sign is intended to convey the concept of a musical instrument. Remarks accompanying the sign description may also be of help in choosing an appropriate gloss for the context you are trying to convey.

In many sign language dictionaries the sign illustrations are arranged in the alphabetical order of their English glosses or meanings. In such an alphabetical arrangement there is no method of locating a sign that one remembers or observes in order to discover its meaning. This dictionary presents signs in a logical order, by handshape, so that a known or observed sign can be quickly located without reference to an English word or gloss.

A second advantage of this dictionary's arrangement is that teachers of sign language can find groups of signs that use the same initial handshape displayed in one place. The convenience of these handshape categories enables a sign language teacher to present signs in a unique and logical organization. It also offers students a helpful memory device.

A third advantage of this dictionary is its generous array of glosses available to assist Deaf people who seek to increase their English vocabulary. When looking up signs whose concepts are already familiar to them, Deaf people may find among the glosses other English words that can be used to represent the signed concept.

## General Arrangement of the Dictionary

This dictionary is divided into three major sections, each with a specific purpose. The first section contains illustrations of one-hand signs and their English glosses. The signs are arranged in order of the initial handshape that is used in producing the sign. The second section contains the two-hand signs and their English glosses, and once again, the signs are arranged in order of the initial handshape. Each illustration in both of these sections is accompanied by its equivalent English glosses (meanings) and a sign description. Each description includes the handshape, palm orientation, location, movement, and when appropriate, nonmanual signals. Notes are included with some descriptions to give suggestions as to the sign's use, alternate variations, or preferred signs.

Most of the illustrations include arrows that indicate how the hands move. A double-headed arrow or a double arrow is used when the movement is repeated. Many signs move from an initial position to a final position. In this dictionary, the first position is sometimes represented by dotted hands and the final position by solid hands. When signs have two distinct parts, as in compound signs, the two positions are numbered to show the sequence of production.

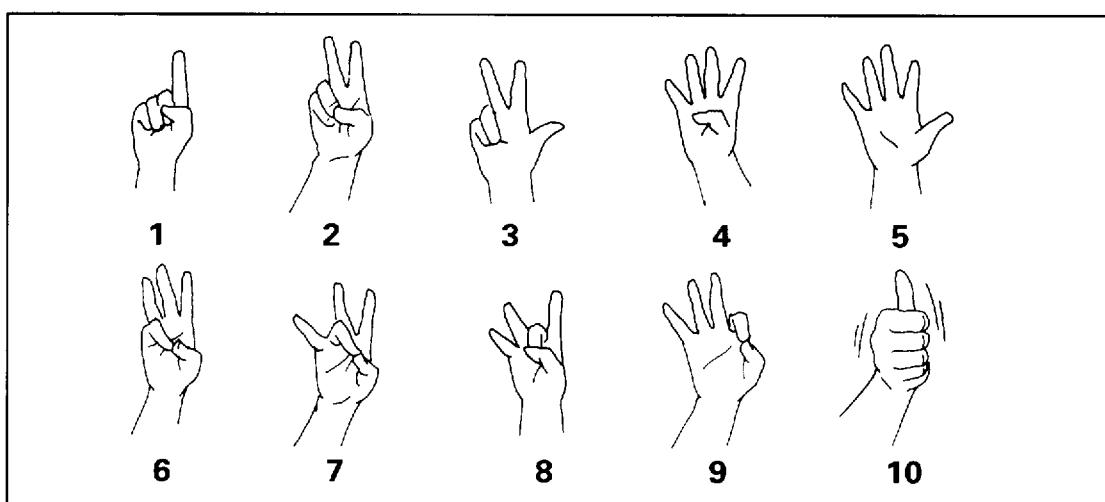
As we mentioned in an earlier section, an *agent marker* is an inflection added to a root sign to indicate that a sign refers to a person. In this dictionary, the signs that can be formed with an agent marker do not have separate entries. Instead, they are listed in italics within parentheses after the glosses for the root sign to indicate that the agent marker must be added to form that inflected sign. They are also listed in the index of English glosses.

The final section of this book looks like an index; it is an alphabetical listing of the English glosses encountered in the previous sections. Each entry in the listing directs the user to the page where the illustration for that word appears. By using this index, the user can quickly find the illustration needed to translate the English word or concept into sign.

## Organization of the Handshape Sections

American Sign Language, unlike many spoken languages, does not have a written form. A sign conveys a concept, not an English word, and the production of a sign involves five parameters that need to be described: the handshape, the palm orientation, the location, the movement, and the non-manual signals. The signs in a dictionary have to be ordered by one of these components so they can be easily located.

As we have said, the primary order of the signs in this dictionary is the initial handshape that the hands assume when beginning to execute the sign. The signs are categorized under forty handshapes. Most of the handshapes are taken from the American Manual Alphabet (see figure 9 on p. 20); some are modifications of these handshapes (for example, Bent B, Flattened O). A few handshapes are taken from the number signs (see figure 10). In addition to the handshapes from the American Manual Alphabet and numbers, we selected L-I and 1-I as symbols to represent the handshapes combining L and I as in the sign I-LOVE-YOU, and 1 and I as in the handshape used for the sign MOCK.



*Figure 10. The Manual Numbers*

Some letters of the American Manual Alphabet and some number handshapes are not included among the handshapes. The reason for this is that some handshapes are identical except for palm orientation (for example, H and U, K and P, 2 and V). In the context of forming a sign, palm orientation is determined by the sign, not by the handshape. The decision as to which of two identical handshapes was selected and which was eliminated was arbitrary.

The chart shown in figure 11 contains the handshapes used in this dictionary in the order in which they are arranged. For the sake of convenience, this ordering will be referred to as *morphologic order* because it is neither truly alphabetic nor numeric but a selective combination of both. The handshapes and their order are fundamental to the use of this dictionary.

## Ordering of Signs within Handshape Sections

The number of hands used to make a sign is one of the easiest things to observe about sign production. This dictionary is divided into two handshape sections: the one-hand signs and the two-hand signs. This organization helps narrow the search for a sign to one of two large locations in the book. The handshape at the top of the even-numbered pages indicates the handshape of the first sign on the page. The handshape at the top of odd-numbered pages indicates the handshape of the last sign on the page.

### One-Hand Signs

The illustrations for signs made with only one hand are presented in the first section of the dictionary. The signs follow the morphologic order of handshapes presented in figure 11, beginning with the signs that are made with an A handshape followed by those beginning with an Open A handshape, and so on. The signs within each handshape category are ordered in a specific sequence to assist the user in finding a sign. The signs presented first are those that have no change in handshape during sign production. For example, in the sign ANY, the handshape Open A stays the same, and therefore the sign ANY appears toward the beginning of the Open A handshape category. However, in the sign LADY, the handshape changes from Open A to 5 during the execution of the sign, so appears sequentially after all of the signs in which the handshape does not change. These changes in handshape are indicated by an arrowhead (>) between the handshapes; therefore, LADY appears under Open A > 5.

The one-hand signs have one more level of ordering—signs that are formed in space and do not touch the body appear before those signs that do

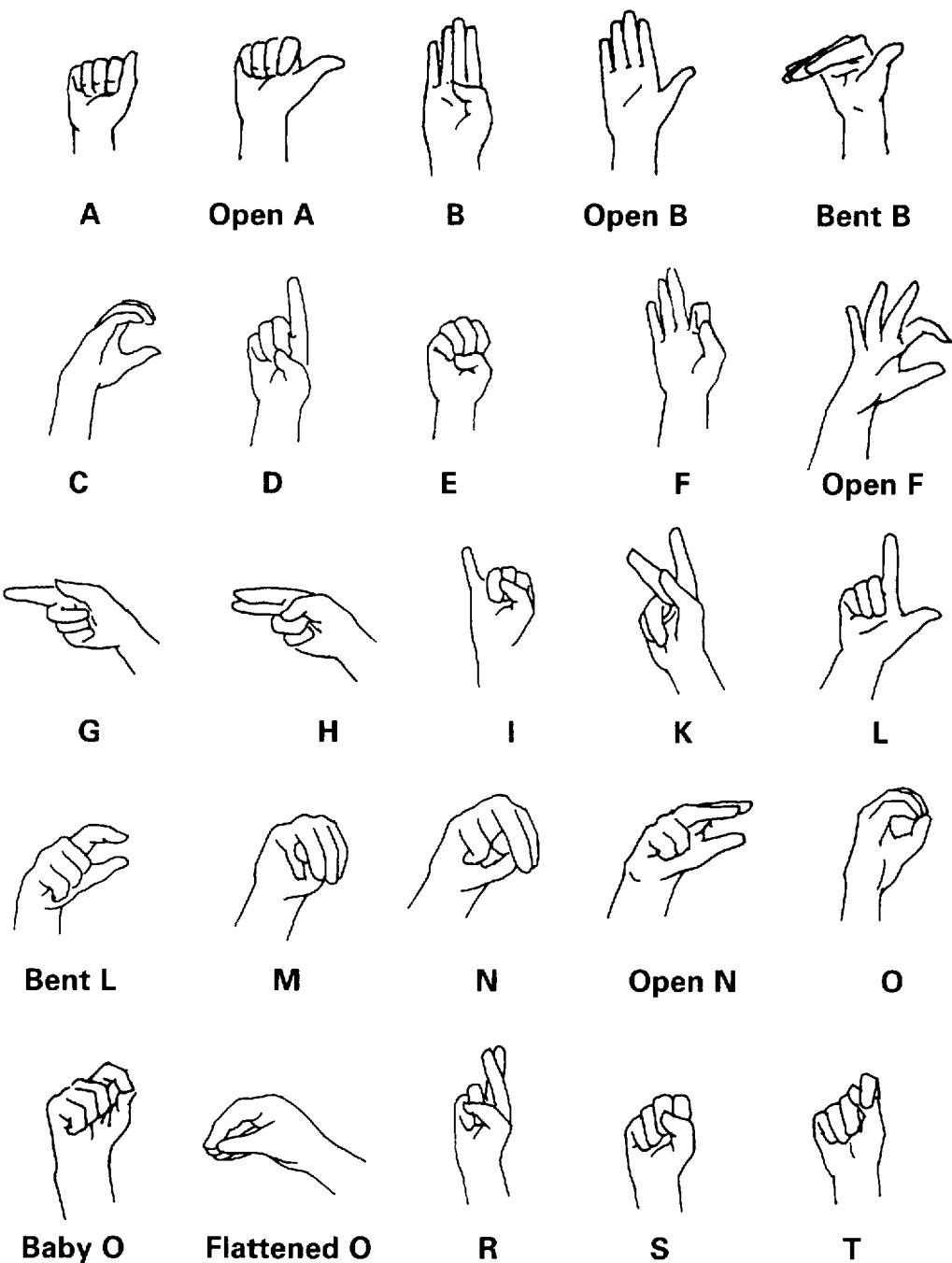


Figure 11. The handshapes used in this dictionary are presented in morphological order.

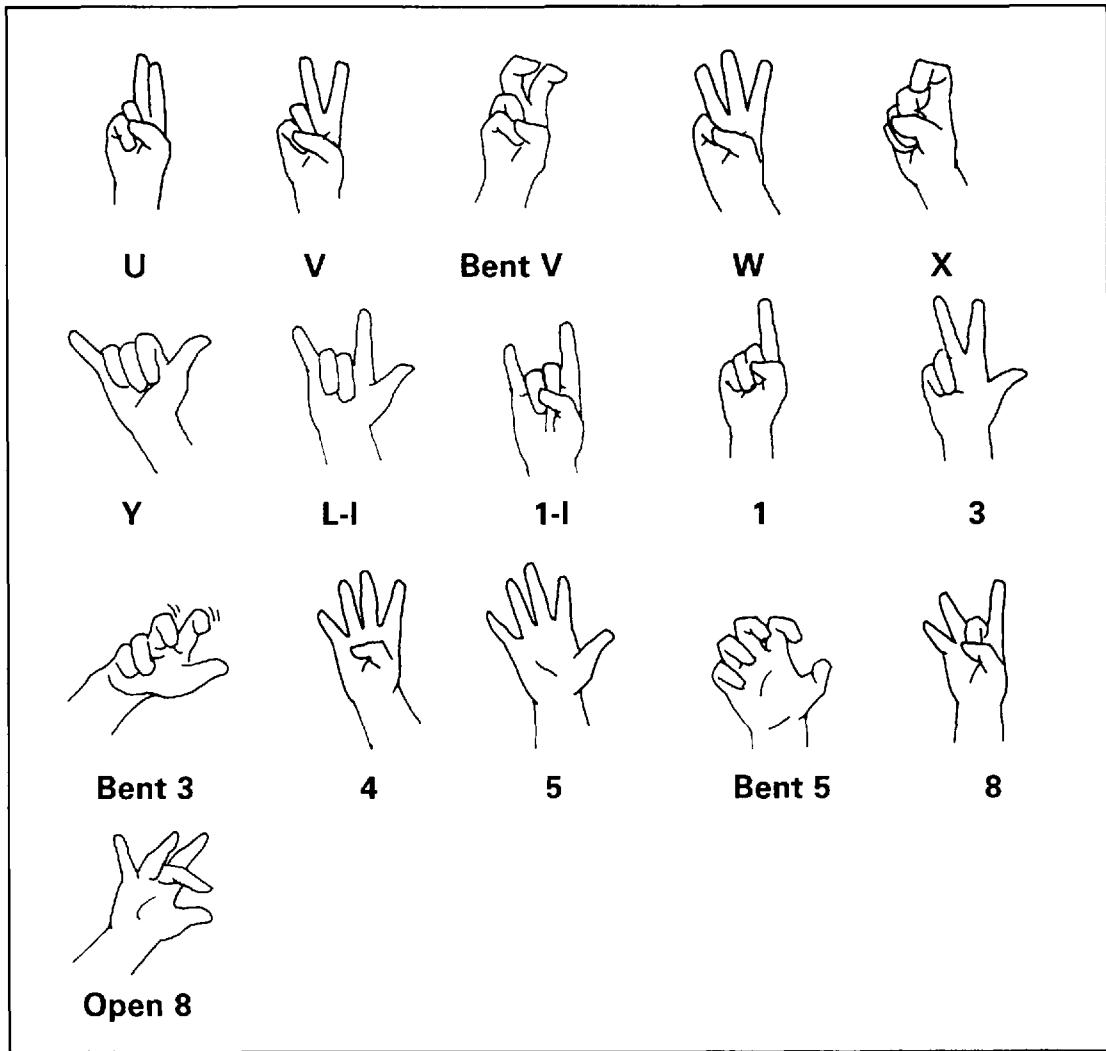


Figure 11—continued

touch the body. Within the group of signs that touch the body, the ones that are formed on the head or neck precede those that touch the torso. Although this arrangement may not be important for small handshape categories, it will be very useful for quickly locating a particular sign in the handshape categories that contain many illustrations.

## Two-Hand Signs

The section containing illustrations of signs in which two hands are used follows the one-hand signs section. The signs in the two-hand section follow the same morphologic order of handshapes as the one-hand signs. Remember that for two-hand signs, the order is determined by the initial

handshape of the dominant hand. The dominant hand is assumed to be the right hand in this book.

As with one-hand signs, two-hand signs are presented within each handshape category in a specific sequence. Signs in which both hands have identical handshapes and both hands move appear first. These signs are identified by listing the handshape for each hand separated by a colon (A : A, the first A being the handshape for the dominant hand and the second A being the handshape for the passive hand). These signs are further ordered to assist the user, so that signs in which the movement occurs simultaneously are presented before signs in which the movement is alternating (first one hand moves and then the other hand makes an identical movement).

These signs are followed by two-hand signs that have identical handshapes, but only the *dominant* hand moves. Again, the handshapes for these signs are listed by the dominant handshape first, followed by a colon and the handshape of the passive hand (for example, Open B : Open B for the sign PIE; see figure 12).

For most two-hand signs the dominant hand is a different handshape from the passive hand. These signs appear after the signs with identical handshapes. Ordered first by the handshape of the dominant hand, the signs are further arranged in the morphologic order of the passive hand, so that A : Open B comes before A : L, which comes before A : 1.

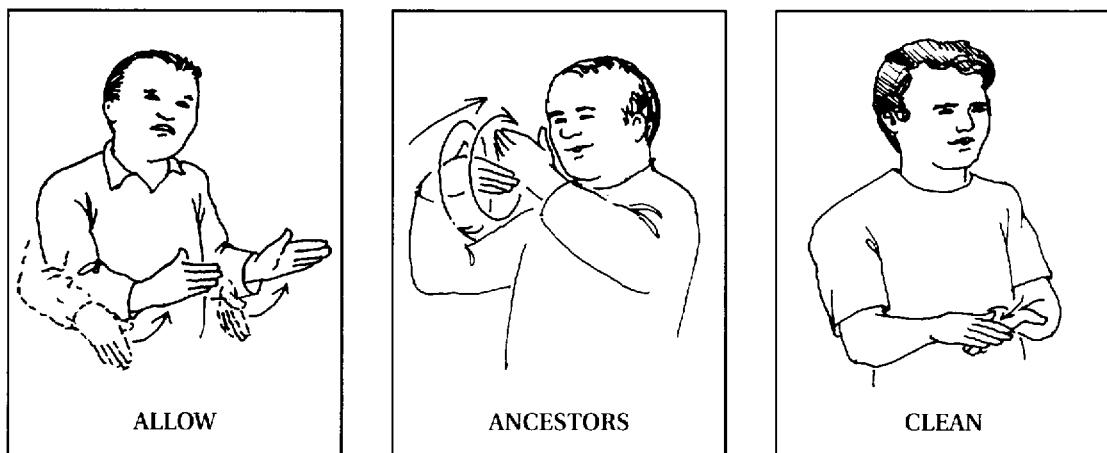


Figure 12. The two-hand signs are ordered so that signs with identical hand movement are followed by signs with alternating hand movement, which are then followed by signs in which only the dominant hand moves.

As with the signs in the one-hand sign section, two-hand signs sometimes change handshapes while the sign is being produced. The change may take place only in the dominant hand or in both hands; however, the handshape of the passive hand never changes alone. These signs in which the handshape changes follow the signs with no handshape changes.

In summary, the two-hand signs are presented in the following sequence:

1. Hands have the same handshapes and move simultaneously;
2. Hands have the same handshapes and move alternatingly;
3. Hands have the same handshapes, but only the dominant hand moves;
4. Hands have different handshapes, and the hands are ordered first by the handshape and movement of the dominant hand and second by the handshape of the passive hand.

This order is important for locating signs in very large handshape categories.

## Additional Role of the Passive Hand

There are some signs in which the passive hand or arm serves only as a base for the dominant hand's movement. For example, the signs used for periods of time in a day use the passive arm to represent the horizon, whereas the dominant hand represents the sun's movement in relation to the horizon. The handshape of the passive hand is immaterial and does not contribute to the meaning of the sign. In forming these signs, the passive hand may assume one of a number of handshapes, usually an Open B, B, S, or a loose unformed handshape. In this dictionary, the signs formed in this manner are ordered under the passive handshape shown in the artist's illustration.

## Compounds

One additional group of signs may be presented at the end of a handshape category. These are signs classified as *compounds*. Compound signs are created by combining two basic signs into one new sign with a distinct meaning of its own. For example, the sign WIFE is made up of the signs FEMALE (a one-hand sign with an A handshape) and MARRY—two separate

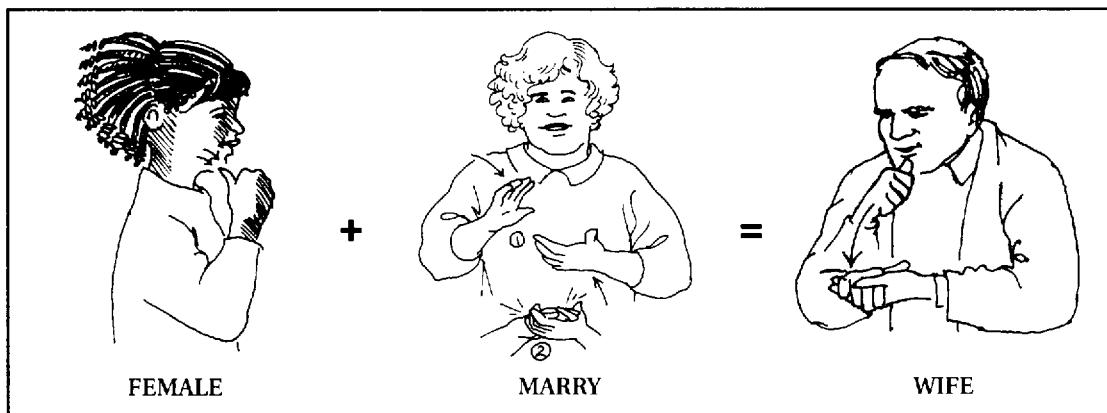


Figure 13. *WIFE* is a compound sign made from *FEMALE* + *MARRY*.

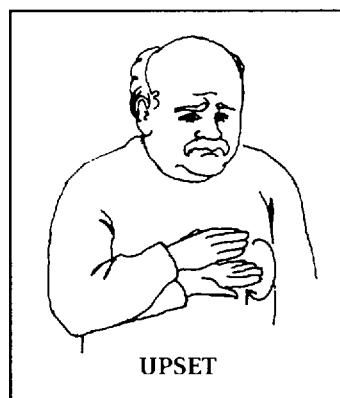
signs that have merged to become *WIFE* (see figure 13). In compound signs, the changes in handshapes are usually more complicated than regular signs, so they are presented at the end of the handshape category designated by the initial handshape of the first of the two signs being combined. In the case of *WIFE*, the sign is located at the end of all of the A signs in the one-hand section of the dictionary, even though two hands are used in the second part of the sign.

## Techniques for Using the Handshape Sections

The following examples provide step-by-step guidelines for using the one-hand and two-hand sections of the dictionary. To get the greatest benefit from these examples, follow the instructions below and locate each sign as directed.

### Example 1

Suppose you saw this sign and wanted to locate it in the dictionary. Your thinking should be as follows:



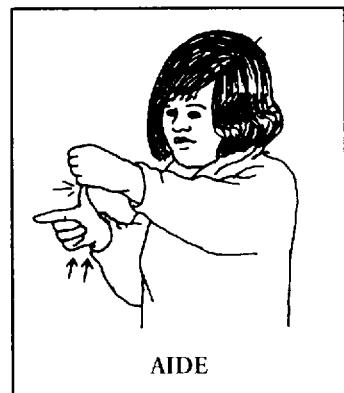
- The sign is a one-hand sign. (*Go to the one-hand signs in the first section of the dictionary.*)
- The sign has an Open B handshape. (*Go to the Open B category, which is located after B.*)

- c. You observed that the hand touched the torso, so you would skip through the Open B category past the signs produced in space, past the signs that touch the head, until you reach those signs that touch the torso. (*Go through Open B until you come to those signs that touch the body.*) With quick perusal of the signs that touch the torso, you will easily find the illustration and learn that the English gloss for that sign is “upset.”

## Example 2

Suppose you had seen the following sign:

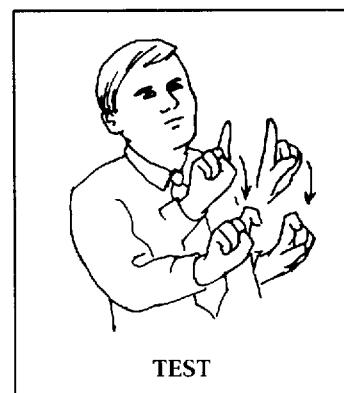
- The sign uses two hands. (*Go to the two-hand sign section of the dictionary.*)
- The dominant hand has an L handshape and the passive hand has an S handshape. (*Go to the handshape category of the dominant hand—L.*) Observe that the two-hand signs in each category begin with those signs in which both hands have the same shape (in this category, it is L : L).
- After the signs having identical handshapes, the signs are arranged in the morphological order of the shape of the passive hand (for example, S). (*Go through the L category until you come to L : S.*) In this case, AIDE is the only sign with L : S handshapes.



## Example 3

Try to find a sign in which the handshape changes.

- You observe that both hands begin with a 1 handshape and then both change to an X handshape. (*Go to the 1 handshape category in the two-hand section.*)
- The 1 handshape category begins with all of the signs having identical handshapes on both hands (1 : 1). These are followed by

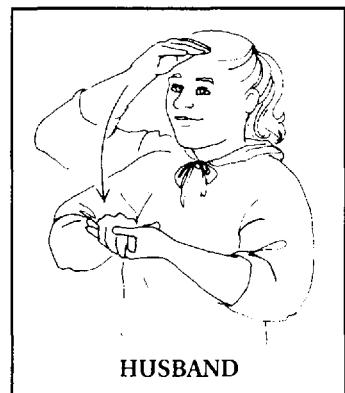


the signs that begin 1 : 1 and then change handshapes. The signs are listed in the morphological order of the handshape formed after the change, in this case X. (*Skip through the 1 : 1 signs; then page through the signs that have a change in handshape until you come to 1 > X : 1 > X. If you come to the signs whose passive handshape is no longer 1, you have gone too far.*) You should easily locate the illustration of the sign for which you were looking and discover that its English gloss is “test.”

## Example 4

Suppose you see a sign that begins as a one-hand sign and then changes to a two-hand sign. You guess that it is a compound sign.

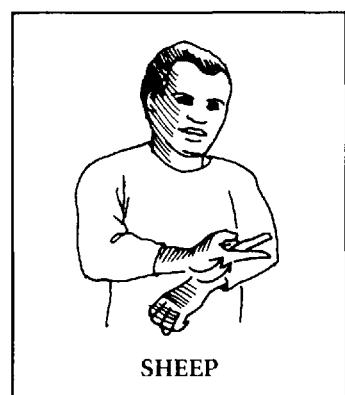
- To find compound signs in this dictionary, you must pay attention only to the handshapes used at the beginning of the sign. You can see that this sign begins as a one-hand sign. (*Go to the one-hand sign section.*)
- The first handshape in the sign is a Flattened O. (*Go to the Flattened O handshape category.*)
- The compound signs are at the end of a handshape category. (*Go to the end of the Flattened O handshape category.*) You find that the first sign in the compound is MALE and that the second sign is MARRIAGE. Together, these signs form the sign HUSBAND.



## Example 5

You see a two-hand sign in which the passive hand or arm merely serves as a base for the dominant hand. How do you find the sign?

- The dominant hand has a V handshape, and you think that the passive hand has an Open B handshape. The passive hand could also be a B or S or relaxed hand without changing the meaning of the sign. (*Go to the two-hand section of the book. Then find the V : Open B signs.*)



- b. The passive signs are at the end of the V : Open B signs, but before the compound signs, if there are any. The word *passive* is given after the handshape to indicate that it doesn't matter what shape the passive hand uses. (*Go to the end of the V : Open B handshape category until you come to signs designated as passive.*)
- c. You should easily find the illustration for the sign SHEEP. If you cannot find the correct illustration, then you should proceed to look under B or S. (There are no relaxed hand handshape categories in this dictionary.)

## Additional Clues

Sometimes you may look for a sign and not find it under the handshape category where you think it should be. The following list contains possible reasons why this might happen.

- 1. This dictionary contains about one-fourth of all the possible handshapes. Each sign has been categorized by the handshape it most closely resembles in its initial position.
- 2. This book is arranged by the initial handshape(s); sometimes it may be the final position of the sign that you remember.
- 3. The book contains only a few of the multitude of regional variations for signs.
- 4. Deaf people and other skilled signers often truncate their signs for more efficient and rapid communication.
- 5. You may have looked under the two-hand section for a sign that can be signed with one hand, or vice versa (for example, COW).
- 6. With compound signs, each part of the sign is typically signed rapidly and with less complete articulation (BROTHER is a compound of BOY and SAME, yet when signed together, SAME looks different than when it is signed alone).
- 7. Some handshapes are quite similar to others, especially when you observe someone signing rapidly. Figure 14 shows handshape "look-alikes." This information may help you find a sign under a different handshape than you expected.

A/S/T	8/F/W
B/Open B/5	A/Open A
I/Y	G/H
O/E/C	L-I/I-I
C/Bent 5/Bent B	5/Open 8/Bent 5

Figure 14. Handshape Look-alikes

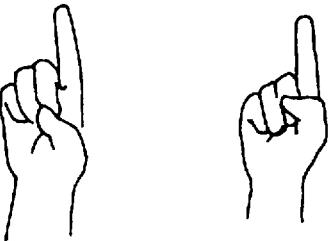
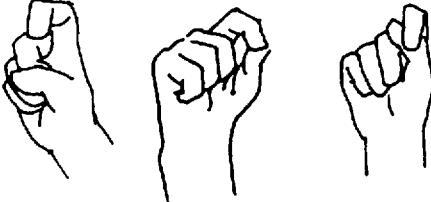
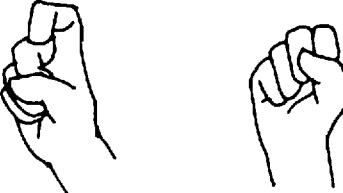
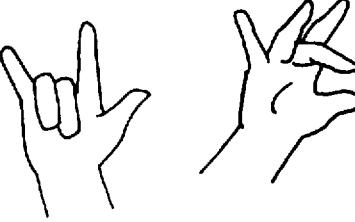
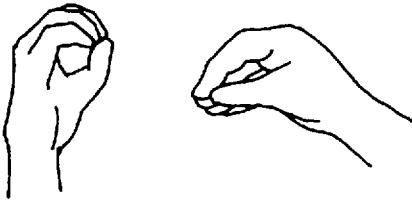
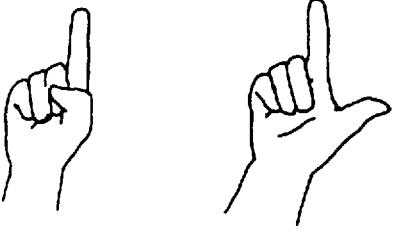
<b>D/1</b>	<b>X/Baby O/T</b>
	
<b>X/S</b>	<b>L-I/Open 8</b>
	
<b>O/Flattened O</b>	<b>I/L</b>
	

Figure 14 —continued

## Organization of the Index of English Glosses

The Index of English Glosses section of this dictionary is an alphabetical listing of English words and phrases that appear as glosses with the sign illustrations in the handshape sections. Some words list more than one entry. These entries lead to several signs that can be used to express either the same or various meanings of those words. These entries usually have additional information (part of speech, synonym, meaning) to assist in identifying which entry may be the appropriate choice for the usage needed.

Information about the handshape for each sign is also given for each gloss entry. The handshape(s) of the sign may help the user further identify which of the identical entries is the one being sought.

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# One-Hand Signs





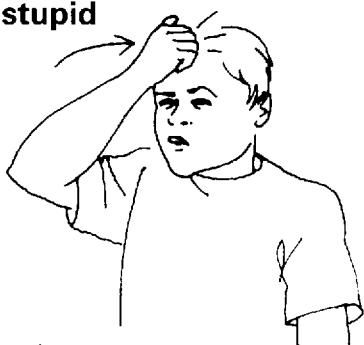
## A 1-Hand SIGNS

**purse**

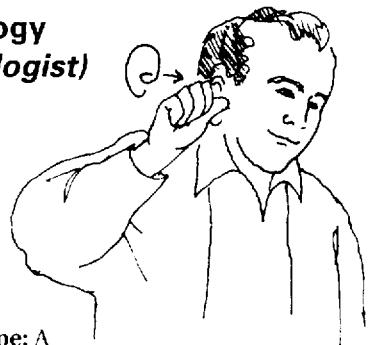
**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand down  
**Note:** This sign is similar to SUITCASE, which is made with an S handshape.

**Africa, African**

**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** circle thumb around face  
**Note:** This sign is disparaging to African Americans. See page 139 for the preferred sign.

**dumb, stupid**

**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** move hand in and hit forehead

**audiology  
(audiologist)**

**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near right ear  
**Movement:** move thumb forward and make small circles around the ear

**menstruate,  
period**

**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right cheek  
**Movement:** double bounce fingers against cheek  
**Nonmanual signal:** puff air into right cheek

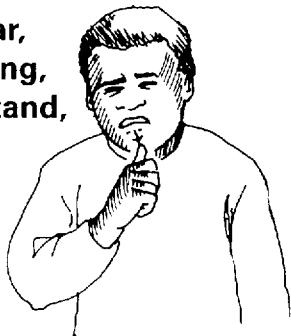
**aunt**

**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** right cheek  
**Movement:** move thumb down cheek in two short movements  
**Note:** Movement may be circular.

## 1-Hand SIGNS • A



**patient, bear,  
long-suffering,  
patience, stand,  
tolerance,  
withstand**



**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** lips  
**Movement:** move thumb down to chin

**private,  
confidential,  
privacy, secret,  
top-secret**



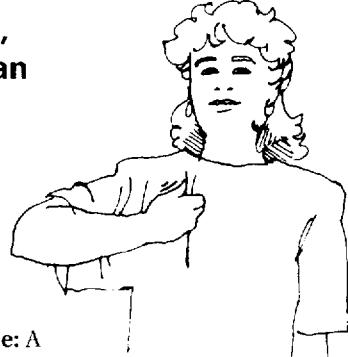
**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near chin  
**Movement:** gently tap chin twice

**am**



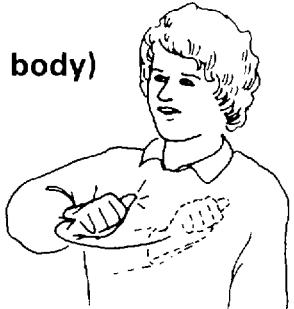
**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move thumb straight out from mouth  
**Note:** Use this sign only when signing manual English.

**Canada,  
Canadian**



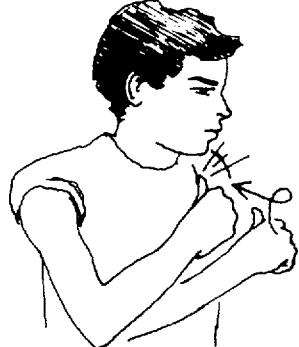
**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** below right shoulder  
**Movement:** double bounce hand off chest  
**Note:** The hand grasps clothing.

**assembly  
(legislative body)**



**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm left, back of thumb against chest  
**Location:** left side of chest  
**Movement:** arc hand from left side of chest to right side of chest

**attitude**



**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** below left shoulder  
**Movement:** make small circular movement, ending with thumb on chest



## A 1-Hand SIGNS

**zip (SM),  
zipper (DM)**



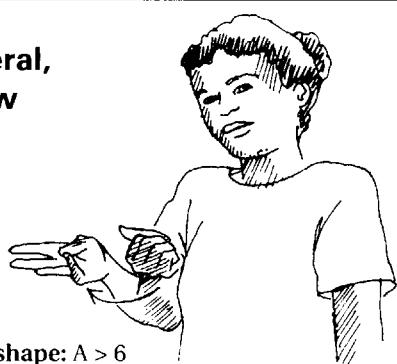
**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** waist  
**Movement:** move hand up the chest

**sorry,  
apologize,  
regret,  
remorse,  
repent**



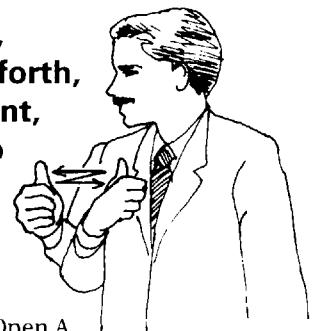
**Handshape:** A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** center of chest  
**Movement:** circle hand on chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** head and eyes lowered; "sad" expression

**several,  
a few**



**Handshape:** A > 6  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sweep thumb across fingertips from index finger to little finger

**commute,  
back and forth,  
day student,  
round-trip**



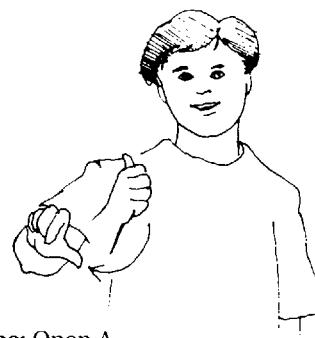
**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand forward and back twice

**another, else,  
elsewhere,  
other**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** turn hand up, ending with palm up

**any**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** turn hand down, ending with palm down

## 1-Hand SIGNS • OPEN A



**turn down,  
deny, reject**



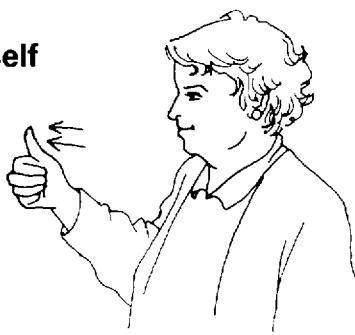
**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrist, ending with thumb pointing down

**herself, himself,  
itself**



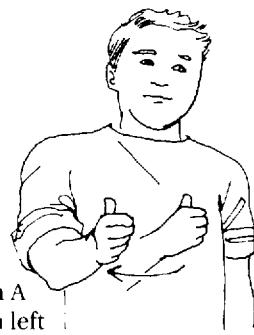
**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce toward referent  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on the person to whom you are speaking

**yourself**



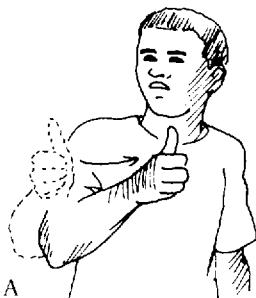
**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce toward referent  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on referent

**yourselves**



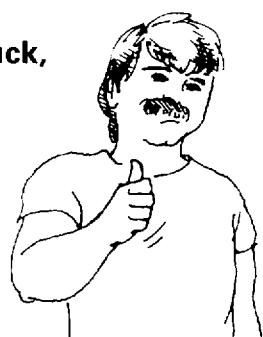
**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc thumb from left to right in front of chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on people to whom you are speaking

**themselves**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc thumb right to left toward referents  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on person to whom you are speaking

**bye, good luck,  
take care**

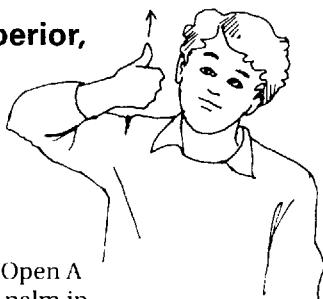


**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand forward toward referent



## OPEN A • 1-Hand SIGNS

**chief, superior,  
-er, -est**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** above right shoulder  
**Movement:** jerk thumb upward above shoulder  
**Note:** The hand makes a larger movement upward to indicate a higher status.

**refuse, won't**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** in front of right shoulder  
**Movement:** jerk thumb sharply toward right shoulder  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

**daily, common,  
everyday,  
ordinary,  
usual**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right cheek  
**Movement:** brush knuckles down cheek twice

**yesterday**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** arc thumb back to touch cheek  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts up; head tilts right; "cz" mouth movement

**tomorrow**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right cheek  
**Movement:** twist wrist forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts up; head tilts right; "cz" mouth movement

**nut, peanut**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb under front teeth  
**Movement:** flick thumb forward with short double movement

## 1-Hand SIGNS • OPEN A



**drink  
(alcoholic  
beverage)**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** move thumb in toward mouth twice

**India**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** twist thumb back and forth on forehead in small, quick movements

**girl**



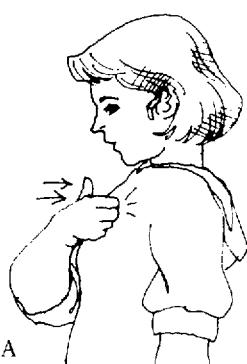
**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on cheek  
**Movement:** brush thumb forward on cheek twice

**not, don't**



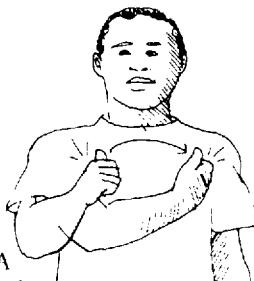
**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** under chin  
**Movement:** thrust hand forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

**myself, self**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm right  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** double bounce hand on chest

**ourselves**

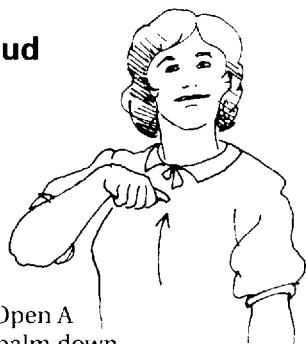


**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb below right shoulder  
**Movement:** arc hand across chest, ending with knuckles on left chest area, palm right  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on persons to whom you are speaking



## OPEN A ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**pride, proud**



**Handshape:** Open A  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** lower chest  
**Movement:** slide thumb up chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture

**she, her  
(not possessive)**



**Handshape:** Open A > 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on cheek  
**Movement:** brush thumb down cheek; point to referent  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on person to whom you are speaking

**a few days ago**



**Handshape:** Open A > 3  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** thumb on cheek  
**Movement:** flip hand back while changing to 3 handshape

**lady, female,  
woman**



**Handshape:** Open A > 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on cheek  
**Movement:** move thumb down cheek, then open hand to 5 handshape and bounce thumb down on chest

**anything  
(compound:  
any + thing)**



**Handshape:** Open A > Open B  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrist down, then change to Open B handshape and flip hand up

**anyone, anybody  
(compound:  
any + one)**



**Handshape:** Open A > 1  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrist down and change hand to 1 handshape, palm forward

## 1-Hand SIGNS • B



**daughter**  
(compound:  
girl + baby)



**Handshape:** Open A > Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on cheek  
**Movement:** brush thumb down cheek, then change hand to Open B handshape and move arm down, ending with back of right arm on top of left arm

**wife**  
(compound:  
girl + marry)



**Handshape:** Open A > C : C  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on cheek  
**Movement:** brush thumb down cheek, then change to C handshape and clasp left hand

**sister**  
(compound:  
girl + same)



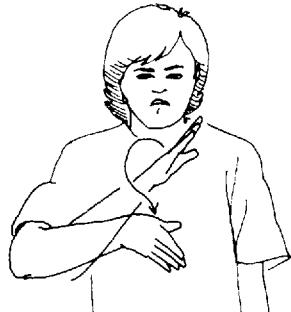
**Handshape:** Open A > L : L  
**Orientation:** right palm left, left palm right  
**Location:** right thumb on cheek  
**Movement:** move thumb down cheek, then change hand to L handshape and bring hand down on top of left hand

**blue**



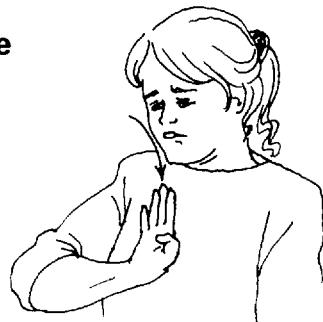
**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrist back and forth twice

**never**



**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** move hand down with large wavy motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

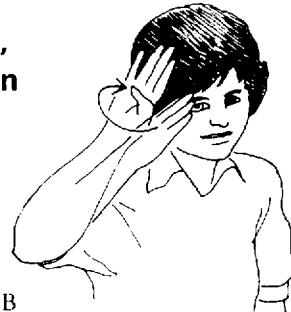
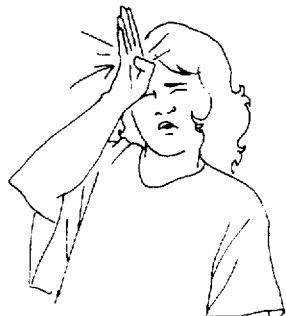
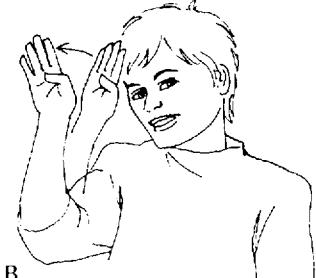
**humble**



**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** arc hand down  
**Nonmanual signal:** head lowered



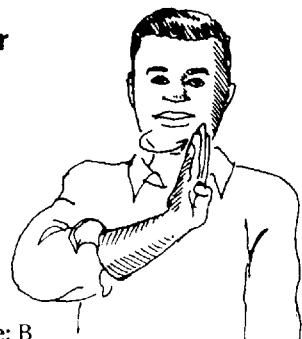
## B ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**hospital****Handshape:** B**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** forehead**Movement:** arc hand from right to left side of forehead**firefighter,  
fireman****Handshape:** B**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** middle of forehead**Movement:** tap forehead twice**fever****Handshape:** B**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** near forehead**Movement:** lay back of hand lightly on forehead**Nonmanual signal:** "sick" expression**Australia,  
Australian****Handshape:** B**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** index finger on forehead**Movement:** flip hand back, ending with palm out**Note:** See page 363 for the preferred sign.**bastard****Handshape:** B**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** near forehead**Movement:** hit forehead sharply with edge of hand**hello, hi,  
greet****Handshape:** B**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** forehead**Movement:** move hand forward and tilt fingers forward**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; smile

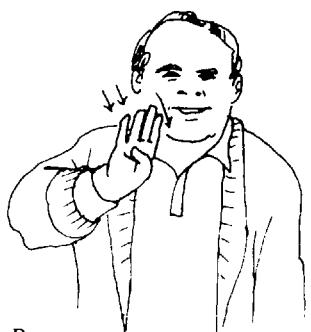
## 1-Hand SIGNS • B

**be**

**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move hand straight out, away from mouth  
**Note:** Use this sign only when signing manual English.

**bachelor**

**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right side of chin  
**Movement:** arc hand from right to left side of chin

**beer**

**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** brush index finger down cheek twice

**brown**

**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** slide index finger down cheek

**bullshit,  
brownnose**

**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** slide index finger up and down nose twice

**lie (*liar*),  
slander**

**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** move hand right to left across chin



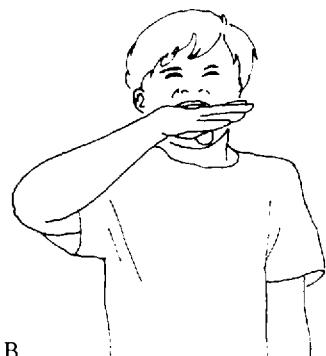
## B ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**full, fed up,  
up to here**



**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** under chin  
**Movement:** bring back of hand up sharply and hit chin  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back

**bite**



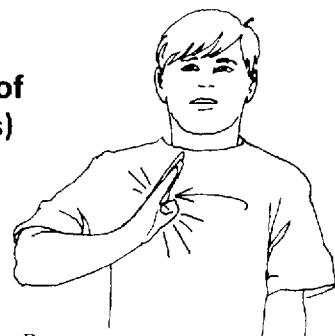
**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** put edge of hand between teeth

**bitch**



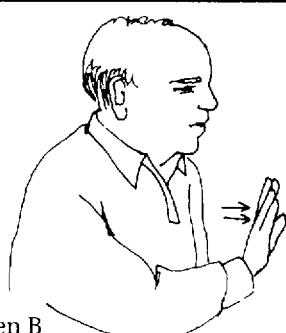
**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** hit mouth sharply with index finger

**board  
(group of persons)**



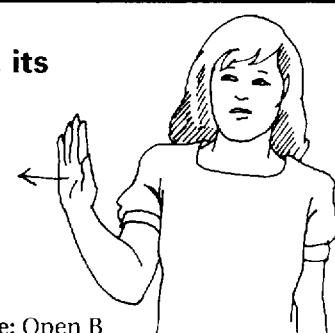
**Handshape:** B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** arc hand from left to right side of chest

**your, yours  
(singular)**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand forward toward referent  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on referent

**his, her, its**

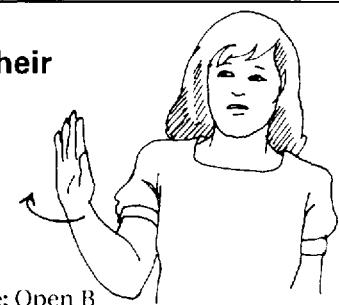


**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand toward referent  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on person to whom you are speaking

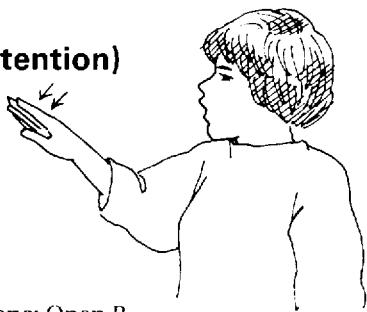
## 1-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

**yours (plural)**

**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in arc from left to right  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on people to whom you are speaking

**theirs, their**

**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** point hand toward referents and make a small arc from left to right  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on person to whom you are speaking

**call  
(for attention)**

**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm angled out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand down  
**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression

**thing,  
object**

**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hand to the right  
**Note:** This sign can also be made with a double bounce to the right.

**welcome,  
employ, hire**

**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hand down and in toward chest, ending palm up

**get away,  
away**

**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip hand out sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression



## OPEN B • 1-Hand SIGNS

**come here**



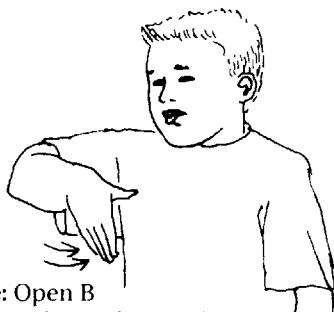
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in, fingers angled up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrist in toward chest

**grow up,  
all my life,  
childhood,  
raised,  
reared,  
upbringing**



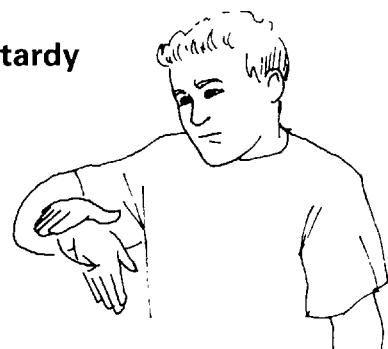
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand up to eye level  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; eyes watch hand movement

**not yet,  
haven't**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in, fingers down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing fingers back toward body twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue protruding

**late, tardy**



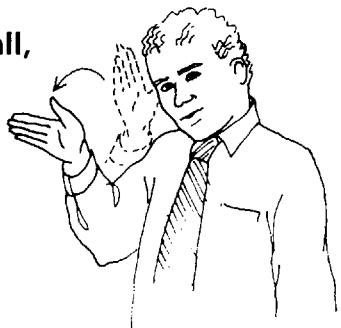
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing fingers back

**hello, hi (SM);  
good-bye,  
so long (DM)**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near right shoulder  
**Movement:** wave hand from side to side

**will, shall,  
would**

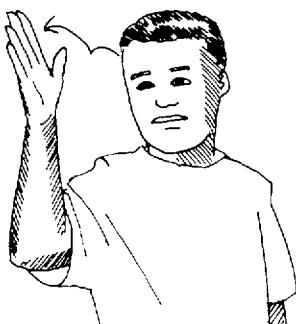


**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** move hand forward while tipping fingers forward

## 1-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

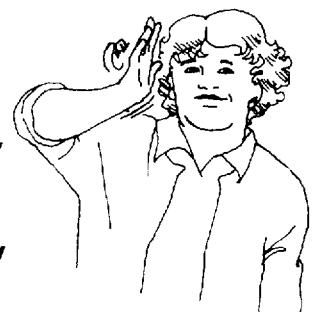


**future,  
later on,  
someday**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** move hand forward in double arc

**formerly,  
ages ago,  
ancestors,  
ancient,  
former,  
previously**



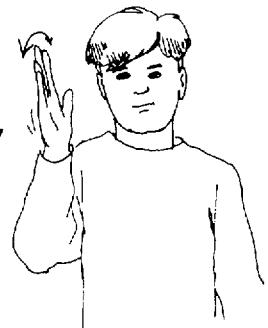
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** circle hand back twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder up

**God**



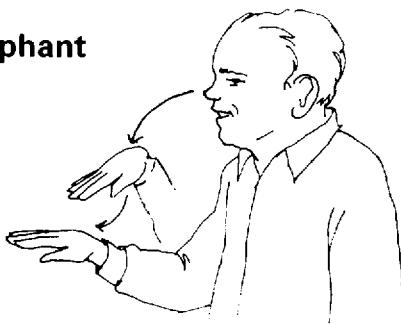
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** above head  
**Movement:** arc hand down in front of face  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; eyes gaze up and follow hand movement

**lecture,  
oration,  
presentation,  
speech,  
testimony**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** shake hand forward and back from wrist several times

**elephant**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** near nose  
**Movement:** move hand down and forward, tracing the shape of a trunk

**mirror**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** rotate palm forward and back twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes watch hand movement



## OPEN B • 1-Hand SIGNS

**apparent, appear,  
seem**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** twist palm slightly in

**smell,  
fragrant,  
odor**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** circle hand up toward nose  
**Nonmanual signal:** wrinkle nose; purse lips

**in front of,  
front**



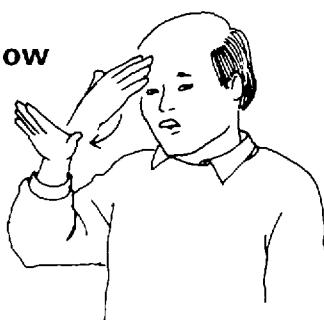
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** double bounce hand toward face

**overlook,  
incognito,  
invisible**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of right eye  
**Movement:** move hand down across face

**don't know**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in, fingers up  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** flip hand out and down  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

**hat**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** top of head  
**Movement:** tap top of head twice

## 1-Hand SIGNS OPEN B



**cabbage,  
lettuce**



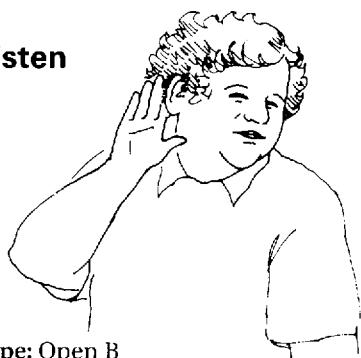
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** temple  
**Movement:** hit temple with heel of hand twice

**bed, sleep**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** rest cheek on palm  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right

**hear, listen**



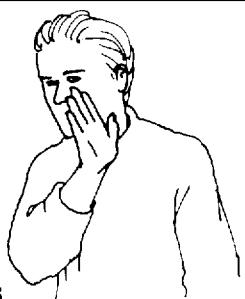
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near ear  
**Movement:** bring hand back behind ear  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left

**call (to get  
attention)**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** move hand back to right side of mouth  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back, mouth opens

**whisper  
(hearing  
people)**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** in front of mouth  
**Movement:** move hand back to left side of mouth  
**Nonmanual signal:** head and body tilt to the right

**frustrated**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** smack back of hand against mouth  
**Nonmanual signal:** "frustrated" expression



## OPEN B ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**thank you,  
thanks**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move hand forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** head bows; smile

**napkin**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** brush hand across mouth twice

**ice cream**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** brush hand down lips twice

**sweet,  
adorable**



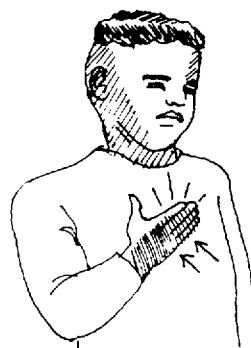
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** brush fingertips down chin twice

**bad, evil,  
wicked**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in, fingers angled up  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move hand out, then turn hand over and sharply bend wrist down

**my (SM);  
mine (DM)**



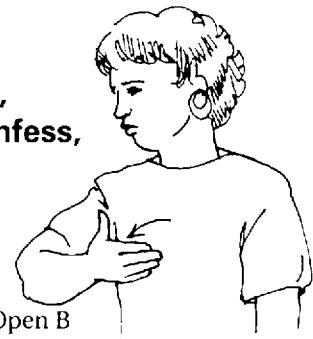
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** pat chest with palm

## 1-Hand SIGNS OPEN B

**our, ours**

**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb near right shoulder  
**Movement:** arc hand across chest, ending with palm right  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes pan the eyes of all the referents

**willing,  
acquiesce,  
admit, confess,  
consent,  
give in,  
yield**

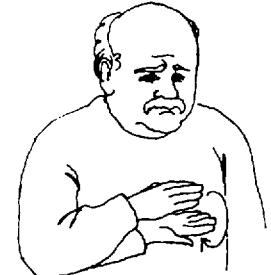


**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** palm on chest  
**Movement:** move hand out a short distance  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward

**happy, delight,  
glad, joy,  
merry**



**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** brush hand up in a circular motion twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile

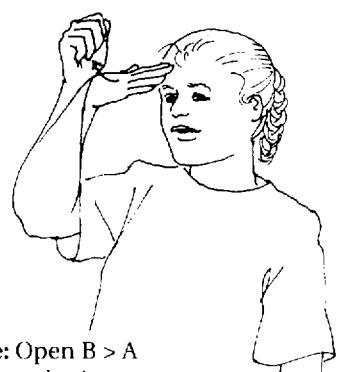
**upset**

**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** index finger on chest  
**Movement:** flip hand over, ending with palm up  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" or "sad" expression

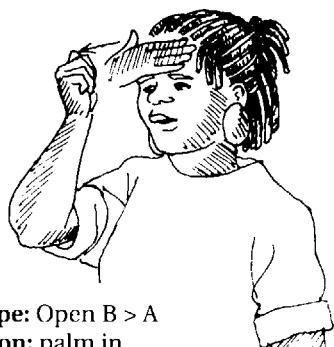
**please,  
appreciate,  
enjoy**



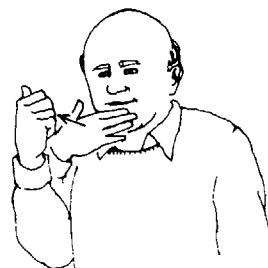
**Handshape:** Open B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** palm on chest  
**Movement:** make small circles on chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile

**because**

**Handshape:** Open B > A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on forehead  
**Movement:** arc hand up, closing to A handshape


**OPEN B ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS**
**forget**

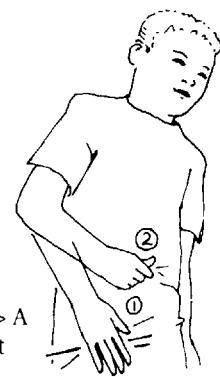
**Handshape:** Open B > A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on forehead  
**Movement:** slide fingers across and off forehead, closing to A handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back

**better**

**Handshape:** Open B > A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move hand out to the right, closing to A handshape  
**Note:** Exaggerate movement upward to form the superlative form, "best."

**prefer,  
rather**

**Handshape:** Open B > A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** arc hand up to the right, closing to A handshape

**dog**

**Handshape:** Open B > A  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right thigh  
**Movement:** smack thigh, then move hand up and snap fingers twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

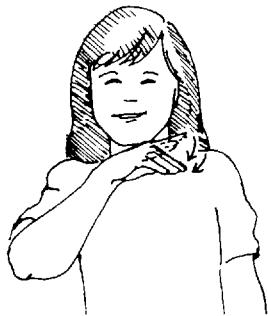
**stubborn,  
obstinate,  
persistent**

**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** thumb on right temple  
**Movement:** bend fingers down sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyebrows knit, frown

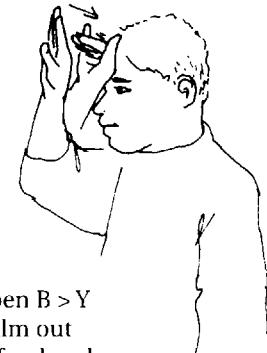
**sleepy**

**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm in, fingers up  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** bend fingers down twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** droopy eyes

## 1-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

**pig**

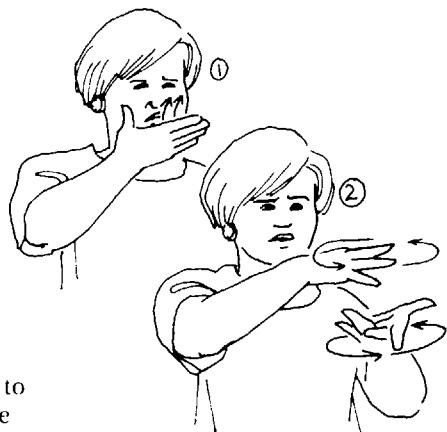
**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** under chin  
**Movement:** bend fingers down and up twice

**dweeb,  
jerk, nerd**

**Handshape:** Open B > Y  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** bring hand back against forehead while changing to Y handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** tongue protrudes

**why**

**Handshape:** Open B > Y  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on forehead  
**Movement:** move hand forward and down while changing to Y handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** "questioning" expression  
**Note:** See page 115 for a variation of this sign.

**pollution**  
**(compound: smell + mix)**

**Handshape:** Open B > 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up  
**Location:** right hand in front of mouth; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** brush hand up toward nose, then change to 5 handshape, palm down above left palm, and move hands in circular motion



## BENT B ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**short, small  
(height)**



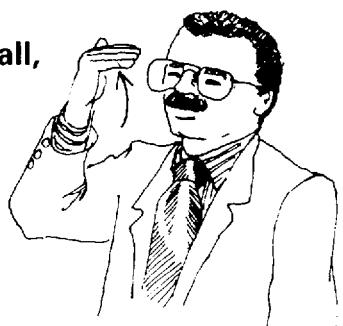
**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand down  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes follow hand

**child**



**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand down a short distance

**adult, tall,  
big**



**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand up  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes follow hand

**back,  
behind,  
rear**



**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** above right shoulder  
**Movement:** double bounce hand back over right shoulder

**past, ago, ex-,  
last, previous,  
was**



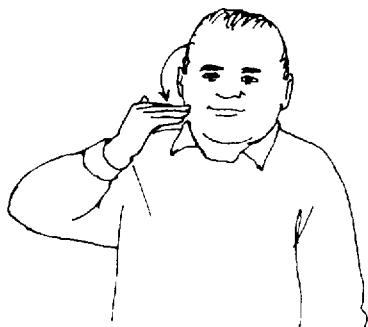
**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of right shoulder  
**Movement:** move hand back over right shoulder

**know (SM);  
aware,  
conscious,  
familiar,  
knowledge,  
mental,  
recognize (DM)**



**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near temple  
**Movement:** tap temple with fingertips

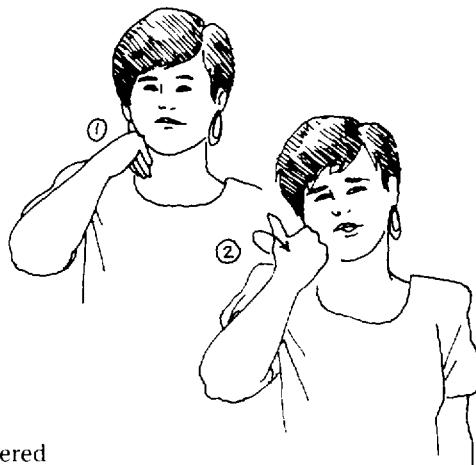
## 1-Hand SIGNS • BENT B

**head**

**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** temple  
**Movement:** move fingertips from right temple to right cheek

**broke,  
penniless**

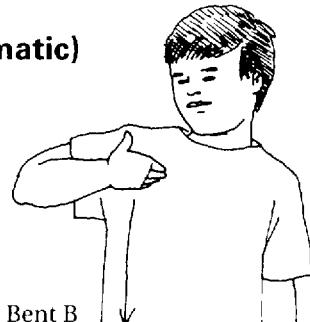
**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** near neck  
**Movement:** strike side of neck with side of hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left

**ashamed, bashful,  
shame, shy**

**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** knuckles on cheek  
**Movement:** twist hand up  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; eyes lowered

**blouse**

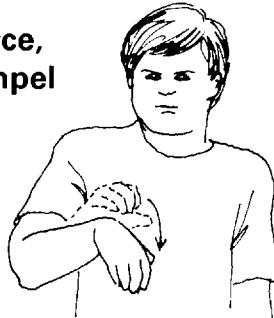
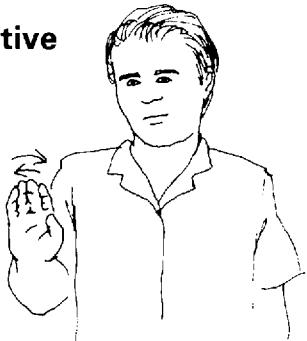
**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on chest  
**Movement:** arc hand down to waist, ending with palm up

**me (dramatic)**

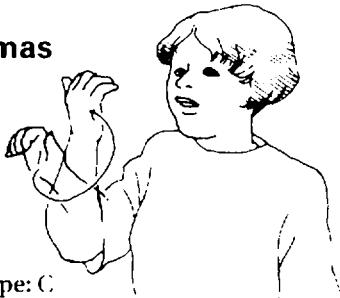
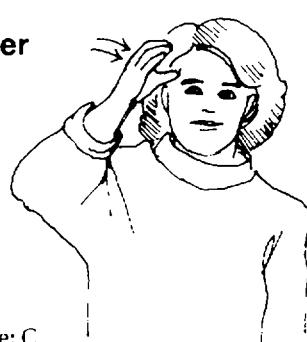
**Handshape:** Bent B  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** fingertips on chest  
**Movement:** slide hand down chest to waist  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture



## BENT B • 1-Hand SIGNS

**member****Handshape:** Bent B**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** fingertips on left side of chest**Movement:** arc hand across to right side of chest**breasts****Handshape:** Bent B**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** fingertips on left breast**Movement:** arc hand across to right breast**pig (insult)****Handshape:** Bent B > Open B**Orientation:** palm down**Location:** under chin**Movement:** smack hand up sharply to hit chin while straightening fingers**Nonmanual signal:** "disgusted" expression**force, coerce,  
compel, impel****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hand forward and bend wrist down**conservative****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** shake hand gently side to side**Chicago****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hand to the right and down

## 1-Hand SIGNS • C

**Christmas****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** swing hand in a semicircle, ending with palm in**Note:** See page 64 for a variation of this sign**strange,  
curious, odd,  
queer, weird****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** near right eye**Movement:** bend wrist down, ending with palm down in front of chin**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; frown with "puzzled" expression**examine, investigate, look for,  
probe, search, seek****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** near face**Movement:** circle hand to the left in front of face at least twice**Nonmanual signal:** head and body move slightly left with each circular movement; eyes scan room**Note:** When referring to a more thorough examination, use both hands in an alternating movement.**cousin (male)****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** near temple**Movement:** twist wrist back and forth**Note:** The sign for a female cousin is made near the chin.**computer****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** right temple**Movement:** double bounce thumb against temple



## C ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**sun**

**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near right temple  
**Movement:** double bounce fingertips against temple  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left

**genius**

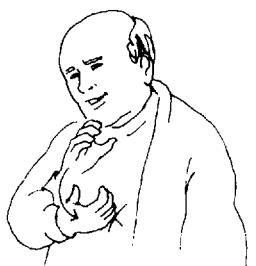
**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** move hand back, ending with thumb on forehead  
**Nonmanual signal:** puffed cheeks

**concept,  
cognitive**

**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** thumb on forehead  
**Movement:** move hand out

**choke, gag**

**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on neck  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly from side to side  
**Nonmanual signal:** "choking" expression

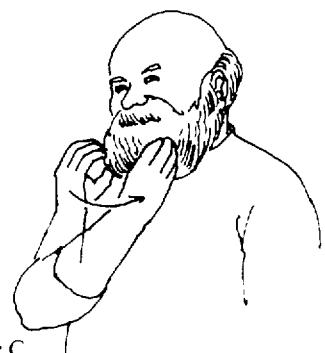
**Christmas,  
Santa Claus**

**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** arc hand down to chest, ending with palm up  
**Note:** See page 63 for a variation of this sign.

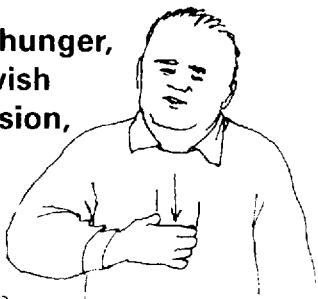
**drink,  
beverage**

**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on mouth  
**Movement:** tilt hand up

## 1-Hand SIGNS • C

**cafeteria****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** index finger on left side of chin**Movement:** slide index finger down left side of chin, then down right side of chin**beard****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** fingertips on right side of chin**Movement:** slide fingers across to left side of chin

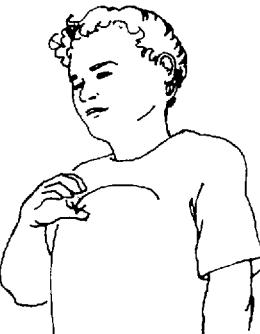
**appetite, hunger,  
hungry, wish  
(SM); passion,  
lust (DM)**

**Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** fingertips on chest**Movement:** slide fingertips slowly down chest; for "passion" and "lust," make shorter, faster movements

**cop, guard,  
patrol, police,  
security**

**Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** chest**Movement:** double bounce side of hand on chest**character****Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** near chest**Movement:** move hand in a small circle, then drop hand on chest

**Congress,  
committee,  
council**

**Handshape:** C**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** left side of chest**Movement:** arc hand across to right side of chest



## C 1-Hand SIGNS

**complain, object (SM); complain, grievance, objection (DM)**



**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** double bounce fingertips against chest

**Christ (Christian)**



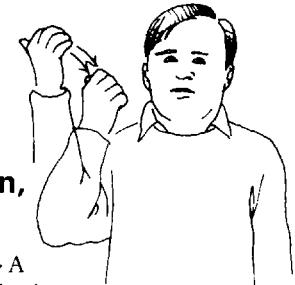
**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** below left shoulder  
**Movement:** move hand across body down to right side of waist

**cough**



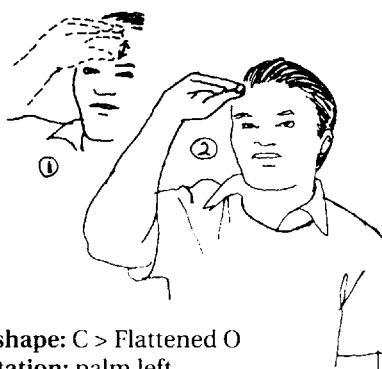
**Handshape:** C  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on chest  
**Movement:** rock hand up and down  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; "sick" expression

**pension, allowance, dividend, royalty, subscription, welfare**



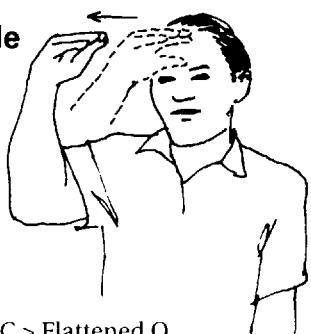
**Handshape:** C > A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** bring hand down in short, quick double motion while changing to A handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**boy**



**Handshape:** C > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** close fingertips and thumb together twice

**man, male**



**Handshape:** C > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** move hand forward, closing fingertips and thumb

## 1-Hand SIGNS &amp; D

**milk, dairy**

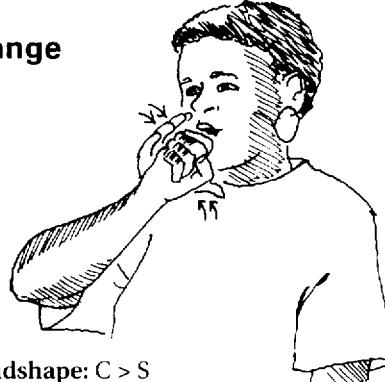
**Handshape:** C > S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** open and close fist twice

**guess, assume,  
estimate, miss**

**Handshape:** C > S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right side of face  
**Movement:** arc hand across face, closing to S handshape

**old, age,  
antique**

**Handshape:** C > S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** index finger on chin  
**Movement:** move hand down while changing to S handshape

**orange**

**Handshape:** C > S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** open and close fist twice

**democrat**

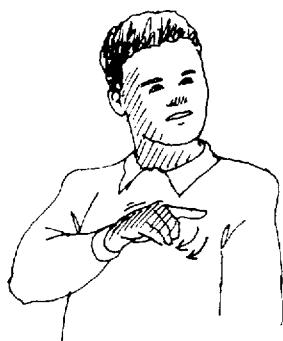
**Handshape:** D  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand back and forth, gently

**dinner**

**Handshape:** D  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near chin  
**Movement:** tap chin twice with fingertips



## D ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**detective**

**Handshape:** D  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** brush fingertips down chest twice

**east**

**Handshape:** E  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand right

**elevator**

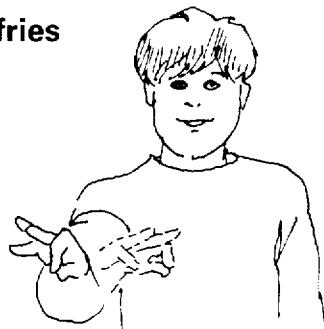
**Handshape:** E  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand up and down

**Easter**

**Handshape:** E  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** twist wrist back and forth with small movement

**Europe**

**Handshape:** E  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** move hand in small circle

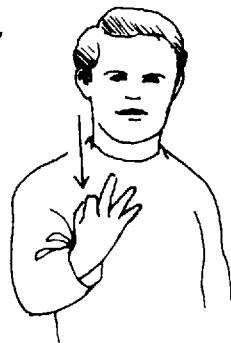
**french fries**

**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hand from left to right

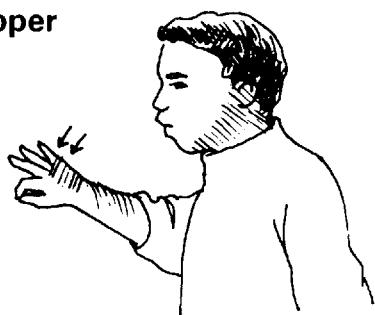
## 1-Hand SIGNS • F

**Friday**

**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in gentle circular motion

**every Friday,  
Fridays**

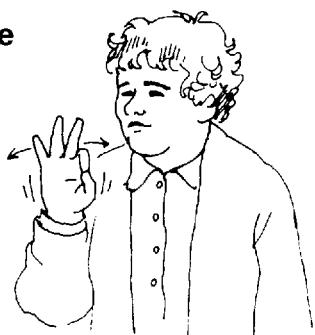
**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** move hand down

**pepper**

**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand down

**fine (texture)**

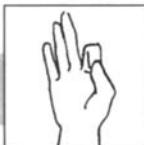
**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rub index finger and thumb together several times

**furniture**

**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly side to side

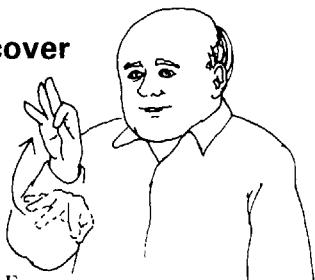
**preach  
(minister,  
pastor,  
preacher),  
sermon**

**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near right shoulder  
**Movement:** double bounce hand forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



## F 1-Hand SIGNS

**find, discover**



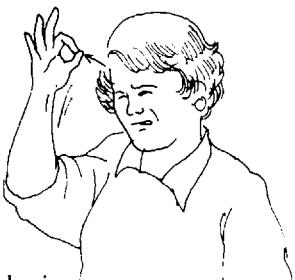
**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrist up, ending with palm out  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; mouth open

**France,  
French**



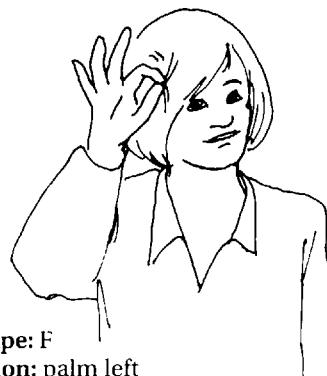
**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** swing hand in a semicircle, ending with palm in

**in the nick  
of time**



**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** thumb and index fingertips on right eyebrow  
**Movement:** move hand out in a short, quick motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts up; head tilts right; "cz" mouth movement

**hair**



**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** head  
**Movement:** grasp hair and pull up twice, using short, quick motions

**Native  
American,  
American  
Indian,  
Indian**



**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near chin  
**Movement:** bounce thumb and index fingertips back along cheek toward ear

**earring**



**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right earlobe  
**Movement:** wiggle earlobe several times

## 1-Hand SIGNS • F



**very close,  
nearby**



**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** thumb and index fingertips on nose  
**Movement:** twist hand sharply out and bend wrist down  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts up; head tilts right; "cz" mouth movement

**fox**



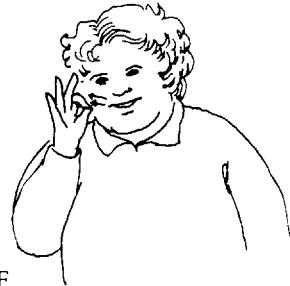
**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb and index fingertips on nose  
**Movement:** twist wrist back and forth

**fruit**



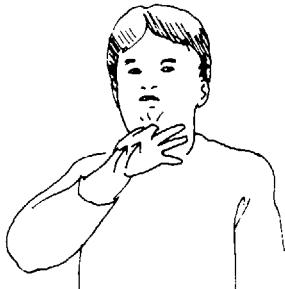
**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb and index fingertips on cheek  
**Movement:** twist hand forward twice

**cat**



**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** brush index finger and thumb back toward ear twice  
**Note:** See page 223 for a two-hand variation of this sign.

**soon**



**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** tap chin twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts up; head tilts right; "cz" mouth movement

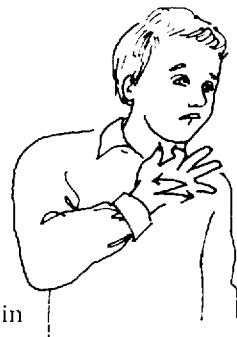
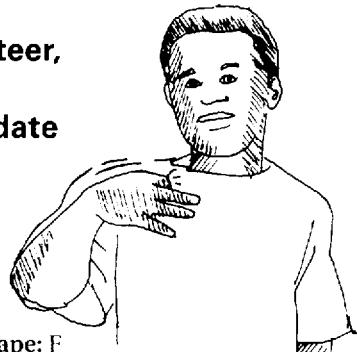
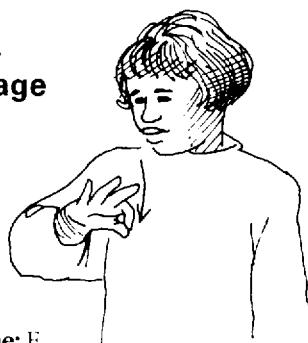
**knack,  
expert**



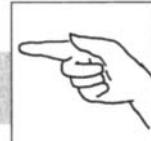
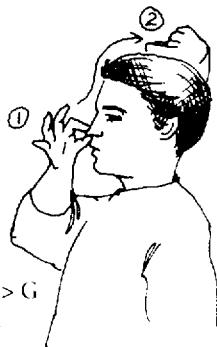
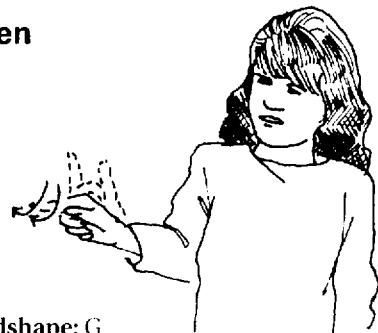
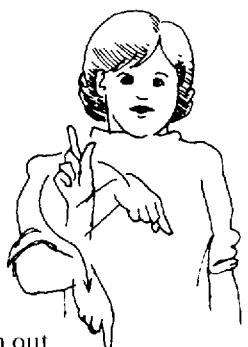
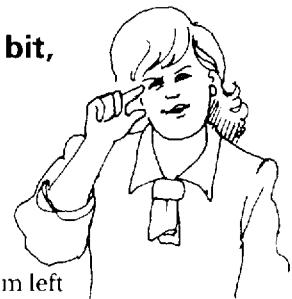
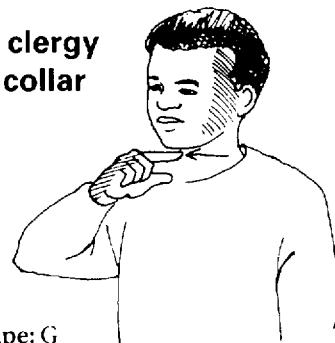
**Handshape:** F  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near chin  
**Movement:** bring hand in to hit chin  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

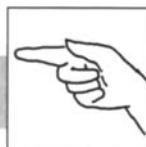


## F ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**curious****Handshape:** F**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** neck**Movement:** grasp skin of neck and pull side to side**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; eyebrows knit**volunteer,  
apply,  
candidate****Handshape:** F**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** chest**Movement:** grasp shirt fabric and tug twice**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder raised**benefit,  
advantage****Handshape:** F**Orientation:** palm down**Location:** on chest**Movement:** brush thumb and index fingertips down chest**profit,  
commission,  
gain****Handshape:** F**Orientation:** palm down**Location:** ribs**Movement:** brush thumb and index fingertips down body**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder raised**pill, capsule,  
take a pill****Handshape:** F > Open F**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** near mouth**Movement:** move hand toward mouth and flick open index finger and thumb twice**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open**appoint,  
choose,  
select****Handshape:** Open F > F**Orientation:** palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrist back, closing to F handshape

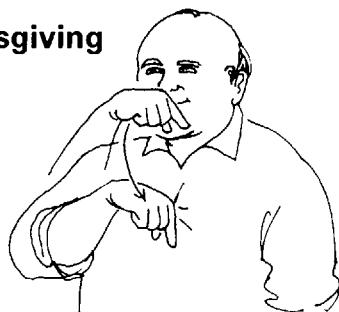
## 1-Hand SIGNS • G

**skunk****Handshape:** Open F > G**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** nose**Movement:** press nostrils together, then change to G handshape and move hand up head, ending with hand on top of head, palm out**green****Handshape:** G**Orientation:** palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** twist hand up and down several times**quiz****Handshape:** G**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** trace the shape of a question mark with fingers, ending with palm down**small, little bit,  
slight, tiny****Handshape:** G**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** near face**Movement:** bring hand back slightly toward face**Nonmanual signal:** "cz" mouth movement; right shoulder and head tilt to right side**turkey****Handshape:** G**Orientation:** palm down**Location:** chin**Movement:** swing fingers back and forth twice**priest, clergy  
(SM); collar  
(DM)****Handshape:** G**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** neck**Movement:** move hand left to right across neck



## G 1-Hand SIGNS

**Thanksgiving**



**Handshape:** G  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** index finger on mouth  
**Movement:** move hand down to center of chest

**queen**



**Handshape:** G  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** index finger and thumb on chest  
**Movement:** move hand diagonally across body, ending at right side of waist

**guilt,  
conscience,  
guilty**



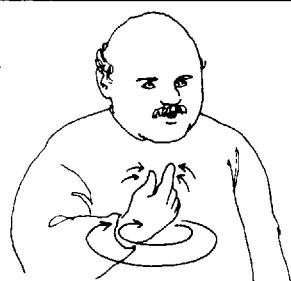
**Handshape:** G  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** below left shoulder  
**Movement:** tap index finger and thumb against chest

**what-to-do,  
what**



**Handshape:** G > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring index finger and thumb together twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward, head tilts right, "puzzled" expression

**lots to do,  
busy**



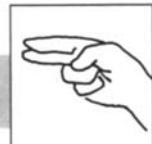
**Handshape:** G > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in small circles while opening and closing index finger and thumb  
**Nonmanual signal:** trill lips

**Gallaudet**



**Handshape:** G > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm right  
**Location:** thumb and index fingertips near right eye  
**Movement:** move hand back and close index finger and thumb

## 1-Hand SIGNS • H

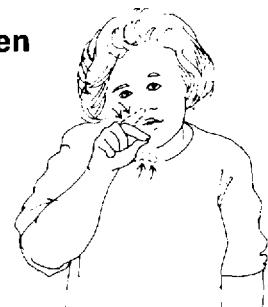


**glasses,  
eyeglasses**



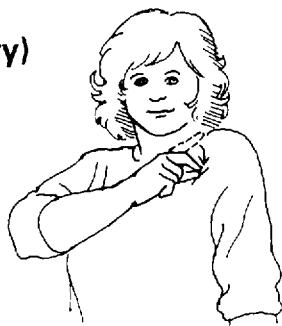
**Handshape:** G > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb and index fingertips near right eye  
**Movement:** move hand right, closing index finger and thumb twice

**bird, chicken**



**Handshape:** G > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** index finger against cheek  
**Movement:** close and open index finger and thumb twice

**pin (jewelry)**



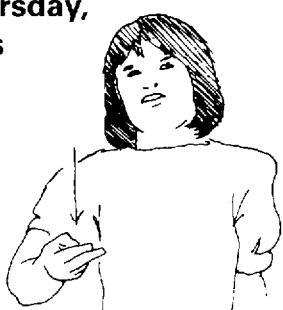
**Handshape:** G > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** thumb on chest  
**Movement:** close index finger against thumb

**Thursday**



**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in gentle circular motion

**every Thursday,  
Thursdays**

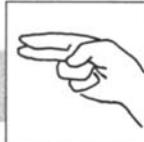


**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** move hand down

**zap, got ya!  
(slang)**



**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend hand forward and back quickly



## H ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**hard of hearing**



**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hand down from left to right

**history**



**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand up and down twice

**use, utilize,  
wear**



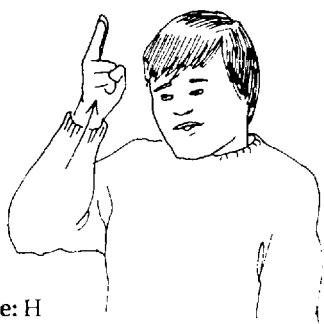
**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in a circle  
**Note:** See page 237 for a two-hand variation of this sign.

**hell**



**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** below left shoulder  
**Movement:** make sharp movement down across body, ending in front of right side of waist

**high, inebriated,  
stoned**



**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** move hand up

**Catholic**

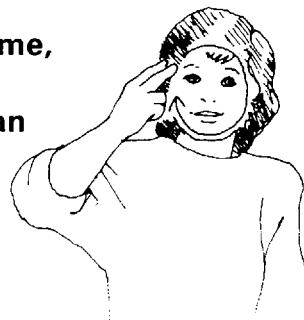


**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** trace shape of cross near forehead

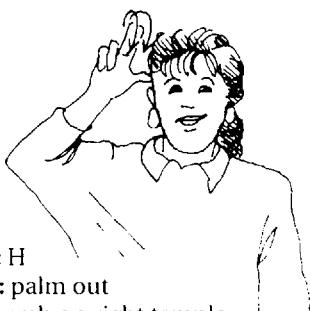
## 1-Hand SIGNS • H

**uncle**

**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near temple  
**Movement:** brush hands down temple twice  
**Note:** Movement may be circular.

**handsome,  
Hawaii,  
Hawaiian**

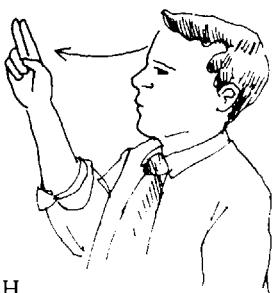
**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** circle fingers counterclockwise around face

**horse**

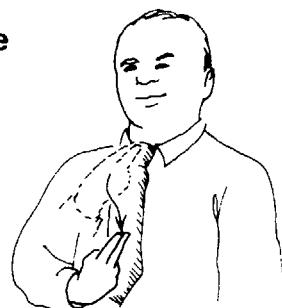
**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** thumb on right temple  
**Movement:** bend index and middle fingers twice  
**Note:** This may be signed with both hands, using the same handshape and movement.

**Latin**

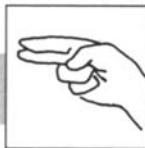
**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on forehead  
**Movement:** move hand down to tip of nose  
**Note:** See page 84 for a variation of this sign.

**honor**

**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** index finger on forehead  
**Movement:** arc hand forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** head slowly moves up in reverence

**necktie, tie**

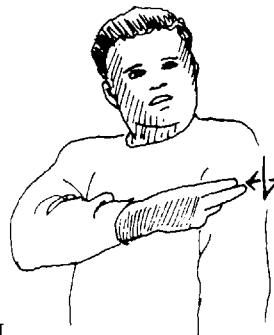
**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neck  
**Movement:** arc hand down to center of chest



## H 1-Hand SIGNS

**us**

**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on right side of chest  
**Movement:** arc hand across to left side of chest, ending palm in  
**Note:** Use this sign only when signing manual English.

**hospital**

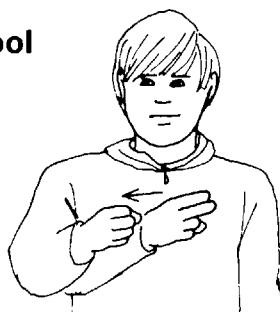
**Handshape:** H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** left upper arm  
**Movement:** use fingertips to trace shape of cross on arm

**candy, cute,  
sugar**

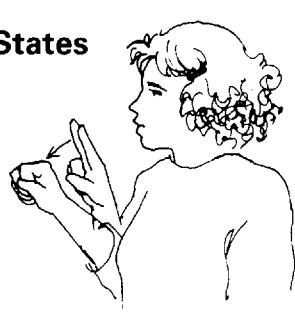
**Handshape:** H > N  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** brush fingers down chin twice, ending in N handshape

**funny, amusing,  
comical,  
humorous**

**Handshape:** H > N  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** brush fingers down nose twice while bending them  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile

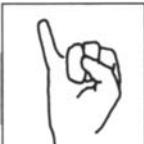
**high school**

**Handshape:** H > S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand right, closing to S handshape

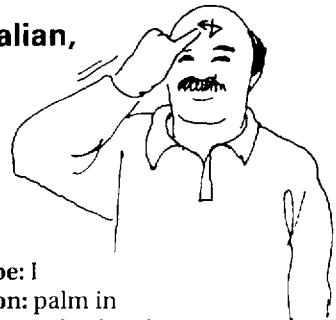
**United States**

**Handshape:** H > S  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand forward, closing to S handshape

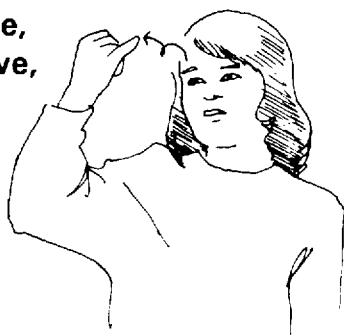
## 1-Hand SIGNS 1

**insurance**

**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly side to side

**Italy, Italian,  
Pepsi**

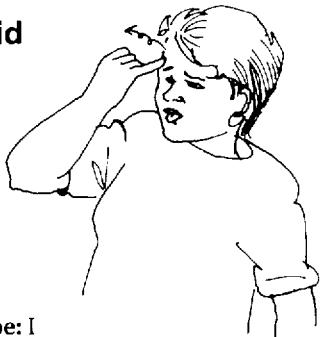
**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** trace a cross near center of forehead  
**Note:** See page 86 for the preferred sign for Italy.

**imagine,  
conceive,  
theory**

**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertip on forehead  
**Movement:** spiral hand forward and up

**idea**

**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertip on forehead  
**Movement:** move hand up and out

**paranoid**

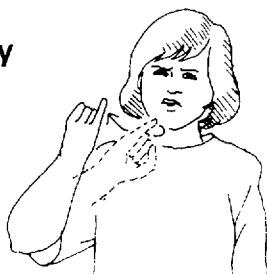
**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertip on forehead  
**Movement:** move hand out in small spirals  
**Nonmanual signal:** tongue protruding

**if, suppose,  
what if**

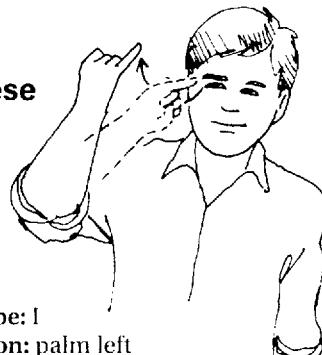
**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** below eye  
**Movement:** tap little finger against face twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right, "frowning" expression



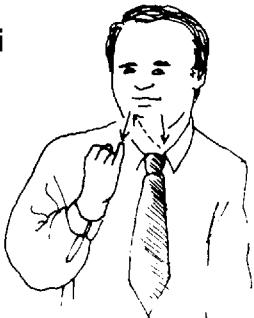
## I 1-Hand SIGNS

**jealous, envy**

**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** fingertip near right corner of mouth  
**Movement:** twist hand back, ending with palm in  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right, "angry" expression

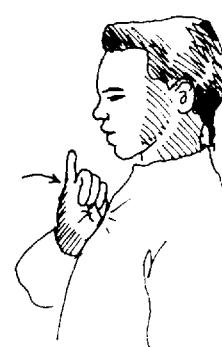
**Japan, Japanese**

**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** eye  
**Movement:** twist hand back, ending with palm in  
**Note:** See page 249 for the preferred sign.

**Israel, Israeli**

**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** slide index finger down left side of chin, then down right side of chin

I



**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** hit thumb side of hand against chest

**kitchen**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly side to side

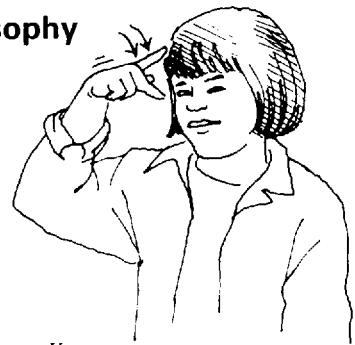
**Philadelphia**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand to the right and down

## 1-Hand SIGNS ↗ K

**purple**

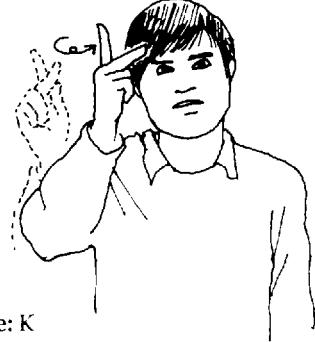
**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hand side to side twice

**philosophy**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** bend wrist down slightly twice

**two of us,  
we (two)**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrist forward and back between self and referent

**politics**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near temple  
**Movement:** circle hand near the head; then touch right temple with middle finger

**paranoid**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** middle finger on temple  
**Movement:** twist wrist forward and back twice

**poison**

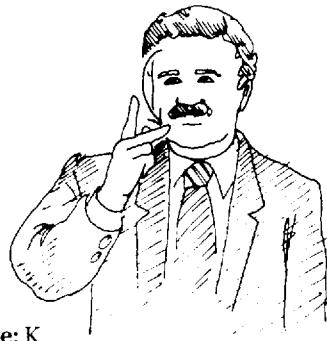
**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** middle finger on chin  
**Movement:** twist hand slightly twice



## K 1-Hand SIGNS

**pink**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** brush middle finger down chin twice

**parents**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** middle finger on right temple  
**Movement:** move middle finger down to right side of mouth

**peach**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** index finger on cheek  
**Movement:** circle hand forward on cheek

**cake**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** brush cheek twice with middle finger

**penis, pee,  
urine**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** tap nose twice with middle finger

**king**

**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** index finger on chest  
**Movement:** move hand down across body, ending on right side of waist  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back, erect posture

## 1-Hand SIGNS ↗ L

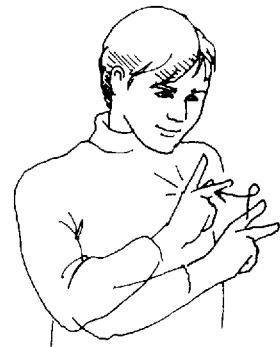


**patient  
(ill person)**



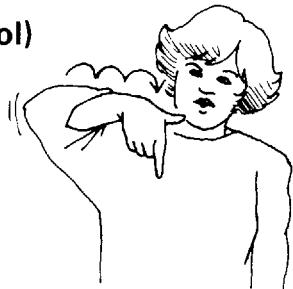
**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** left upper arm  
**Movement:** trace shape of a cross with middle finger

**personality**



**Handshape:** K  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** move hand in small circle, then drop thumb on chest

**drill (tool)**



**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm in, index finger pointing down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hand up and down several times while moving hand left

**landlord**



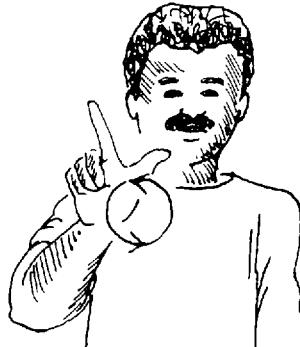
**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm down, index finger pointing forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hand from left to right

**left (direction)**



**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm down, index finger pointing forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand left

**library**



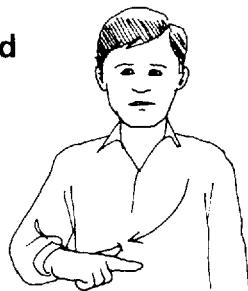
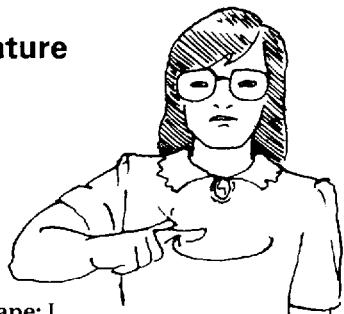
**Handshape:** I  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in a circle



## L 1-Hand SIGNS

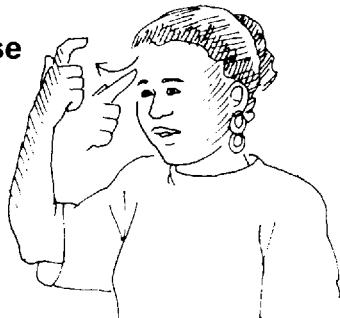
**hair dryer****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm down, index finger pointing at head**Location:** near head**Movement:** move hand in a circle**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left**second,  
endorse****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm left, index finger pointing up**Location:** above right shoulder**Movement:** twist wrist forward, ending with index finger pointing forward**Latin****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** thumb on forehead**Movement:** move thumb down to nose**Note:** See page 77 for a variation of this sign.**Lincoln****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** right side of forehead**Movement:** tap forehead twice with thumb**lemon****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** chin**Movement:** twist wrist and brush thumb down chin twice**lunch****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** chin**Movement:** tap chin twice with thumb

## 1-Hand SIGNS L

**Lord, landlord****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm down,  
index finger pointing left**Location:** thumb below left shoulder**Movement:** move hand down across  
body, ending with thumb on right  
side of waist**lazy****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** below left shoulder**Movement:** tap chest twice**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open,  
tongue protruding**legislature****Handshape:** L**Orientation:** palm down, index finger  
pointing left**Location:** thumb on chest**Movement:** arc hand across to right  
side of chest**shoot****Handshape:** L > Bent L**Orientation:** palm left, index finger  
points at referent**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend thumb down twice**laugh****Handshape:** L > Bent L**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** cheek**Movement:** bend index finger down,  
brushing cheek twice**who, whom****Handshape:** L > Bent L**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** thumb on chin**Movement:** bend index finger down twice



## L • 1-Hand SIGNS

**because**

**Handshape:** L > Bent L  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** index finger on forehead  
**Movement:** wipe index finger across forehead to the right, then bend finger

**Coke,  
Coca-Cola**

**Handshape:** L > Bent L  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** index finger on left arm  
**Movement:** bend thumb down twice

**drink (liquor),  
shot (liquor)**

**Handshape:** Bent L  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tip hand back toward mouth  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tips back

**moon**

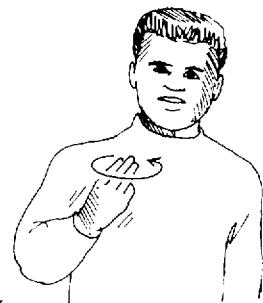
**Handshape:** Bent L  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on forehead  
**Movement:** arc hand up and to right

**Italy**

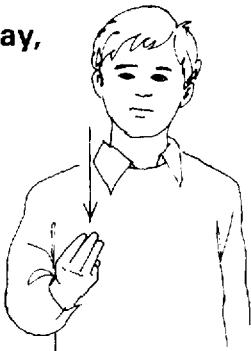
**Handshape:** Bent L > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand down in wavy motion, closing thumb and index finger  
**Note:** This is the preferred sign for Italy, used by Italians.

1-Hand SIGNS  M**interest**

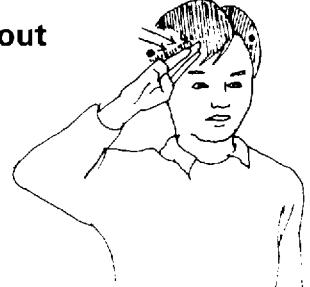
**Handshape:** Bent L > A  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near nose  
**Movement:** move hand out, closing to A handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward

**Monday**

**Handshape:** M  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in gentle circular motion  
**Note:** The palm may face forward.

**every Monday,  
Mondays**

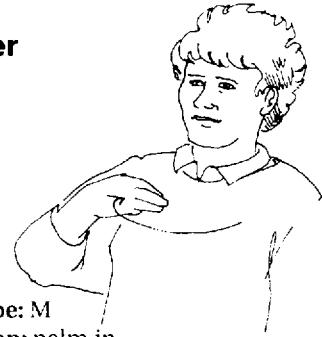
**Handshape:** M  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** move hand down

**Boy Scout**

**Handshape:** M  
**Orientation:** palm out, fingertips angled up  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** tap forehead twice with index finger

**Mormon**

**Handshape:** M  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** brush fingertips down cheek twice

**member**

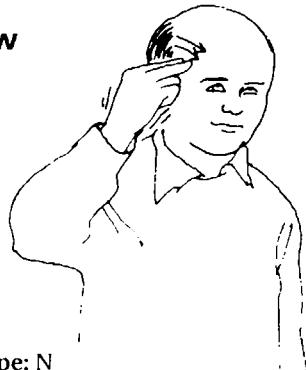
**Handshape:** M  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips below left shoulder chest  
**Movement:** arc hand across to right side of chest



## N 1-Hand SIGNS

**north**

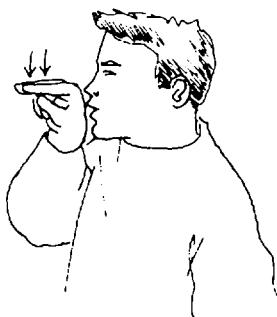
**Handshape:** N  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand up

**nephew**

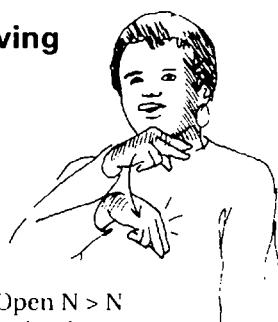
**Handshape:** N  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** temple  
**Movement:** twist wrist forward twice

**niece**

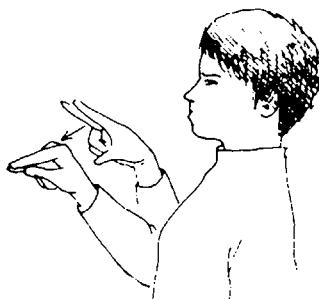
**Handshape:** N  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** twist wrist forward twice

**duck**

**Handshape:** Open N > N  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** close fingers to thumb twice

**Thanksgiving**

**Handshape:** Open N > N  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** move hand down to touch chest, ending with fingers pointing down

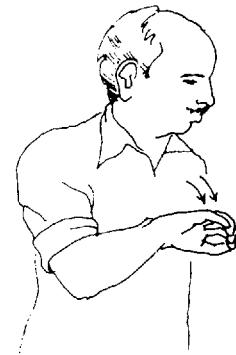
**no**

**Handshape:** Open N > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** close fingers sharply to thumb  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

## 1-Hand SIGNS • O

**gray**

**Handshape:** O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hand around, ending with palm in

**seasoning,  
spice**

**Handshape:** O  
**Orientation:** palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hand down twice

**none, zip**

**Handshape:** O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand forward

**zero**

**Handshape:** O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand side to side

**percent**

**Handshape:** O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand right and then down

**opinion**

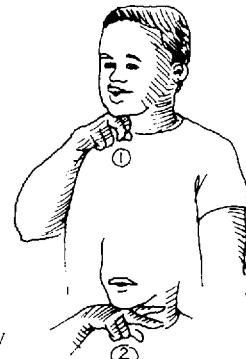
**Handshape:** O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** circle hand out from forehead twice



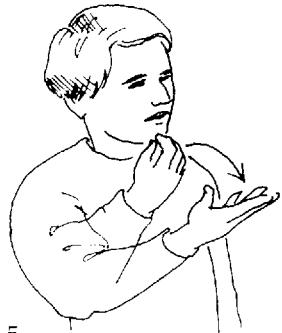
## O ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**orphan**

**Handshape:** O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb and index finger on forehead  
**Movement:** move hand down to chin

**frog**

**Handshape:** O > V  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** under chin  
**Movement:** flick fingers out into V handshape

**warm**

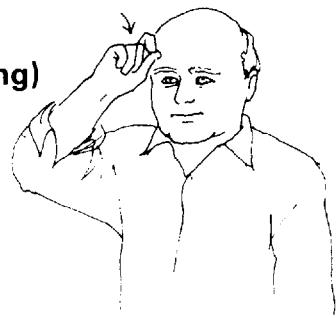
**Handshape:** O > 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on chin  
**Movement:** move hand out, opening to 5 handshape, palm up

**point,  
period**

**Handshape:** Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply bend wrist forward

**thus,  
therefore**

**Handshape:** Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** draw top part of a triangle

**cap  
(clothing)**

**Handshape:** Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** move hand down slightly

## 1-Hand SIGNS • FLATTENED O

**cold (virus)**

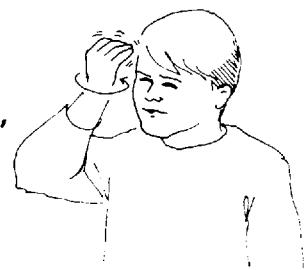
**Handshape:** Baby O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** brush fingers down each side of nose twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** droopy eyes

**a little,  
slightly**

**Handshape:** Baby O > A  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flick thumb off index finger twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder raised

**tattle**

**Handshape:** Baby O > 1  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move hand out, flicking index finger out

**ponder,  
cogitate,  
deliberate,  
mull over**

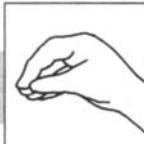
**Handshape:** Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** circle hand while randomly tapping fingertips on thumb  
**Nonmanual signal:** "pensive" expression

**flower**

**Handshape:** Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right side of nose  
**Movement:** arc hand around to left side of nose

**home**

**Handshape:** Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** bounce hand up right cheek



## FLATTENED O 1-Hand SIGNS

**kiss**

**Handshape:** Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** twist the wrist out and move hand toward referent

**eat (SM); food (DM)**

**Handshape:** Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** double bounce hand against mouth

**give, supply**

**Handshape:** Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** bend wrist out, ending with palm up  
**Note:** See page 258 for a two-hand variation of this sign.

**own**

**Handshape:** Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** hit hand against chest

**send, dispatch, mail to**

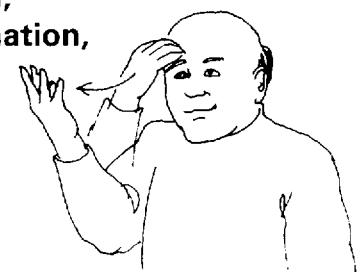
**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand out while opening to 5 handshape

**lamp, light**

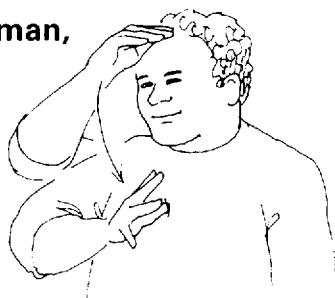
**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** drop hand down toward face while opening to 5 handshape

**1-Hand SIGNS • FLATTENED O**
**shower**

**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** bend hand down toward face while flicking fingers open twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left

**inform,  
information,  
news,  
notify**


**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** drop hand down and out while opening to 5 handshape

**gentleman,  
man**


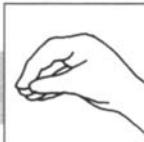
**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** move hand down to chest while opening to 5 handshape

**ignore, disregard,  
don't care,  
indifferent**


**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** twist hand sharply out while opening to 5 handshape

**white person,  
Caucasian,  
pale**


**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** snap hand up and open to 5 handshape, ending with palm in front of face



## FLATTENED O 1-Hand SIGNS

### **breakfast** (compound: eat + morning)

**Handshape:** Flattened O > Open B : passive

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** right hand near mouth; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand to mouth, then place left hand inside crook of right arm and bring right forearm up



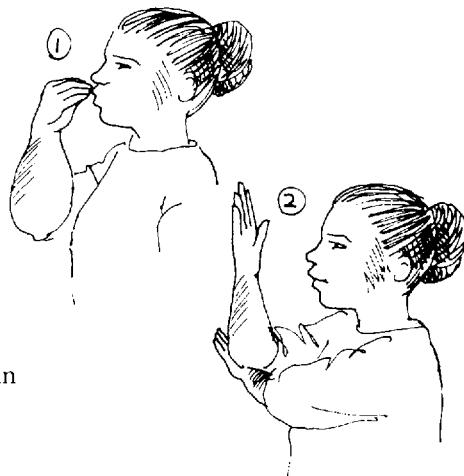
### **lunch** (compound: eat + noon)

**Handshape:** Flattened O > Open B : passive

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down

**Location:** right hand near mouth; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand to mouth, then place right elbow on back of left hand



### **dinner** (compound: eat + night)

**Handshape:** Flattened O > Open B : passive

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down

**Location:** right hand near mouth; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand to mouth, then open right hand while bringing right arm down over left hand



## 1-Hand SIGNS R



**husband**  
(compound: man + marry)

**Handshape:** Flattened O > C : C  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm up  
**Location:** right hand on forehead; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down, opening to C handshape, and clasp hands together



**son**  
(compound: boy + baby)

**Handshape:** Flattened O > Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm up  
**Location:** right hand on forehead; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down, opening to Open B handshape, and lay right arm inside left arm

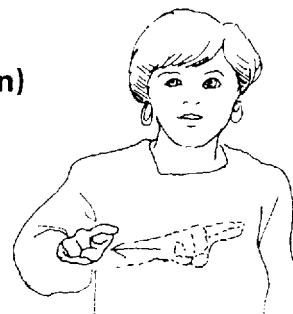


**brother**  
(compound:  
boy + same)



**Handshape:** Flattened O > L : L  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right hand on forehead; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down, opening to L handshape, and place hand on top of left hand

**right**  
(direction)



**Handshape:** R  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand right



## R ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**rest room,  
railroad**



**Handshape:** R  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hand from left to right

**reason,  
rational,  
rationale,  
realize**



**Handshape:** R  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** move hand in small circles

**rat**



**Handshape:** R  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** brush fingers across nose twice

**respect**



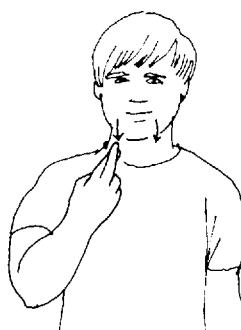
**Handshape:** R  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on forehead  
**Movement:** arc hand out and up  
**Nonmanual signal:** head slowly lifts up

**are**



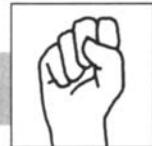
**Handshape:** R  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move hand straight out  
**Note:** Use this sign only when signing manual English.

**restaurant**

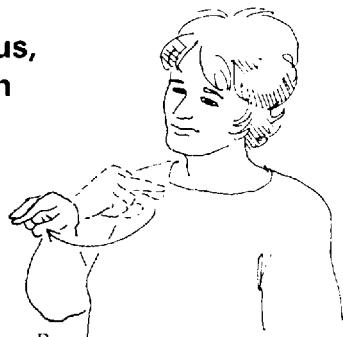


**Handshape:** R  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** brush fingers down right side of chin, then down left side of chin

## 1-Hand SIGNS &amp; S

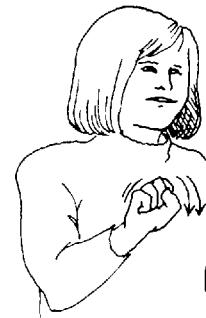


**religious,  
religion**



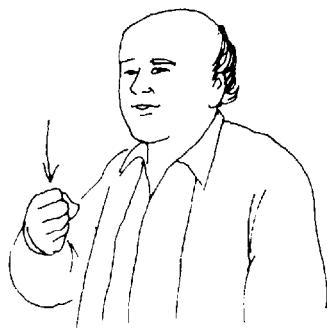
**Handshape:** R  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on chest  
**Movement:** twist hand out, ending with fingers pointing forward

**yes**



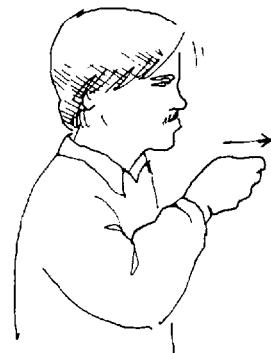
**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrist down twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** slight nod of head up and down

**south**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand down

**punch, hit**



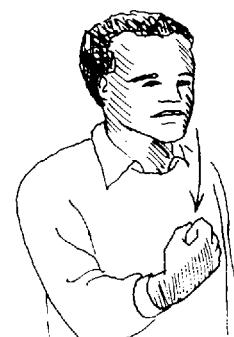
**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** push hand out sharply

**Saturday**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in gentle circular motion

**every  
Saturday,  
Saturdays**

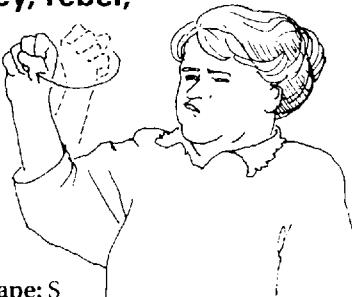


**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** move hand down



## S 1-Hand SIGNS

**disobey, rebel,  
strike**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of head  
**Movement:** twist hand around sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** pursed lips

**carrot**



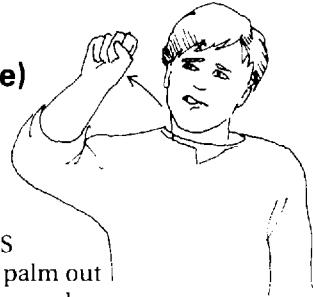
**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** bring hand in toward mouth in slow bounces  
**Nonmanual signal:** teeth chatter

**ice cream**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** brush hand down chin twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open, tongue protruding

**hang  
(by a rope)**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** near neck  
**Movement:** pull hand up sharply to the right  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left  
**Note:** See page 114 for a variation of this sign.

**baggage,  
luggage,  
suitcase**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand down  
**Note:** This sign is similar to PURSE, which is made with an A handshape.

**metal**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** under chin  
**Movement:** brush index-finger knuckle under chin twice

## 1-Hand SIGNS S

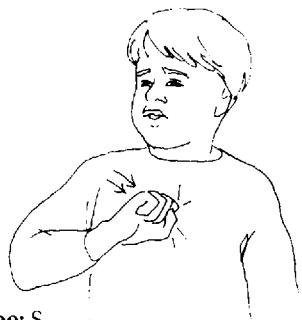


**baloney, bull (slang),  
bullshit**



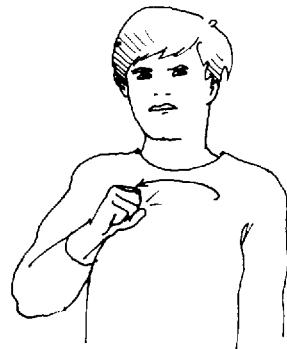
**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** twist hand down twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** "disbelieving" expression, head tilts right

**cough**



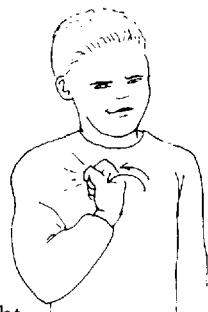
**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** bounce hand off chest twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; "sick" expression

**Senate**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** below left shoulder  
**Movement:** arc hand across to right side of chest

**tough, gang**



**Handshape:** S  
**Orientation:** palm right  
**Location:** below right shoulder  
**Movement:** brush hand down against chest twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder raises and leans forward; "tough-guy" expression

**throw (away),  
discard**

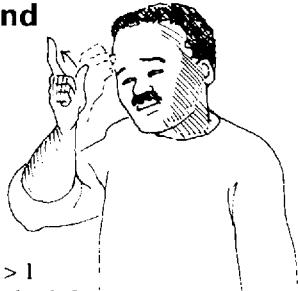


**Handshape:** S > H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flick fingers open to H hand-shape while moving hand forward



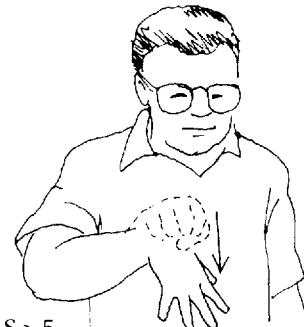
## S ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**understand,  
comprehend**



**Handshape:** S > 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** temple  
**Movement:** flick index finger up as hand moves out slightly

**drop,  
forget it**



**Handshape:** S > 5  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrist down and flick fingers out

**gamble**



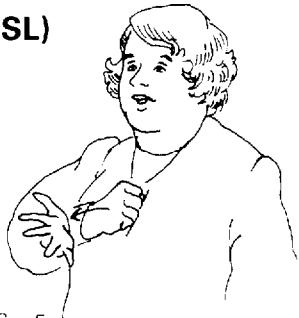
**Handshape:** S > 5  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly side to side, then throw it down, flicking fingers out

**nothing, deny  
(not true)**



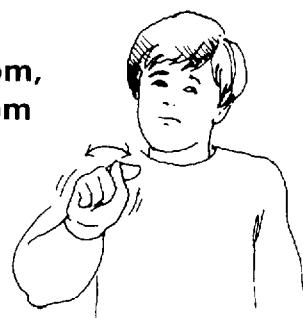
**Handshape:** S > 5  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** under chin  
**Movement:** thrust hand out while flicking fingers out  
**Nonmanual signal:** head and shoulders thrust back; head shakes "no"

**poetry (ASL)**

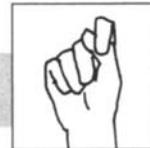


**Handshape:** S > 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** arc hand out, opening to 5 handshape

**toilet,  
bathroom,  
rest room**



**Handshape:** T  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly side to side

1-Hand SIGNS  T**Tuesday**

**Handshape:** T  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in gentle circular motion

**every Tuesday,  
Tuesdays**

**Handshape:** T  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** move hand down

**tan**

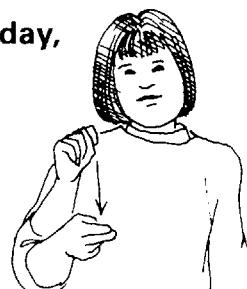
**Handshape:** T  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** move hand down cheek

**twins**

**Handshape:** T  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** left side of chin  
**Movement:** bounce hand around to right side of chin

**Thursday**

**Handshape:** T > H  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hand around, changing to H handshape

**every Thursday,  
Thursdays**

**Handshape:** T > H  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** move hand down while changing into H handshape



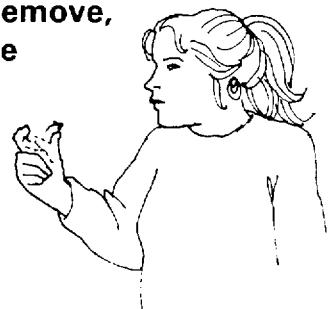
## T ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**fast, immediate,  
rapid, right away,  
suddenly, swift**



**Handshape:** T > Bent L  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend hand forward while flicking thumb off index finger

**delete, remove,  
eliminate**



**Handshape:** T > Bent L  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flick thumb off index finger

**look, gaze,  
observe,  
watch,  
witness,  
view**



**Handshape:** V  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand toward referent  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes follow referent

**contempt,  
disdain,  
disrespect,  
look down  
on, scorn**



**Handshape:** V  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrist down, ending with fingers angled down  
**Nonmanual signal:** head and eyes lowered; "patronizing" expression

**vanilla,  
vitamin**



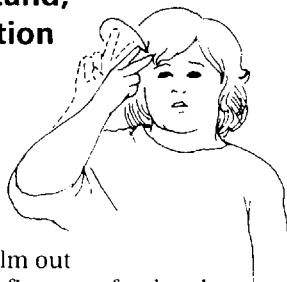
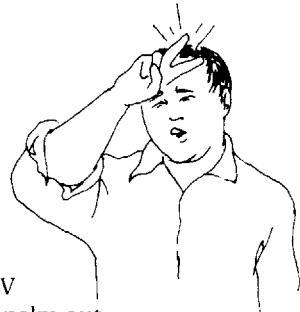
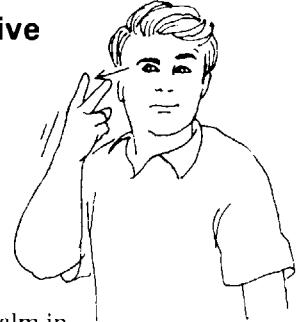
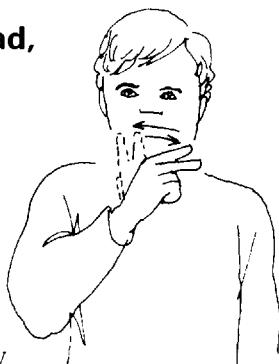
**Handshape:** V  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly side to side

**switch,  
trade places,  
vice-versa**



**Handshape:** V  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip hand over, ending with palm up

## 1-Hand SIGNS ➤ V

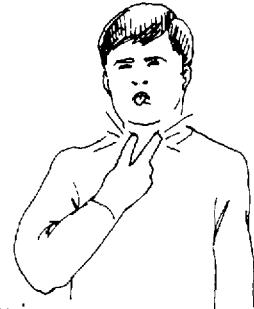
**misunderstand,  
misconception****Handshape:** V**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** index finger on forehead**Movement:** flip hand over, ending with middle finger on forehead**Nonmanual signal:** head back; mouth open; tongue protruding**ignorant,  
dumb,  
stupid****Handshape:** V**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** forehead**Movement:** smack hand sharply against forehead**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue protruding**hindsight****Handshape:** V**Orientation:** palm down**Location:** near eye**Movement:** arc hand back toward ear**see, perceive****Handshape:** V**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** near eye**Movement:** move hand out to the left**Nonmanual signal:** eyes follow fingers toward referent**speechread,  
lipread****Handshape:** V**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** near mouth**Movement:** shake hand side to side**careless,  
reckless****Handshape:** V**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** near face**Movement:** move hand across face twice**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; mouth open; tongue protruding**Note:** Sign may be formed with both hands moving past each other in front of the face.



## V 1-Hand SIGNS

**smoke (v.)**

**Handshape:** V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move hand out and back twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth in sucking position

**stuck,  
trapped**

**Handshape:** V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neck  
**Movement:** poke neck with index and middle fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** head back; mouth open; tongue protruding

**voice**

**Handshape:** V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on neck  
**Movement:** brush fingers up and off neck

**scissors**

**Handshape:** V > H  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** close and open fingers several times

**haircut  
(barber,  
beautician)**

**Handshape:** V > H  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** close and open fingers while moving hand back along hairline

**pizza**

**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** zigzag hand down

## 1-Hand SIGNS • BENT V

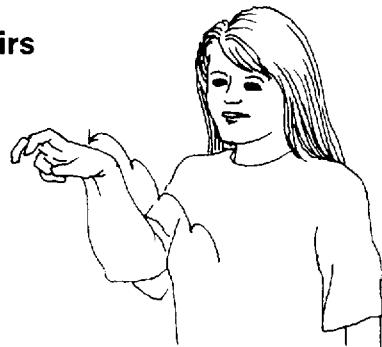


**tour, journey,  
travel, trip**



**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in a circle

**stairs**



**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** spiral hand up in small arcs

**snake**



**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** twist hand around and move hand down in a wavy motion

**blind**



**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near eyes  
**Movement:** bring hand in to eyes

**speech, oral**



**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** circle mouth with index and middle fingers

**doubt, cynical,  
don't believe,  
skeptical**

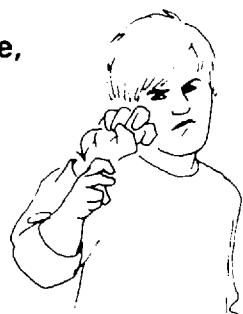


**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near eyes  
**Movement:** bend fingers down twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; "disbelieving" expression



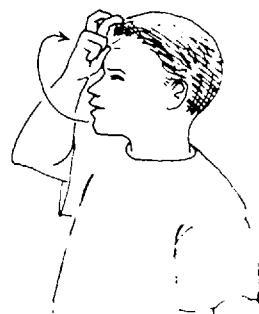
## BENT V ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**nervy, nerve,  
rude**



**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** knuckles on cheek  
**Movement:** swing wrist out and to the left  
**Nonmanual signal:** "annoyed" expression

**goat**



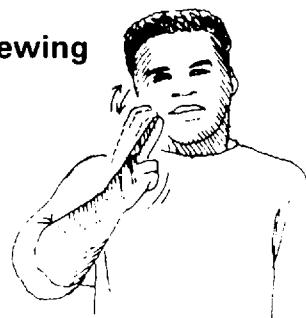
**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on chin  
**Movement:** arc hand up, ending with bent fingertips on forehead

**strict, stern**



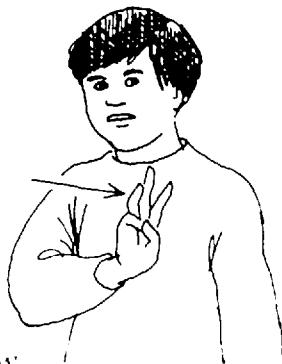
**Handshape:** Bent V  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near nose  
**Movement:** sharply tap index finger against nose  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture; "stern" expression

**gum, chewing  
gum**



**Handshape:** Bent V > V  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** fingertips on cheek  
**Movement:** straighten and bend fingers twice

**west**



**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand left

**Wednesday**

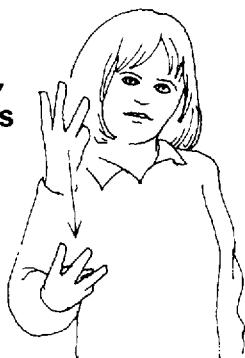


**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in gentle circular motion

## 1-Hand SIGNS • W



**every  
Wednesday,  
Wednesdays**



**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** move hand down

**baptism,  
christening**



**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** tap forehead twice with index finger  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left

**weird**



**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right side of face  
**Movement:** bend fingers down and up while moving hand left  
**Nonmanual signal:** "scornful" expression

**wine**



**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** move hand in small circle

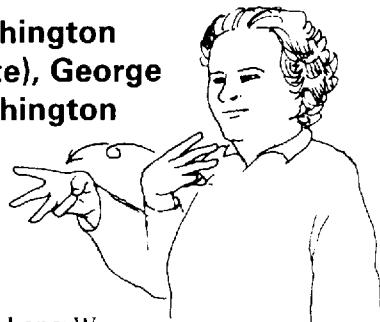
**water**



**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** double bounce index finger against chin



## W 1-Hand SIGNS

**Washington  
(state), George Washington**

**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near shoulder  
**Movement:** spiral hand out, ending with palm left

**we**

**Handshape:** W  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** below right shoulder  
**Movement:** arc hand across to left side of chest, ending with palm in  
**Note:** Use this sign only when signing manual English.

**ocean, river  
(compound: water + waves)**

**Handshape:** W > Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down  
**Location:** right index finger on chin; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right index finger against chin, then bring hand down, opening to Open B handshape and move both hands forward in wavy motion

**flood  
(compound: water + rise)**

**Handshape:** W > Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down  
**Location:** right index finger on chin; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right index finger against chin, then bring hand down, opening to Open B handshape, palm down, and raise hands

## 1-Hand SIGNS X



**pond**  
(compound: water + circular body)

**Handshape:** W > Bent L : Bent L  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right index finger on chin; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right index finger against chin, then bring hand down, opening to Bent L handshape, palms facing, and move hands apart to show size of pond



**celebrate,  
cheer,  
hurray,  
triumph,  
victory**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near shoulder  
**Movement:** move hand in a circle  
**Nonmanual signal:** "happy" expression  
**Note:** See page 255 for a two-hand variation of this sign.



**give,  
acquiesce,  
donate**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend arm down



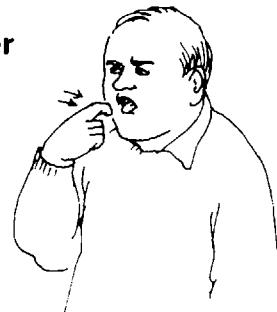
**must, have to,  
obligated to,  
ought, should  
(SM); need,  
necessary,  
vital (DM)**

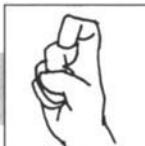
**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrist down



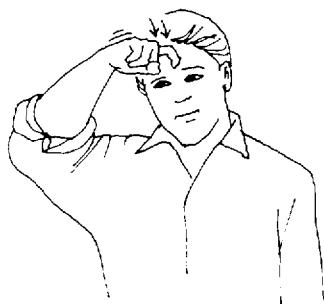
**fool, sucker**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** double bounce hand in  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue protruding

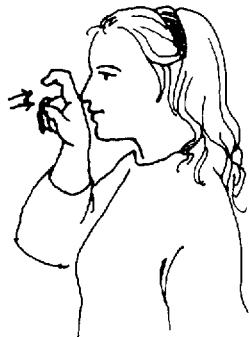




## X ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**wise**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** double bounce hand down

**eagle**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** tap nose twice with index finger

**Egypt**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** double bounce hand on forehead

**doll**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** brush index finger down nose twice

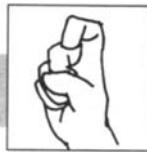
**addiction,  
hooked**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** index finger on side of mouth  
**Movement:** pull index finger sharply to right  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; mouth open; tongue protruding

**recently, a  
little while  
ago, lately**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** index finger on cheek  
**Movement:** bend index finger slightly against cheek  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts up; head tilts right; "cz" mouth movement

## 1-Hand SIGNS X



**chewing gum,  
gum**



**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** index finger on cheek  
**Movement:** move index finger in a small circle

**envious**



**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** index finger between teeth  
**Movement:** twist hand slightly side to side  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; right shoulder leans forward; eyes lower

**china, glass**



**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** tap index finger against front teeth twice

**hearing aid**



**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** ear  
**Movement:** double bounce hand against ear

**dry, boring,  
dull**

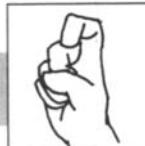


**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** wipe index finger across chin to the right  
**Nonmanual signal:** "pained" expression

**sex**



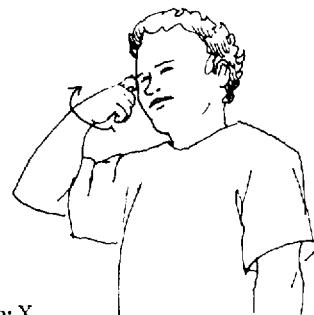
**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** index finger on temple  
**Movement:** bounce hand down to lower cheek



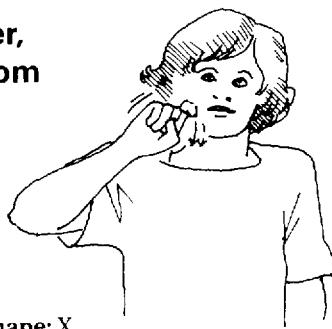
## X ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**apple**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** index finger against cheek  
**Movement:** twist hand slightly forward twice

**onion**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** index finger on corner of right eye  
**Movement:** twist hand slightly forward twice

**rubber,  
condom**

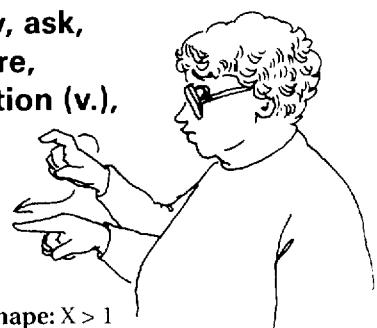
**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** brush side of index finger down cheek twice

**metal**

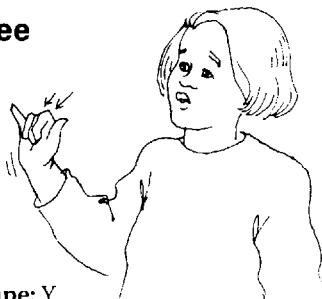
**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** under chin  
**Movement:** brush index finger off chin twice

**detective**

**Handshape:** X  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** below left shoulder  
**Movement:** brush index finger down chest twice

**query, ask,  
inquire,  
question (v.),  
quiz**

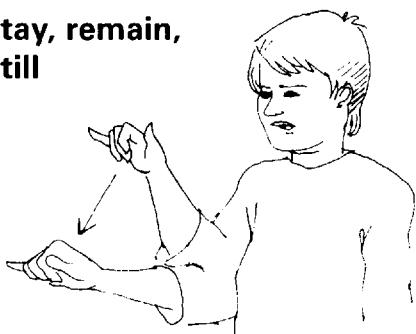
**Handshape:** X > 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** use index finger to draw a question mark, changing to 1 handshape

1-Hand SIGNS  Y**oh, I see**

**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand down  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; mouth open; eyes widen

**yellow**

**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrist back and forth several times

**stay, remain,  
still**

**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand down sharply

**me too,  
in common,  
same**

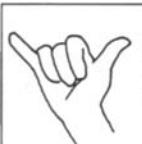
**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move arm out and back toward referent twice

**cow**

**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** thumb on right temple  
**Movement:** bend wrist down and up twice  
**Note:** See page 302 for a two-hand variation of this sign.

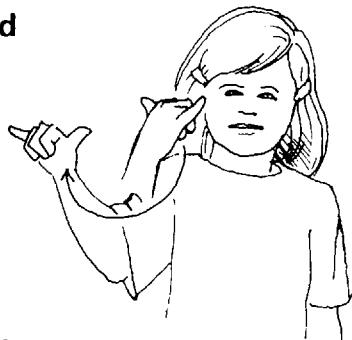
**drunk**

**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right side of face  
**Movement:** move hand across face, ending with palm down



## Y 1-Hand SIGNS

**blond**



**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** right side of head  
**Movement:** turn hand out and to the right

**telephone (n.),  
 phone (n.) (SM);  
 telephone (v.),  
 phone (v.) (DM)**



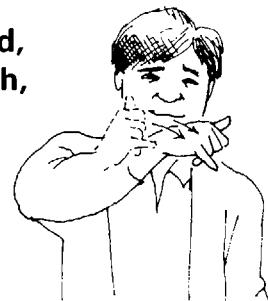
**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb at ear and little finger at mouth  
**Movement:** double bounce hand on cheek

**Holland,  
 Dutch,  
 The  
 Netherlands**



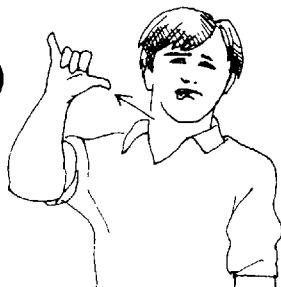
**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb at forehead  
**Movement:** arc thumb down and off nose

**silly, absurd,  
 folly, foolish,  
 ridiculous**



**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near nose  
**Movement:** brush thumb across nose twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; mouth open; tongue protruding

**hang  
 (by a rope)**



**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neck  
**Movement:** pull hand up sharply to right  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left; mouth open; tongue protruding  
**Note:** See page 98 for a variation of this sign.

**shave**



**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on left cheek  
**Movement:** slide thumb across chin and up right cheek

## 1-Hand SIGNS L - I



**error, wrong  
(SM); mistake,  
incorrect (DM)**



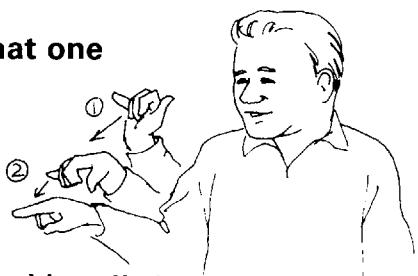
**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** hit knuckles against chin  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue protruding

**yesterday**



**Handshape:** Y  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** thumb near mouth  
**Movement:** arc thumb back, touching cheek below ear  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts; head tilts right; "cz" mouth movement

**that one**



**Handshape:** Y > 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand forward and down, changing to 1 handshape, palm down  
**Nonmanual signal:** change from "th" mouth to open mouth as head tilts back

**I love you**



**Handshape:** L-I  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly side to side

**fly (SM);  
airplane,  
airport,  
plane (pilot,  
flier, aviator)  
(DM)**



**Handshape:** L-I  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand to the right

**why**



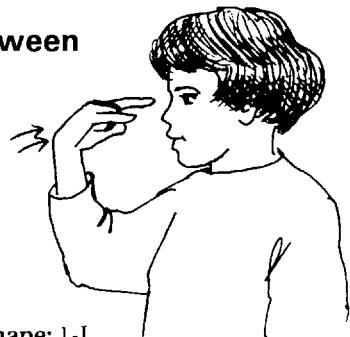
**Handshape:** L-I  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** bend middle two fingers down and up several times  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; "curious" expression  
**Note:** See page 59 for a variation of this sign.



## L-I 1-Hand SIGNS

**gold,  
California**

**Handshape:** L-I  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** index finger at ear  
**Movement:** swing hand around, changing to Y handshape, palm down

**Halloween**

**Handshape:** L-I  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near eyes  
**Movement:** double bounce hand in toward eyes

**kid**

**Handshape:** L-I  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** under nose  
**Movement:** twist wrist down twice

**stuck-up,  
conceited,  
high society,  
snob**

**Handshape:** L-I  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** index fingertip under nose  
**Movement:** brush index finger up tip of nose twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back

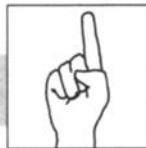
**sophisticated,  
prim**

**Handshape:** L-I  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** brush index finger up chin twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture

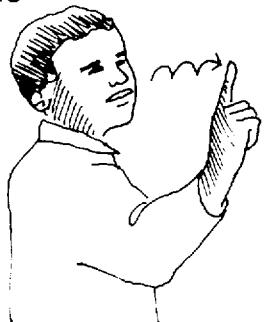
**one**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** hold hand out

## 1-Hand SIGNS 1

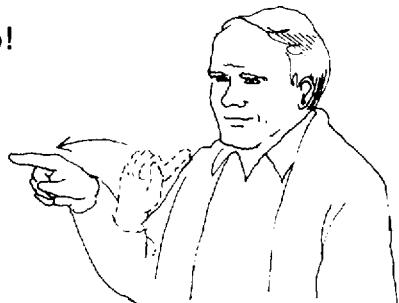


**walking (one person)**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hand forward

**go!**



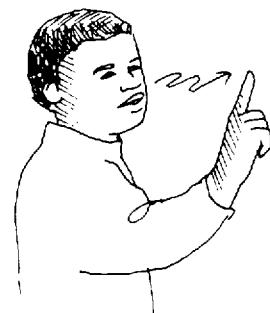
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend hand out and down sharply, ending with palm down

**come here,  
come, beckon**



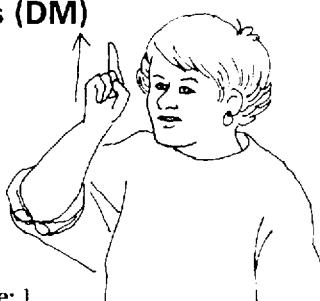
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrist back, ending with index finger pointing toward chest

**roam, wander**



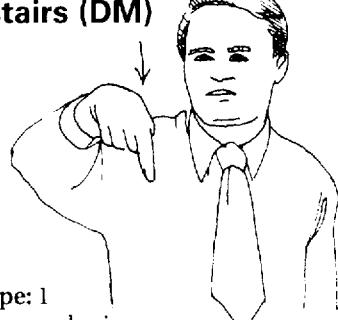
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** meander hand forward

**up (SM);  
upstairs (DM)**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** move hand up

**down (SM);  
downstairs (DM)**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand down



## 1 1-Hand SIGNS

**there,  
over there**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hand toward referent

**far, cannon**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** jab index finger sharply forward and back

**where**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hand side to side  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; "questioning" frown

**comma**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** trace shape of a comma with index finger

**you**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** jab finger toward referent  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on referent

**they, them**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc index finger from left to right toward referents  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on person to whom you are speaking

## 1-Hand SIGNS 1

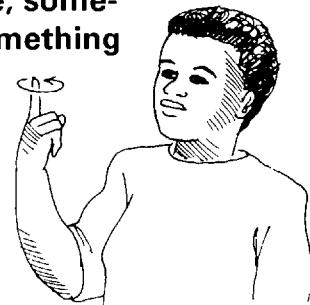


**she, he, her,  
him, it**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** point index finger at referent  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes on person to whom you are speaking

**someone, some-  
body, something**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in small circle

**only one, sole**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hand down and around, ending with palm in

**always**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** make two large circles with hand

**one dollar**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hand around, ending with palm in

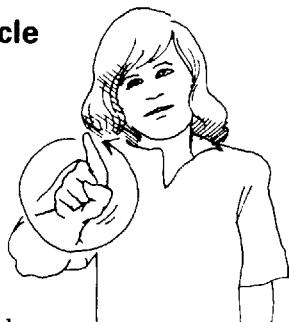
**scold, reprimand**



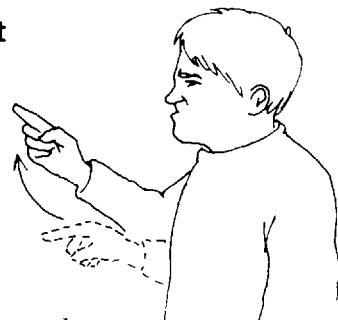
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** wag hand twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; "frowning" expression



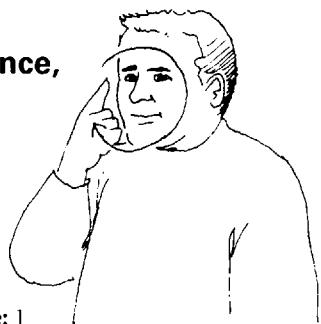
## 1 1-Hand SIGNS

**circle, cycle**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm angled out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** draw a large circle with index finger

**insult**

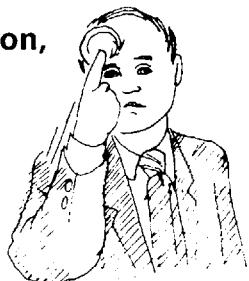
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hand right while moving index finger sharply up and forward

**face,  
appearance,  
looks**

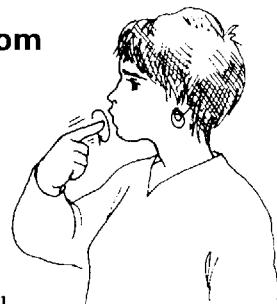
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** make circle around face with index finger

**crazy**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** near temple  
**Movement:** circle index finger around temple

**wonder, reckon,  
speculate,  
thoughtful**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near forehead  
**Movement:** move hand in small circles  
**Nonmanual signal:** "pensive" expression  
**Note:** See page 314 for a two-hand variation of this sign.

**who, whom**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** circle mouth with index finger  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; "curious" expression

## 1-Hand SIGNS 1

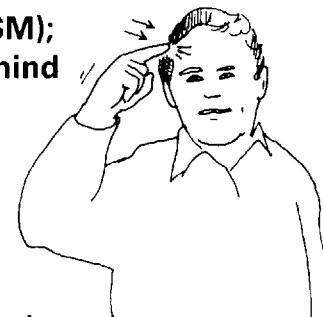


**say, discourse,  
hearing person,  
public, remark,  
speak,  
statement**



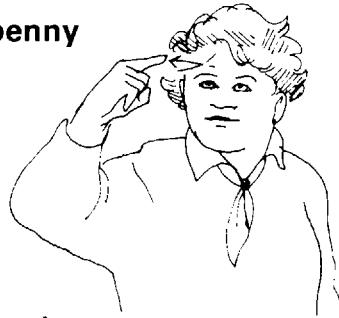
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** circle hand out twice

**think (SM);  
brain, mind  
(DM)**



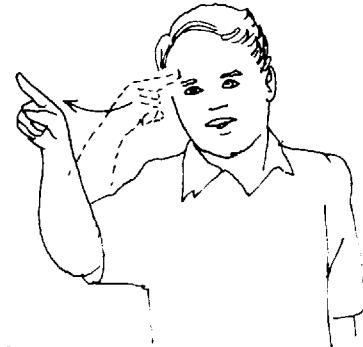
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** temple  
**Movement:** tap temple twice with index finger

**cent, penny**



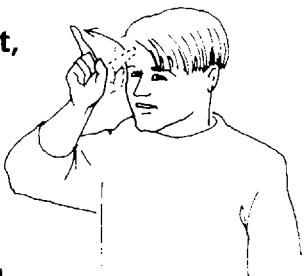
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** temple  
**Movement:** bounce index finger off right temple

**for**



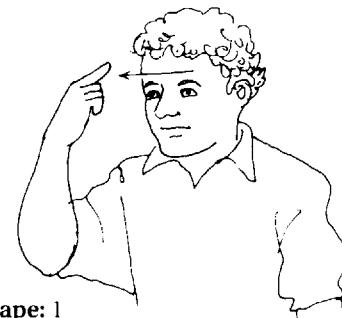
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** swing hand out and around

**intelligent,  
smart**

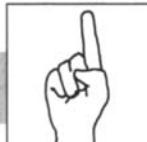


**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** index finger on forehead  
**Movement:** bend wrist forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back  
**Note:** See page 147 for a variation of this sign.

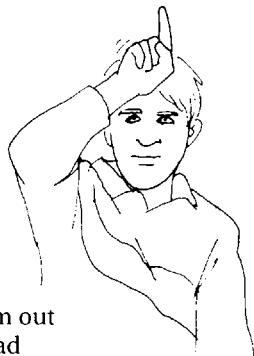
**black**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** brush side of index finger across forehead, and twist hand back, ending with palm in



## 1 • 1-Hand SIGNS

**Germany**

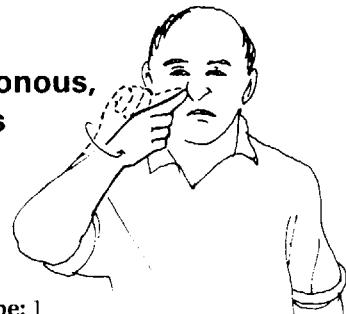
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** tap back of hand against forehead twice  
**Note:** This is the preferred sign for Germany, used by Germans.

**deaf**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** index finger at corner of mouth  
**Movement:** arc index finger back and tap near ear  
**Note:** This sign can be made ear to chin. See page 129 for a variation of this sign.

**hear (SM);  
sound (DM)**

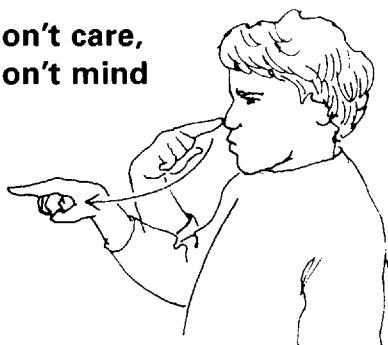
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** ear  
**Movement:** tap index finger on ear twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left

**boring,  
monotonous,  
tedious**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** index fingertip on nose  
**Movement:** twist hand in  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue protruding

**mouse**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** brush tip of nose twice with index finger

**don't care,  
don't mind**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** index fingertip on nose  
**Movement:** swing hand out and around

## 1-Hand SIGNS 1

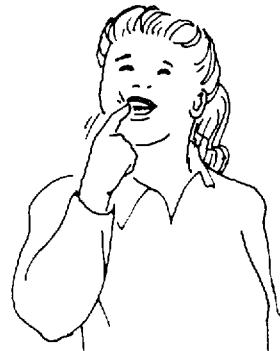


**false,  
fake (SM);  
artificial,  
mock  
(adj.) (DM)**



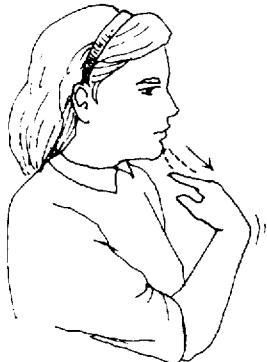
**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** bend wrist down so index finger brushes past nose

**tooth**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** point index finger at front teeth

**red**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** brush index finger down chin

**candy**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** index finger on cheek  
**Movement:** twist hand forward and back twice

**sour, bitter**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** index fingertip on chin  
**Movement:** twist wrist left  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; "sour" expression

**single  
(person)**



**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** brush index finger down left side of chin, then down right side of chin



## 1 1-Hand SIGNS

**lonely**

Handshape: 1

Orientation: palm left

Location: mouth

Movement: brush side of index finger down mouth twice

Nonmanual signal: head and eyes lowered; "sad" expression

**miss (regret the loss of), disappoint**

Handshape: 1

Orientation: palm in

Location: chin

Movement: hit chin with index fingertip

Nonmanual signal: head tilts back; "sad" expression

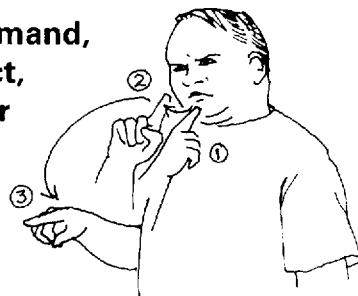
**tell**

Handshape: 1

Orientation: palm in

Location: mouth

Movement: arc index finger out, ending with palm angled up

**command, direct, order**

Handshape: 1

Orientation: palm in

Location: index fingertip on lower lip

Movement: move hand right, then bend hand sharply down

**didn't mean that, didn't say that**

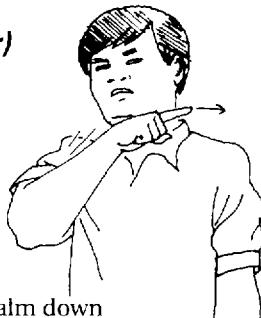
Handshape: 1

Orientation: palm out

Location: near mouth

Movement: smack back of index finger against mouth

Nonmanual signal: head shakes "no"

**lie, fib (*liar*)**

Handshape: 1

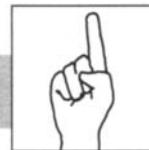
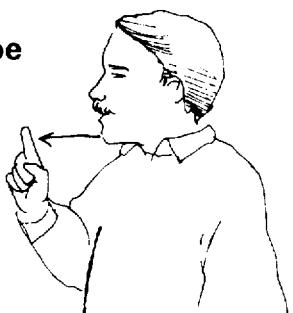
Orientation: palm down

Location: right side of chin

Movement: sharply brush index finger across chin

Nonmanual signal: head tilts back and right

## 1-Hand SIGNS 1

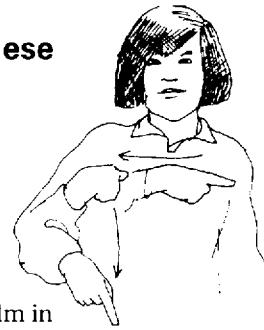
**am, are, be****Handshape:** 1**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** mouth**Movement:** move hand straight out**Note:** Do not use when signing manual English.**really, frankly,  
truly****Handshape:** 1**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** chin**Movement:** slide side of index finger up and off chin, ending with index finger pointing forward**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression**absolute,  
actual, certain,  
genuine, indeed,  
real, sure,  
true****Handshape:** 1**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** chin**Movement:** move hand straight out**thirst, thirsty  
(SM); lust (DM)****Handshape:** 1**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** neck**Movement:** slide index finger down neck**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back;  
"thirsty" expression**swallow****Handshape:** 1**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** under chin**Movement:** slide edge of index finger down neck**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back**Note:** See page 326 for a two-hand variation of this sign.**we, us****Handshape:** 1**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** index finger on right side of chest**Movement:** arc index finger across to left side of chest



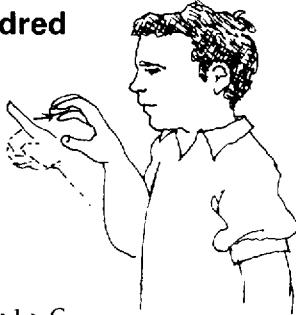
## 1 • 1-Hand SIGNS

**me, I**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** touch chest with index finger

**China, Chinese**

**Handshape:** 1  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** index finger below left shoulder  
**Movement:** bounce index fingertip across chest, then down to waist  
**Note:** This is the preferred sign for China, used by Chinese people.

**one hundred**

**Handshape:** 1 > C  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hand back and change to C handshape

**one-half**

**Handshape:** 1 > V  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand down while changing to V handshape

**huh?, really?**

**Handshape:** 1 > X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend index finger into X handshape twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** “questioning” expression

**government,  
politics**

**Handshape:** 1 > X > 1  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** circle index finger down, bending finger, then straighten finger and touch forehead

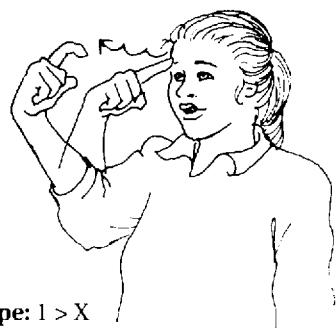
## 1-Hand SIGNS 1

**summer**

**Handshape:** 1 > X  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** wipe index finger across forehead, ending in X handshape

**suspect,  
superstition**

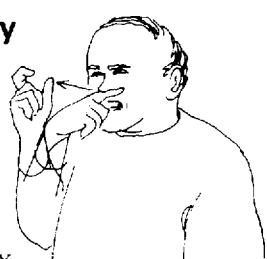
**Handshape:** 1 > X  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** bend index finger, scratching forehead twice

**dream**

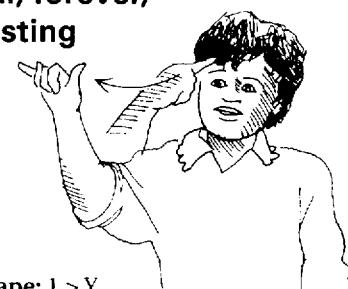
**Handshape:** 1 > X  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** bend index finger down and up several times while moving hand out to right

**puzzled,  
perplexed**

**Handshape:** 1 > X  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** back of hand on forehead  
**Movement:** bend index finger to X handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; mouth open; brows furrowed in puzzlement

**ugly, homely**

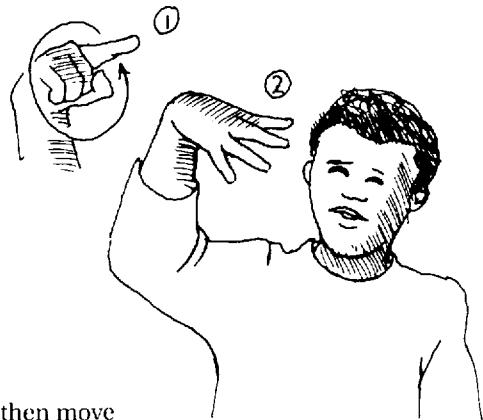
**Handshape:** 1 > X  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** under nose  
**Movement:** slide index finger under nose, ending in X handshape  
**Note:** See page 330 for a two-hand variation of this sign.

**eternal, forever,  
everlasting**

**Handshape:** 1 > Y  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** twist wrist forward, changing to Y handshape



## 1 • 1-Hand SIGNS

**sun, sunshine****Handshape:** 1 > 5**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** above head**Movement:** draw a circle with index finger, then move hand toward head while opening to 5 handshape**broad-minded**  
**(compound: think + general)****Handshape:** 1 > B : B**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right**Location:** right index fingertip on forehead; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down while changing to B handshape, palms facing, fingers touching, then swing fingers away from each other**Nonmanual signal:** slightly wide eyes**narrow-minded**  
**(compound: think + narrow)****Handshape:** 1 > B : B**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right**Location:** right index fingertip on forehead; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down while changing to B handshape, palms facing, hands apart, then bend fingers in toward each other**Nonmanual signal:** brows furrowed, "serious" expression



**witness, eyewitness**  
**(compound: eye + prove)**

**Handshape:** I > B : B

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up

**Location:** right hand below eye; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down while changing to B handshape, palm up, and slap into left palm

**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut, "earnest" expression



**deaf**  
**(compound: hear + close)**

**Handshape:** I > B : B

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down

**Location:** right index finger below ear; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down while changing to B handshape, and move index fingers together

**Note:** See page 122 for a variation of this sign.



**pledge, commit, guarantee,**  
**promise, vow, swear**  
**(compound)**

**Handshape:** I > Open B : B

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down

**Location:** right index finger on mouth; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** move right hand down, changing to Open B handshape, then bump wrist against left hand

**Nonmanual signal:** pursed lips

**Note:** See page 130 for a variation of this sign.





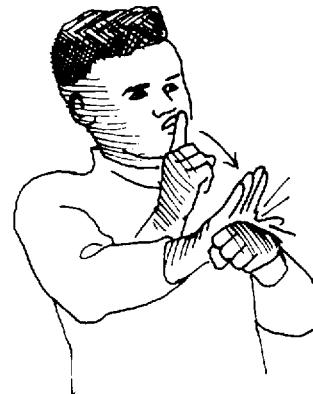
**public school**  
**(compound: say + school)**

**Handshape:** 1 > Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left hand in neutral space  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** circle hand out twice, then move hand down while changing to Open B handshape and clap hands



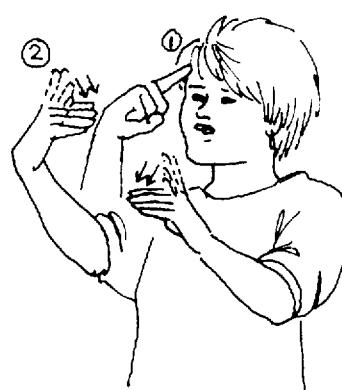
**promise, commit, guarantee,  
pledge, vow, swear**  
**(compound)**

**Handshape:** 1 > Open B : S  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm in  
**Location:** right index finger on mouth; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down, changing to Open B handshape, then slap right palm down on left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** pursed lips  
**Note:** See page 129 for a variation of this sign.



**anticipate, expect, hope**  
**(compound: think + hope)**

**Handshape:** 1 > Open B > Bent B : Open B > Bent B  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right index finger on forehead; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand out while changing to Open B handshape, palms facing, and bend both hands down and up twice



## 1-Hand SIGNS 1

**believe**

(compound: think + marry)

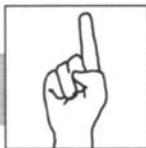
**Handshape:** 1 > C : C**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm up**Location:** right index finger on forehead; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down while changing to C handshape and clasp hands together**decide, determine,****resolve, verdict**

(compound: think + judge)

**Handshape:** 1 > F : F**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right**Location:** right index finger on forehead; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** move right hand down while changing to F handshape, palm left, even with left hand, and move both hands down**loud**

(compound: hear + noise)

**Handshape:** 1 > S : S**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down**Location:** right index finger at ear; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** move right hand down, changing to S handshape, then move hands side to side in unison**Nonmanual signal:** "pained" expression



## 1 • 1-Hand SIGNS

**noise, noisy**  
**(compound: hear + vibrate)**



**Handshape:** 1 > 5 : 5

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down

**Location:** right index finger on ear; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** move right hand down, even with left hand, and shake both hands

**disagree, differ**  
**(compound: think + opposite)**



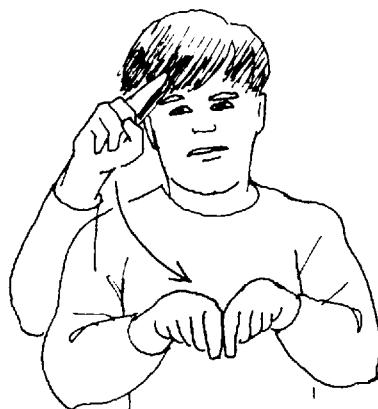
**Handshape:** 1 > 1 : 1

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right

**Location:** right index finger on forehead; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down so index fingertips touch, then move hands away from each other

**agree, concur, correspond**  
**(compound: think + same)**



**Handshape:** 1 > 1 : 1

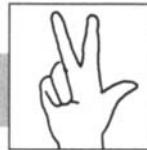
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down

**Location:** right index finger on forehead; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down so index fingers touch

**Nonmanual signal:** head nods "yes"

## 1-Hand SIGNS 3



**blush, embarrass, flushed**  
**(compound: red + embarrass)**

**Handshape:** 1 > 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** right index finger on lower lip  
**Movement:** brush right index finger down chin,  
 then change to 5 handshape, both hands  
 near jaw, and move hands up in front of cheeks  
**Nonmanual signal:** "embarrassed" expression



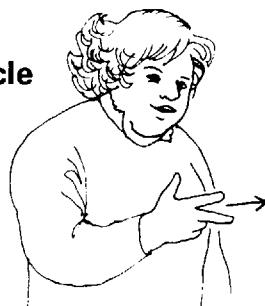
**confident, trust**  
**(compound: think + trust)**

**Handshape:** 1 > 5 > S : 5 > S  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right  
**Location:** right index finger near  
 forehead; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right index finger on forehead, then  
 move hand down, changing to 5 handshape, palm left,  
 slightly above left hand; bring hands together, closing  
 to S handshape, ending with right hand on top of left hand



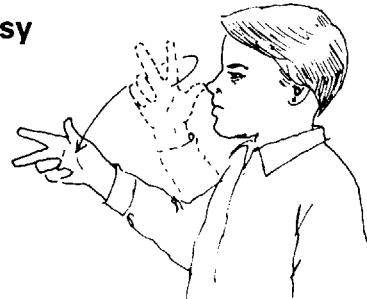
**vehicle,**  
**moving vehicle**

**Handshape:** 3  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand forward  
**Note:** The hand moves in the direction and  
 way that vehicle under discussion moves.



**lousy**

**Handshape:** 3  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** nose  
**Movement:** loop hand to right, then  
 bring sharply down





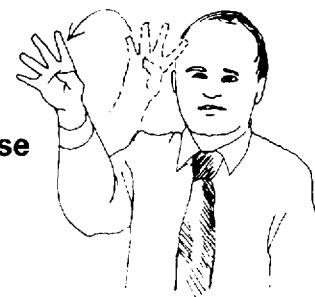
## 3 ➤ 1-Hand SIGNS

**rooster****Handshape:** 3**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** forehead**Movement:** tap thumb twice on forehead**split****Handshape:** 3**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** mouth**Movement:** arc hand sharply out and down**receptive****Handshape:** 3 > Bent 3**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** near temple**Movement:** bend index and middle fingers as thumb touches under eye twice**devil, demon,  
devilish,  
mischievous,  
Satan****Handshape:** 3 > Bent 3**Orientation:** palm out**Location:** thumb on temple**Movement:** bend and straighten index and middle fingers twice**Note:** See page 333 for a two-hand variation of this sign.**insect, bug****Handshape:** 3 > Bent 3**Orientation:** palm left**Location:** thumb on nose**Movement:** bend and straighten index and middle fingers twice**jail****Handshape:** 4**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** near face**Movement:** move hand in toward face

## 1-Hand SIGNS 5

**talk**

**Handshape:** 4  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** double bounce index finger lightly on chin

**invent,  
create,  
devise,  
improvise**

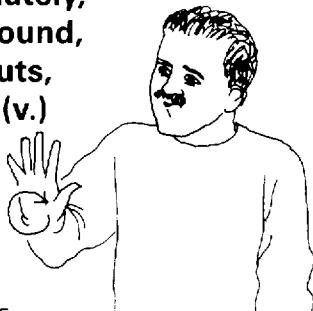
**Handshape:** 4  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** index fingertip on forehead  
**Movement:** arc hand up and out  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back

**ignore,  
disregard,  
neglect**

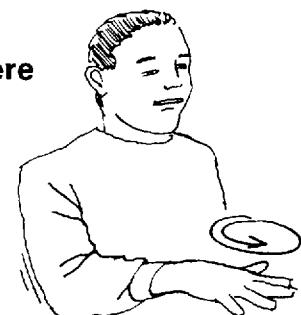
**Handshape:** 4  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** index fingertip on nose  
**Movement:** arc hand out to side, then bring down sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts left

**Scotland,  
Scotch,  
Scots**

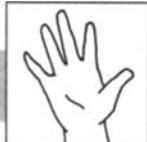
**Handshape:** 4  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** upper arm  
**Movement:** brush fingers across width of arm, then flip over and brush back of hand down toward elbow

**approximately,  
about, around,  
thereabouts,  
estimate (v.)**

**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in a circle twice

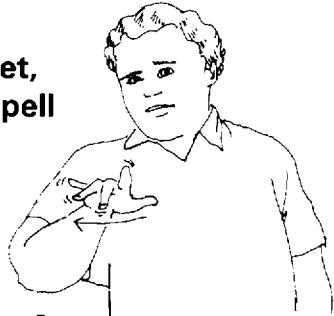
**area,  
around here**

**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in a circle twice



## 5 • 1-Hand SIGNS

**spell,  
alphabet,  
fingerspell**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand in small circles while randomly wiggling fingers

**long ago,  
former,  
used to be**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near shoulder  
**Movement:** circle hand back so thumb brushes down shoulder twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans back; "cha" mouth utterance

**insane**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** circle hand around twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; mouth open; tongue protruding

**lettuce,  
cabbage**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** head  
**Movement:** hit head twice with heel of hand

**father,  
dad**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** tap thumb twice on forehead

**grandfather**

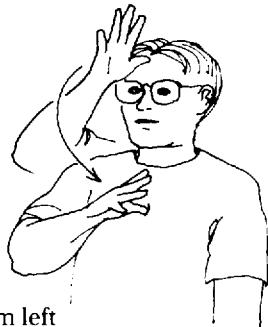


**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on forehead  
**Movement:** bounce hand out in double arc

## 1-Hand SIGNS 5



**man,  
gentleman**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** tap thumb on forehead and then on chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture

**parents**



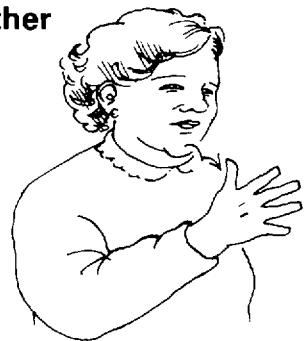
**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** tap thumb on forehead and then on chin  
**Note:** This sign can be reversed.

**mother,  
mom**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** tap thumb twice on chin

**grandmother**



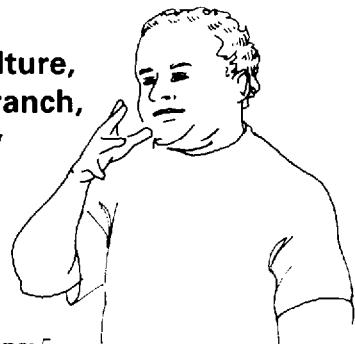
**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on chin  
**Movement:** bounce hand out in double arc

**woman,  
female,  
lady**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** tap thumb on chin and then chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture

**farm,  
agriculture,  
bum, ranch,  
sloppy**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** left side of chin  
**Movement:** brush thumb across chin



## 5 ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**dirty, filthy,  
soiled**



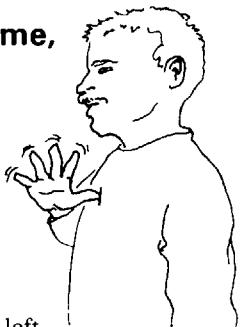
**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** under chin  
**Movement:** randomly wiggle fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue protruding

**color**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** wiggle fingertips randomly while tapping chin

**swell, awesome,  
you're a riot  
(slang)**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** randomly wiggle fingers, keeping thumb on chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans back

**indignant,  
appalled**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** thumb on chest  
**Movement:** bend hand down sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**fancy, elegant,  
refined,  
courteous**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** brush thumb up chest twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** "genteel" expression

**fine**



**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** arc hand out and down  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back

## 1-Hand SIGNS 5

**pregnant**

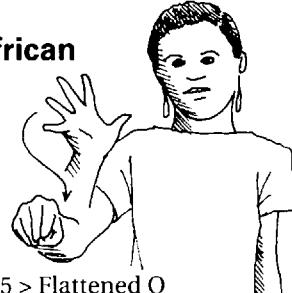
**Handshape:** 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** abdomen  
**Movement:** move hand out

**leave, go away,  
gone**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** pull hand to right, closing to Flattened O handshape

**and**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand right, closing to Flattened O handshape

**Africa, African**

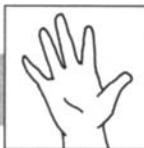
**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swirl fingers right and down, closing to Flattened O handshape  
**Note:** This is the preferred sign, used by Africans to refer to themselves.

**asleep, nap**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** close fingers to Flattened O handshape  
**Note:** See the following sign for the adjective form.

**drowsy,  
sleepy**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** bring hand down slowly, closing fingers to thumb twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** droopy eyes



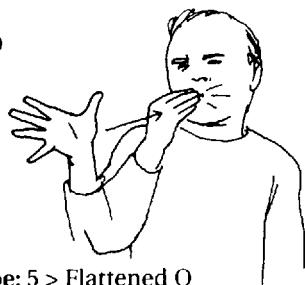
## 5 1-Hand SIGNS

**pretty,  
beautiful,  
gorgeous,  
lovely**



**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** slowly sweep fingers around face, closing to Flattened O handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back

**shut up**



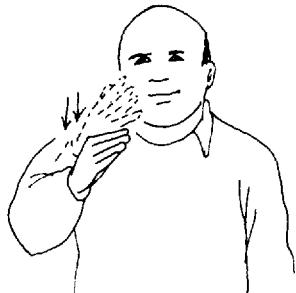
**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** sharply bring hand to mouth, closing fingers to thumb, ending with fingertips on mouth  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression

**Jewish,  
Hebrew**



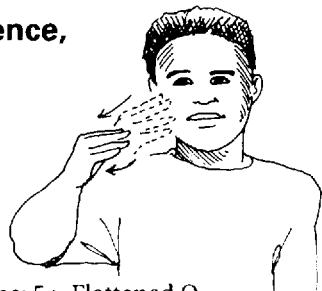
**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** brush fingers off chin twice, closing to Flattened O handshape

**peach**



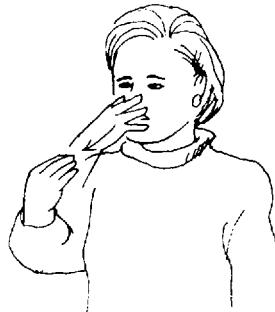
**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** brush fingers down and off cheek twice, closing to Flattened O handshape

**experience,  
expert**



**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm right  
**Location:** cheek  
**Movement:** brush fingers down cheek and pull hand right twice, closing to Flattened O handshape

**wolf**



**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** face  
**Movement:** brush fingers off nose and mouth, closing to Flattened O handshape



**catch (disease),  
prone to catch a disease**

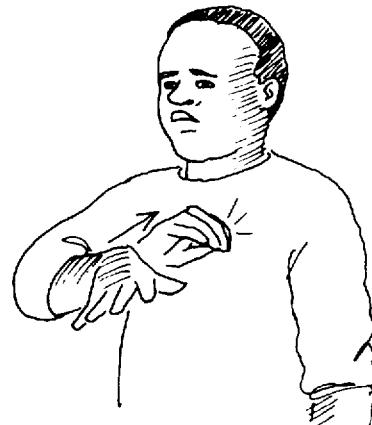
**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O

**Orientation:** palm down, fingers forward

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hand sharply in to chest, closing to  
Flattened O handshape

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans away from repelling  
reference; "disgusted" expression



**white (object)**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O

**Orientation:** palm in

**Location:** chest

**Movement:** move hand out from chest, closing to  
Flattened O handshape



**oversleep  
(compound: sleep + way-past-sunrise)**

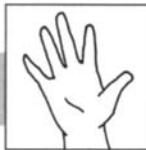
**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O > F : Open B (passive)

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down

**Location:** right hand near face; left hand in neutral  
space

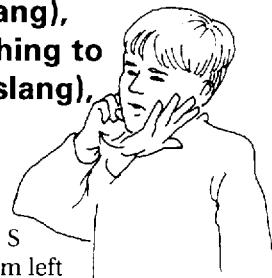
**Movement:** close fingers to thumb in front of face,  
then change to F handshape while moving hand  
under and then above passive arm





## 5 1-Hand SIGNS

**commonplace,  
big deal (slang),  
boring, nothing to  
it, old hat (slang),  
trivial**



**Handshape:** 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** left cheek  
**Movement:** slide back of hand under chin to right cheek, closing to S handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** "bored" expression

**channel, knob**



**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist arm side to side several times

**crazy for (slang),  
crave, favorite**



**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** shake hand slightly side to side  
**Nonmanual signal:** "excited" expression

**dizzy**



**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** slowly circle face with hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** body wobbles

**grouchy,  
ill-tempered,  
irritable,  
moody**



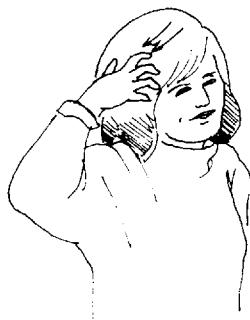
**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** keeping hand taut, bend fingertips in and out a few times  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression

**lion**



**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** above head  
**Movement:** slide hand back along head  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back, erect posture

## 1-Hand SIGNS • BENT 5

**comb**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** head  
**Movement:** brush fingertips down hair twice

**radio**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** ear  
**Movement:** twist hand side to side several times  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right  
**Note:** See page 353 for a two-hand variation of this sign.

**crazy, insane**

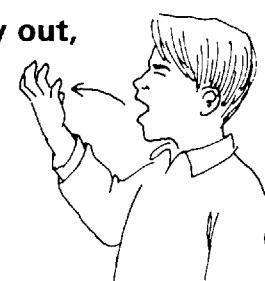
**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** near temple  
**Movement:** twist arm back and forth several times  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue protruding

**eat fruit**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** below chin  
**Movement:** twist wrist back twice, brushing past mouth

**mad, angry,  
cross**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** bring hand in to face in sharp, quick motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression

**scream, cry out,  
shout, yell**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near chin  
**Movement:** sharply arc hand up and out  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth mimics a scream



## BENT 5 ➔ 1-Hand SIGNS

**hot**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** sharply swing hand out and around, ending palm down  
**Nonmanual signal:** blow air out of mouth

**grass, hay**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm angled up  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** brush heel of hand up and off chin twice

**captain, boss,  
coach,  
general,  
officer**

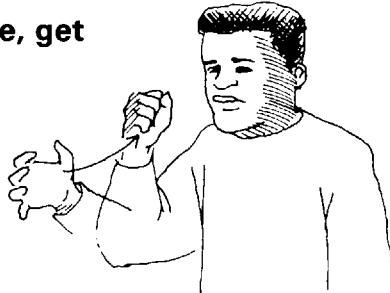
**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm down  
**Location:** shoulder  
**Movement:** tap shoulder twice with fingertips

**anger, fury,  
mad**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** swing hand up sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression

**disgust,  
nauseating,  
obnoxious,  
revolting**

**Handshape:** Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** move hand in small circles  
**Nonmanual signal:** "disgusted" expression

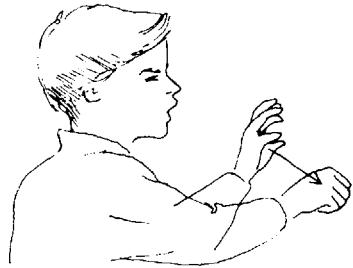
**take, get**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hand in sharply, closing to S handshape

## 1-Hand SIGNS • BENT 5

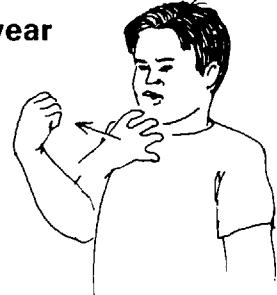


**arrest,  
catch**



**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hand out and down, closing to S handshape

**curse, swear**



**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** pull hand out sharply, closing to S handshape

**memorize**



**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palm left  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** move hand out to the right, closing to S handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

**cherish,  
treasure,  
value**



**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on chin  
**Movement:** sharply close fingers to S handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** "hungry" expression

**gulp,  
oops**



**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** fingertips on neck  
**Movement:** sharply close fingers to S handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** "embarrassed" expression

**suppress,  
restrain  
(feelings)**



**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** neck  
**Movement:** slide fingertips down to chest, slowly closing to S handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut; body taut  
**Note:** See page 362 for a two-hand variation of this sign.



## BENT 5 • 1-Hand SIGNS

**feeble-minded,  
senile**



**Handshape:** Bent 5 > 5

**Orientation:** palm left

**Location:** forehead

**Movement:** straighten and bend fingers twice

**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue prominent

**warm**



**Handshape:** Bent 5 > 5

**Orientation:** palm in

**Location:** chin

**Movement:** brush fingers up and out, opening to 5 handshape

**light (n.)**



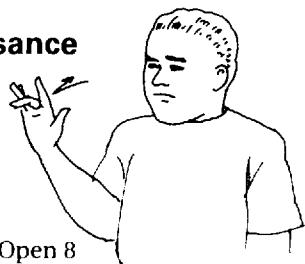
**Handshape:** 8 > Open 8

**Orientation:** palm in

**Location:** chin

**Movement:** flick middle finger up and off chin

**pest, nuisance**



**Handshape:** Open 8

**Orientation:** palm out

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** jab middle finger toward referent and back

**Nonmanual signal:** "annoyed" expression

**Note:** This sign is also used for the ASL idiom, SICK, YOU.

**mercy,  
empathy,  
pity,  
sympathy**



**Handshape:** Open 8

**Orientation:** palm out

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hand forward in two small circles

**Nonmanual signal:** head lowered; "sad" expression

## 1-Hand SIGNS • OPEN 8

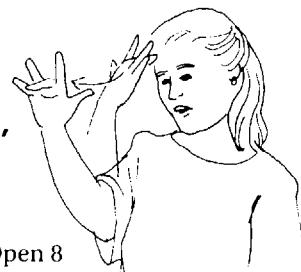


**sick of it  
(slang)**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** middle finger on forehead  
**Movement:** twist hand left  
**Nonmanual signal:** "disgusted" expression

**clever,  
bright,  
intelligent,  
smart**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** swing hand around, ending palm out  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts up and to the right  
**Note:** See page 121 for a variation of this sign.

**taste, flavor**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** lower lip  
**Movement:** tap middle finger on lower lip twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; tongue protruding

**favorite,  
prefer,  
rather**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** sharply bounce middle finger off chin  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

**lucky**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** swing hand around, ending palm down  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

**tend,  
disposed to,  
tendency,  
inclined**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** middle finger on chest  
**Movement:** move hand out, away from chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** "pah" mouth utterance; body leans forward



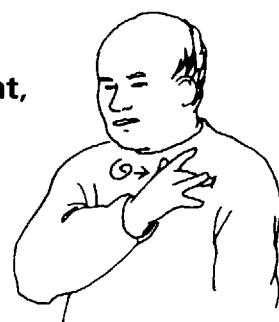
## CPEN 8 • 1-Hand SIGNS

**feel,  
sense (SM),  
emotion,  
feeling,  
sensation  
(DM)**



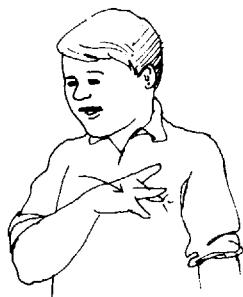
**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near chest  
**Movement:** brush middle finger up and off chest in two circular motions

**kind,  
benevolent,  
kindly,  
warm-  
hearted**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** below left shoulder  
**Movement:** move middle finger in a small circle, then touch chest

**touching,  
heartfelt,  
poignant**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near chest  
**Movement:** bring hand to chest with an exaggerated motion and touch chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

**heart**



**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** near heart  
**Movement:** double bounce middle finger on chest

**sensitive**



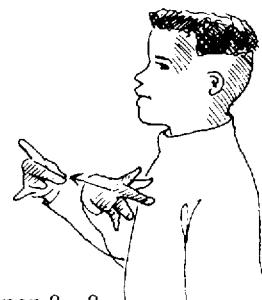
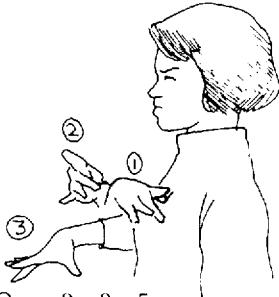
**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** middle finger on chest  
**Movement:** twist hand around, ending palm down  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts up; head tilts right; "cz" mouth movement

**sort, kind,  
type,  
species**

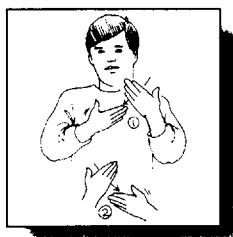
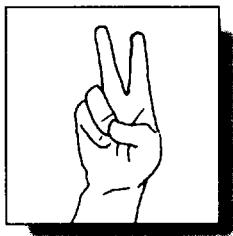


**Handshape:** Open 8  
**Orientation:** palm in  
**Location:** middle finger on chest, below left shoulder  
**Movement:** arc hand across to right side of chest

## 1-Hand SIGNS ➡ OPEN 8

**delicious****Handshape:** Open 8 > 8**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** mouth**Movement:** move hand out, rubbing middle finger and thumb together**Nonmanual signal:** eyes widen; smile**like****Handshape:** Open 8 > 8**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** chest**Movement:** move hand out, closing thumb and middle finger**Nonmanual signal:** "happy" expression**don't like****Handshape:** Open 8 > 8 > 5**Orientation:** palm in**Location:** chest**Movement:** move hand out, closing thumb and middle finger, then twist hand around and flick middle finger off thumb

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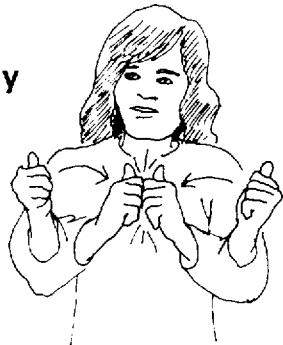


## Two-Hand Signs



## A 2-Hand SIGNS

**with,  
accompany**



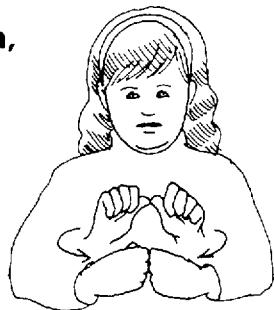
**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hands together

**steady date,  
go steady**



**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms facing; hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hands forward

**association,  
agency**



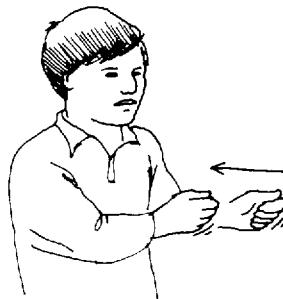
**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms out; thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands around, ending with fingers touching

**area**



**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms down; thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** draw semicircles with thumbs, ending with thumbs touching

**pull**



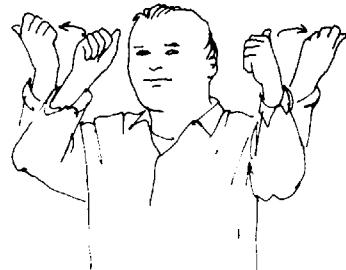
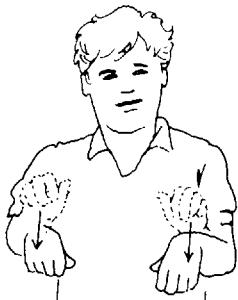
**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms facing; left hand in front of right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tug hands toward body

**golf**



**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms facing; right hand on left  
**Location:** near right shoulder  
**Movement:** swing hands down and up  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right

## 2-Hand SIGNS A

**dig, shovel****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc hands up toward left shoulder**cabinet****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** near head**Movement:** swing hands around, ending with palms in**able, can, may  
(SM); ability,  
capable,  
competent,  
possible (DM)****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** palms out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists down**attempt,  
audition,  
effort,  
endeavor,  
persist, try****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc hands up and forward**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression**algebra****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush hands together twice**army, bear  
arms (soldier)****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** palms in; right hand above left**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** double bounce hands on chest**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture



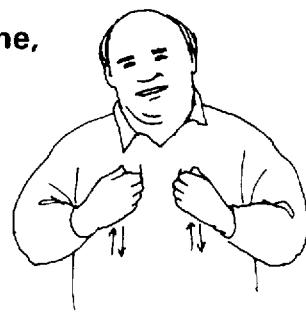
## A 2-Hand SIGNS

**coat, jacket, sweater**



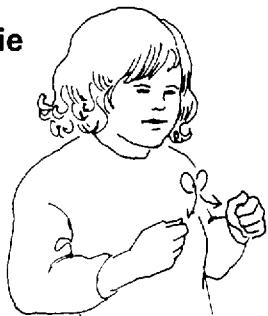
**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** thumbs on shoulders  
**Movement:** arc hands down to chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders hunch

**bath, bathe, wash**



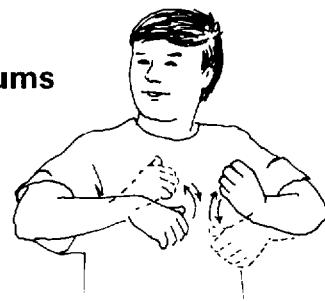
**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** brush hands up and down  
**Chest:**

**bind, knot, tie**



**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands to mimic  
 tying a knot

**drum, play drums**



**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists alternately up  
 and down

**wash**



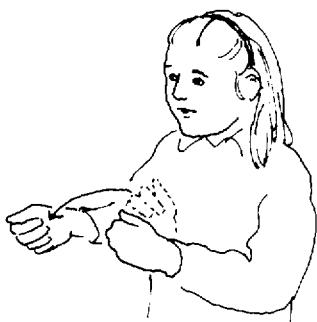
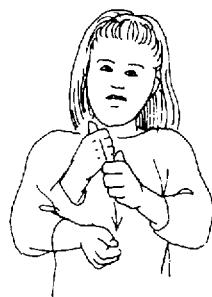
**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rub hands together in  
 circular motion

**chew**



**Handshape:** A : A  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** grind knuckles against one  
 another

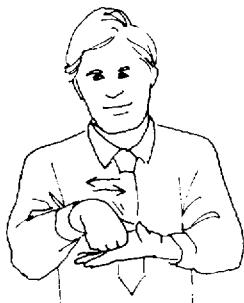
## 2-Hand SIGNS • A

**pass by****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** palms facing; right hand behind left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right hand past left hand**guitar****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** right hand near waist; left hand near shoulder**Movement:** twist right hand up and down**each (SM);  
every (DM)****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** right palm left, right hand behind left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand down back of left thumb**zip (SM);  
zipper (DM)****Handshape:** A : A**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** waist**Movement:** slide right hand up chest**polish, rub,  
sandpaper,  
shine shoes****Handshape:** A : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand back and forth across left palm**knock****Handshape:** A : Open B**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** knock right knuckles on left palm twice



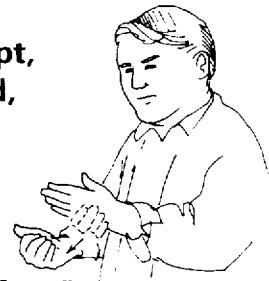
## A 2-Hand SIGNS

**iron, press**



**Handshape:** A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand back and forth across left palm

**expert, adept,  
experienced,  
sharp, skill,  
talent**



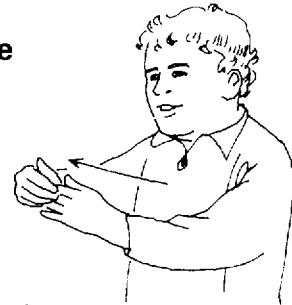
**Handshape:** A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, right hand gripping edge of left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** pull right hand sharply off left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

**dollar**



**Handshape:** A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, right hand gripping top of left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand along left hand

**lead, guide**



**Handshape:** A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, right hand gripping left hand fingertips; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** pull left hand forward with right hand

**turtle**



**Handshape:** A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down, left hand on top of right hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right thumb up and down twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS A

**hide, conceal, take cover****Handshape:** A : Open B**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down**Location:** right thumb on lower lip; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** slide right thumb down chin and below left palm, ending with right thumb showing**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered**cracker,  
matzoh  
(passive)****Handshape:** A : passive**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right**Location:** right hand near left elbow; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** tap right hand on left elbow twice**banana****Handshape:** A : 1**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right hand down left index finger twice**practice, drill,  
exercise, rehearse****Handshape:** A : 1**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right hand back and forth along left index finger**Nonmanual signal:** body tense; head tilted left; lips taut



## A 2-Hand SIGNS

**trick, betray,  
cheat, deceive,  
defraud, fraud**



**Handshape:** A : 1

**Orientation:** right palm out, right hand behind left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** sharply knock right hand on left index finger

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**give up,  
forfeit,  
relinquish,  
surrender,  
yield**



**Handshape:** A > 5 : A > 5

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** thrust hands up, changing to 5 handshape

**Nonmanual signal:** head and body thrown back; "discouraged" expression

**without**



**Handshape:** A > 5 : A > 5

**Orientation:** palms facing; hands touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** separate hands, changing to 5 handshape

**bless**



**Handshape:** A > 5 : A > 5

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** lips

**Movement:** move hands down and out, changing to 5 handshape

**Nonmanual signal:** head lowered

**shape, figure,  
form, image,  
sculpture,  
statue**



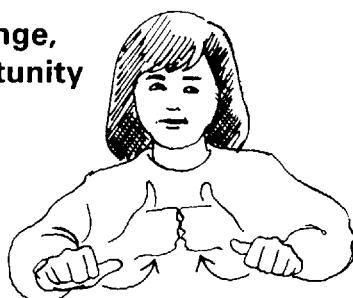
**Handshape:** Open A : Open A

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** wiggle hands and move them down

**challenge,  
opportunity**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc hands up, ending with palms in and fingers touching

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN A

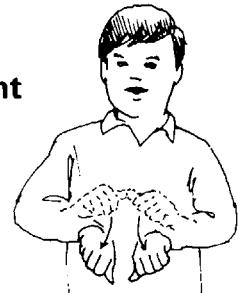


**continue,  
endure, ever,  
permanent,  
persevere,  
persist,  
remain,  
stay, still**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms down, thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slowly push hands forward

**deposit,  
down payment**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms down, thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands, ending with thumbs down

**deny  
(declare  
untrue)**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** chin  
**Movement:** move thumbs out and down  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

**live, address,  
alive, life,  
reside,  
survive**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush hands up chest

**sweetheart,  
beau, lover**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms in, knuckles touching  
**Location:** left side of chest  
**Movement:** bend thumbs down and up twice

**baptism,  
Baptist,  
baptize**



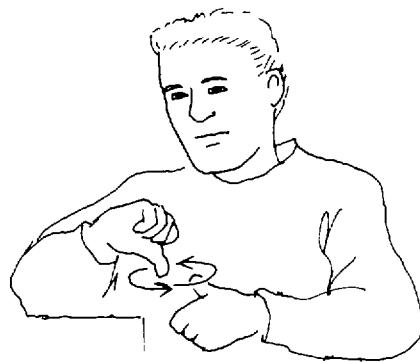
**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists to the right and back up



## OPEN A • 2-Hand SIGNS

**associate, fellowship,  
interact, socialize**

**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** right palm out, thumb down; left palm in, thumb up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle thumbs around each other

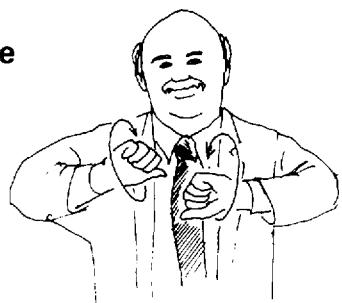


**which, or,  
whether**

**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands up and down, alternating positions  
**Nonmanual signal:** torso leans forward; head tilts right; eyebrows knit; lips pursed

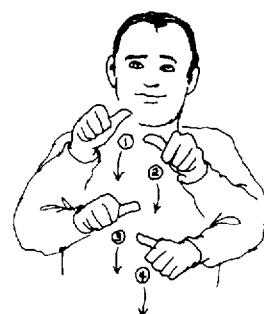


**science**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms out, thumbs down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands back and down, alternating positions

**puzzle  
(game)**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move thumbs down twice, alternating hands

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN A

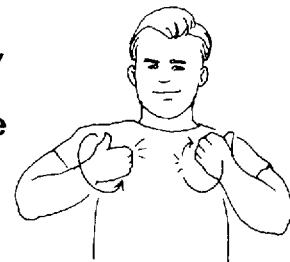


**compete,  
contest, race,  
rivalry,  
sports, vie**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing, knuckles touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rotate hands back and forth, alternating positions

**ambitious,  
assertive,  
aggressive**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** brush hands against chest in circular motions, alternating positions  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut; "earnest" expression

**act, audition, drama, perform,  
play, show, theater  
(actor, actress, performer)**



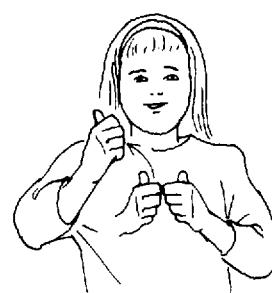
**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** circle alternating hands back and down, brushing backs of thumbs against chest

**brag,  
show off**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** waist  
**Movement:** bounce alternating thumbs on waist twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** torso leans back; chest puffs out

**most**



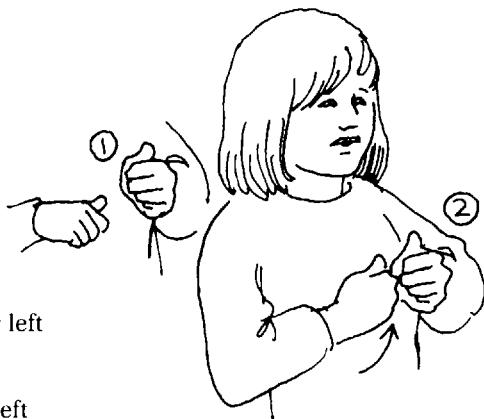
**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing, knuckles touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right knuckles up and above left hand



## OPEN A • 2-Hand SIGNS

**behind,  
in back of**

**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** right palm down, closer to body; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing right hand up and behind left thumb

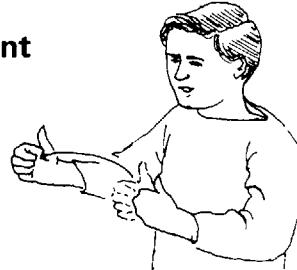


**ahead**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand behind left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand past left hand

**far, distant**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing, knuckles touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right hand forward with an exaggerated motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans back; "cha" mouth utterance

**avoid, evade,  
shirk**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rapidly wiggle right hand back

**chase,  
follow,  
pursue**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand behind left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** spiral right hand toward left hand while left hand moves forward

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN A



**remember,  
memory,  
recall,  
recollect,  
remind**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open A

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** right thumb on temple; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down until thumbs touch

**danger, injure,  
peril, threat,  
violate**



**Handshape:** Open A : A

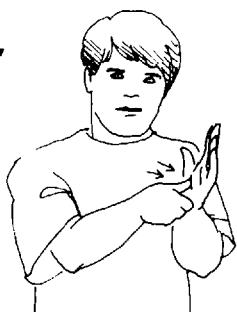
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush right thumb against back of left hand twice

**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

**doorbell, bell,  
ring bell**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** press right thumb into left palm twice

**carve,  
sculpt**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** dig right thumb into left palm twice

**impress, emphasis,  
emphasize, stress**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm out, thumb on left palm; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** twist hand forward

**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut; "earnest" expression



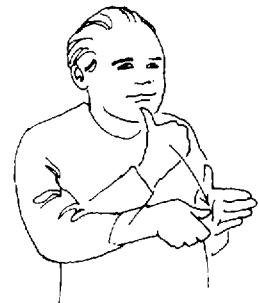
## OPEN A ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**page,  
dictionary**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, thumb on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush thumb up left palm twice

**letter, mail**



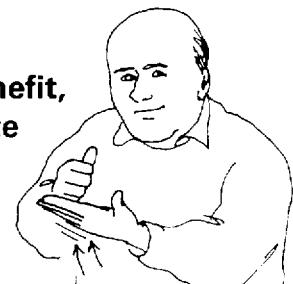
**Handshape:** Open A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right  
**Location:** right thumb on lower lip; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right hand down, ending with thumb on left palm

**surgery,  
operation**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, thumb near left thumb; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right thumb down left palm

**help, aid,  
assist, benefit,  
rehabilitate**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** lift right hand up with left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression

**blame, fault,  
guilt (SM);  
accuse (DM)**



**Handshape:** Open A : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right hand sharply across back of left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

**establish,  
erect,  
form (v.),  
install, set up**

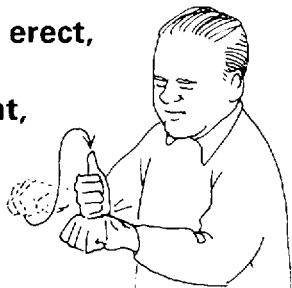


**Handshape:** Open A : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing right hand up and bring down on top of left hand

## 2-Hand SIGNS ▶ B

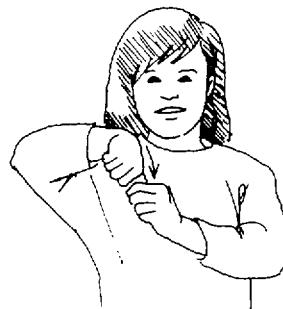


**establish, erect,  
form (v.),  
implement,  
install,  
set up**



**Handshape:** Open A : S  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing right hand up and bring down on top of left hand

**gasoline,  
gas**



**Handshape:** Open A : S  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** insert thumb into left fist

**defecate, bowel movement,  
feces**



**Handshape:** Open A : S  
**Orientation:** right palm left, thumb tucked in bottom of left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right thumb out of left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** nose wrinkled; "disgusted" expression

**close, shut**

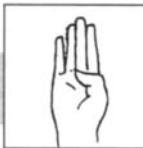


**Handshape:** B : B  
**Orientation:** palms out, arms parallel  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hands together

**open  
(horizontal)**



**Handshape:** B : B  
**Orientation:** palms down; index fingers touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands up and over, ending with palms angled up



## B 2-Hand SIGNS

**open  
(vertical)**



**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** palms out; index fingers touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc hands back, ending with palms facing

**behavior**



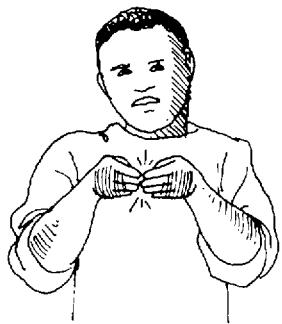
**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** swing hands side to side in unison

**corner**



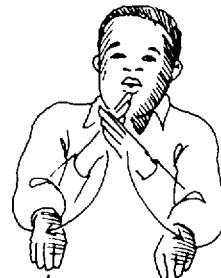
**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** palms facing; fingertips angled toward each other

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** tap fingertips together twice

**quiet, calm**



**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right; hands crossed

**Location:** mouth

**Movement:** arc hands down and apart, ending with palms down

**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

**blanket**



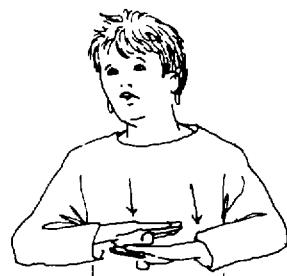
**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bounce hands against chest twice

**relief**



**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left hand

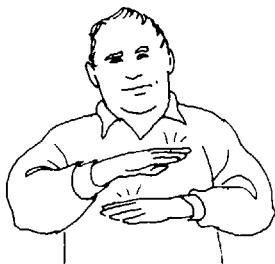
**Location:** chest

**Movement:** slide hands down chest

**Nonmanual signal:** lips rounded; exaggerated exhale

2-Hand SIGNS  B

**satisfied,  
content,  
gratified**



**Handshape:** B : B

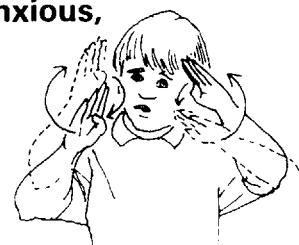
**Orientation:** palms down; right hand above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** tap hands against chest

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed;  
"contented" expression

**trouble, anxious,  
cares,  
concern,  
fret,  
worry**



**Handshape:** B : B

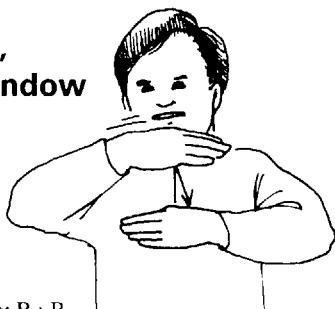
**Orientation:** palms angled toward each other

**Location:** head

**Movement:** circle hands inward in  
alternating motions

**Nonmanual signal:** "worried" expression

**window,  
open window**



**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** palms in; edge of right hand on left index finger

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move right hand up and down

**open door (SM);  
door (DM)**



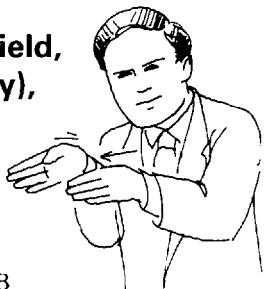
**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** palms out, index fingers touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc right hand back,  
ending with palm left

**specialize, field,  
major (study),  
specialty**



**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** right palm left, edge of right hand on left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right hand forward along left index finger

**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression

**kick, soccer**

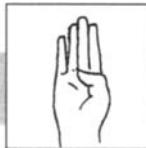


**Handshape:** B : B

**Orientation:** right palm left, fingertips down; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** swing right hand up,  
knocking into left hand



## B 2-Hand SIGNS

**partial to,  
favorite**



**Handshape:** B : B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, fingertips on left index finger; left palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right fingertips against left index finger twice

**autumn, fall  
(passive)**



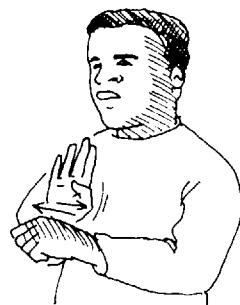
**Handshape:** B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm down, near left elbow; left arm across body  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right hand down left elbow twice

**slippers**



**Handshape:** B : C  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand into left hand twice

**busy,  
business**



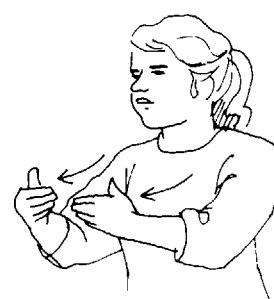
**Handshape:** B : S  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush heel of right hand back and forth against left index finger

**partial  
to (an  
individual)**



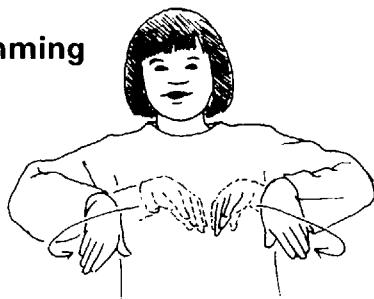
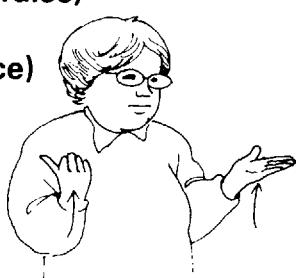
**Handshape:** B : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm left, fingertips touching left index finger; left palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right fingertips on left index finger twice

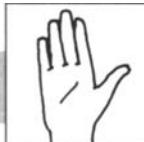
**advance,  
forward,  
go ahead,  
onward,  
proceed**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** glide hands forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** "mm" mouth utterance

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

**floor****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** separate hands**children****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bounce hands apart**swimming****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** palms down; index fingers touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle hands out and around**not, do not,  
don't do that****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** palms down, hands crossed**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** separate hands sharply**Nonmanual signal:** frown with "stern" expression**rise, arise, raise,  
stand up  
(to audience)****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** palms up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** lift both hands up in unison**here,  
present****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** palms up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands together and apart in short quick motions



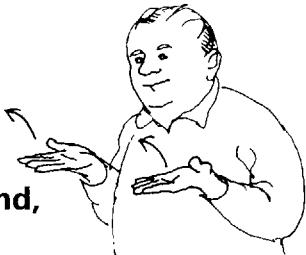
## OPEN B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**things**



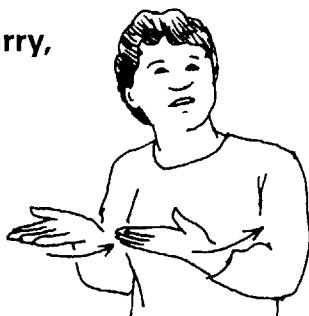
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, hands close together  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hands apart  
**Note:** See page 51 for a one-hand variation.

**offer,  
introduce  
(a topic),  
propose,  
recommend,  
suggest**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands up and forward in unison

**bring, carry,  
deliver**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands left

**volleyball**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** near sides of head  
**Movement:** push hands up twice

**Sunday**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands out twice

**attention,  
concentrate,  
focus, pay  
attention**

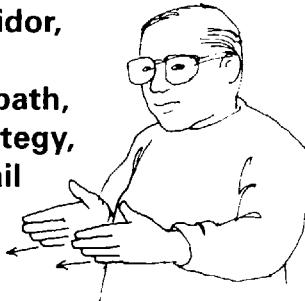


**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** near temples  
**Movement:** move hands forward sharply

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B



**way, corridor,  
hallway,  
method, path,  
road, strategy,  
street, trail**



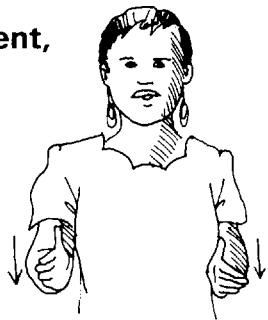
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands forward

**allow,  
condone,  
grant, let,  
may,  
permit,  
tolerate**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands forward and up,  
 ending with fingers forward

**person, agent,  
individual**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers forward  
**Location:** in front of shoulders  
**Movement:** move hands down

**arrange,  
order (n.),  
plan, prepare**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** loop hands right  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed;  
 "thoughtful" expression

**narrow**

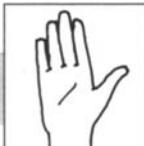


**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** "cz" mouth utterance

**wide,  
broad,  
width**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands apart  
**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance



## OPEN B • 2-Hand SIGNS

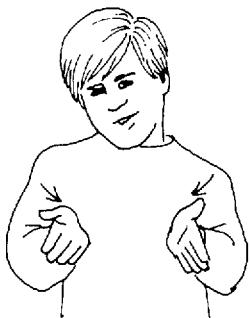
**encourage,  
cheer, uplift**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up; wrists bent back  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** push hands toward each other in two small motions  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



**convince,  
cornered**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms angled up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** chop hands down sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



**abhor, avoid,  
detest, hate,  
loathe**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** push hands sharply to left side  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans away from repelling reference; "disgusted" expression

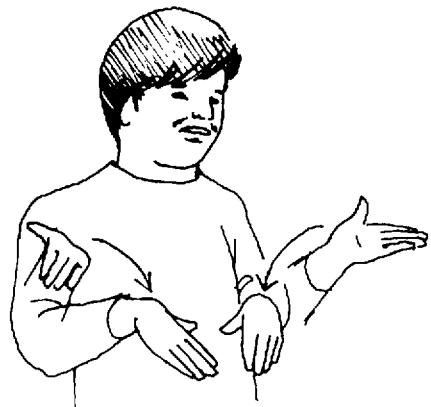
**introduce (person)**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, fingers forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands to center, ending with fingertips facing  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

**bet**

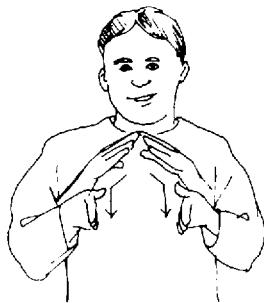
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, fingers forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip hands over with exaggerated motion, ending with palms down  
**Nonmanual signal:** body and head lean back; eyes widen

**dark, darken,  
dim**

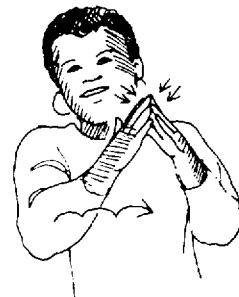
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** cross hands in front of face  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered

**compare,  
distinguish**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** rock hands back and forth, several times

**house,  
residence**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing; fingertips touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands apart and down

**city,  
community,  
town,  
village**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips close together  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap fingertips together several times while moving hands left



## OPEN B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**general**

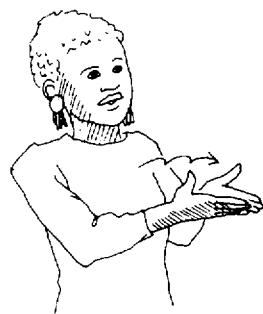
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips forward and touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**hinge**

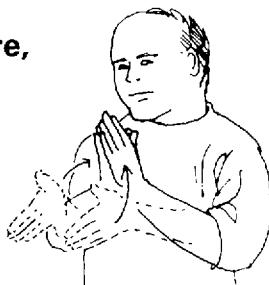
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** close and open hands

**butterfly**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in, hands crossed and thumbs clasped  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flutter hands

**boat,  
go by boat**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hands forward

**ask, inquire,  
request**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists up, then bring hands together, ending with palms touching

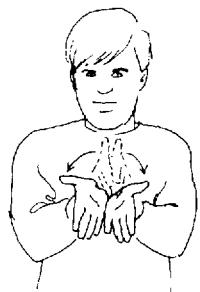
**pray, amen**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms touching  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** arc hands in toward body  
**Nonmanual signal:** head lowers as hands move down

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

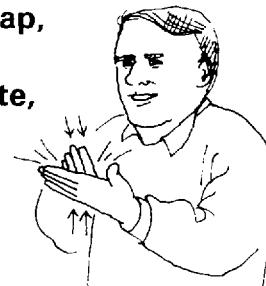


**book,  
open a book**



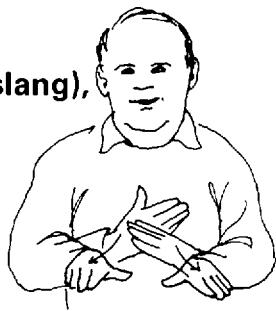
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms touching, fingers forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands, ending with little fingers touching

**applaud, clap,  
commend,  
congratulate,  
praise**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** clap hands twice

**divide,  
go-Dutch (slang),  
split**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in, hands crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands apart

**sandwich (SM);  
picnic (DM)**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand on top of left hand  
**Location:** near mouth  
**Movement:** move hands toward mouth twice

**pants, slacks**



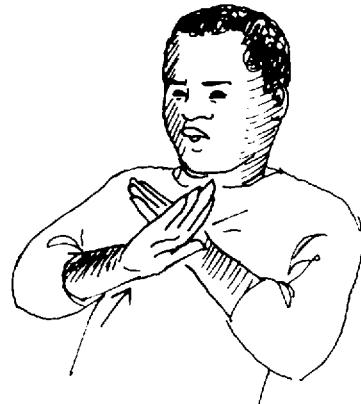
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers down  
**Location:** near left thigh  
**Movement:** slide hands down in front of left thigh, then repeat motion on right thigh



## OPEN B • 2-Hand SIGNS

**prevent (me),  
block (me)**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand crossed in front of left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** hit edge of left hand with right index finger, then bring hands in toward body  
**Nonmanual signal:** body and head thrown back; "discouraged" expression

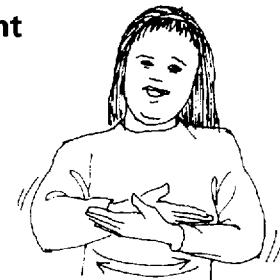


**block, defend,  
guard,  
prevent,  
protect**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand crossed behind left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** push hands forward sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**baby, infant**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand inside left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rock arms side to side

**lean, drawn**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** face  
**Movement:** slide fingers down face  
**Nonmanual signal:** cheeks sucked in

**grateful,  
appreciative,  
thankful**

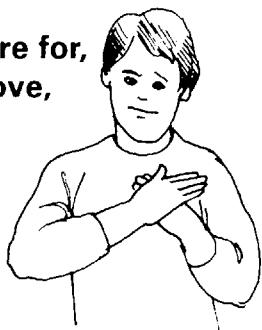


**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** right fingertips on mouth; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move both hands forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; "grateful" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B



**beloved, care for,  
devotion, love,  
revere**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in; hands crossed;  
right hand on left hand

**Location:** left side of chest

**Movement:** rest hands on heart

**rest, relax,  
retire**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

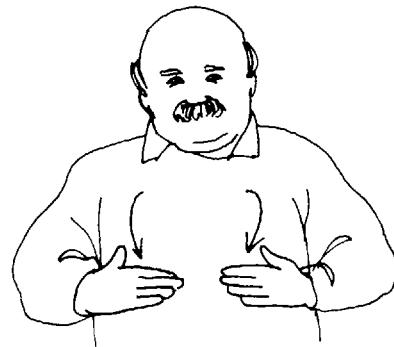
**Orientation:** palms in, arms crossed

**Location:** chest

**Movement:** rest hands on chest

**Nonmanual signal:** "contented" expression

**body, physical**



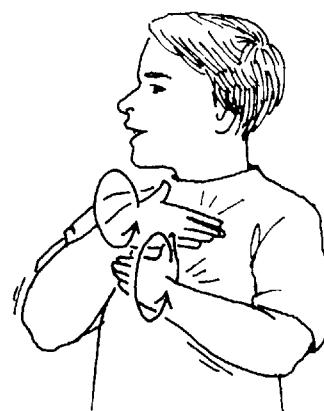
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** chest

**Movement:** tap fingertips on chest, then on waist

**happy, delight,  
glad, joy, merry**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand

**Location:** chest

**Movement:** brush hands up and off chest twice

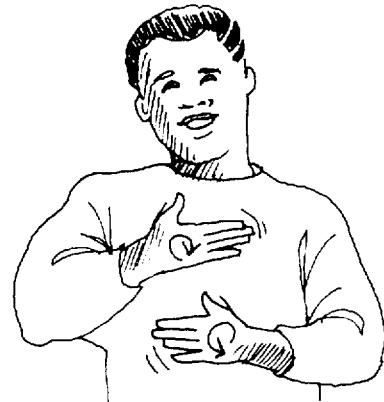
**Nonmanual signal:** smile



## OPEN B • 2-Hand SIGNS

**enjoy, appreciate,  
joy, pleasure**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** move hands in small opposing circles  
 on chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile



**breathe, exhale**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** move hands out and back to chest twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** chest expands and contracts;  
 blow air out repeatedly



**admit, acquiesce,  
confess, consent,  
give in, willing, yield**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands up and forward, ending with  
 palms angled up  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head  
 lowered; "contrite" expression



## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B



**box, package,  
room**



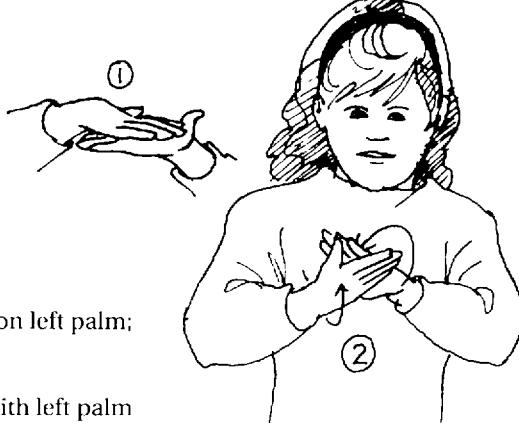
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers forward

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands down, then bend wrists in,  
palms in, and move hands down

**become**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left palm;  
left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** flip hands over, ending with left palm  
on right palm

**peace**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on top of left  
palm; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** twist hands slowly, reversing palm  
positions, then separate hands, ending with  
palms down

**Nonmanual signal:** "serene" expression



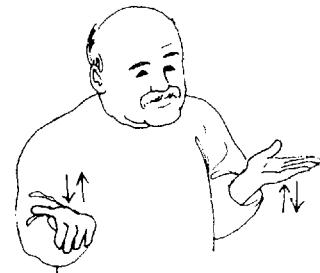
## OPEN B • 2-Hand SIGNS

**die, dead,  
death,  
expire**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm up; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip hands over  
**Nonmanual signal:** "sad" expression

**may,  
maybe,  
might,  
perhaps**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands alternately up and down  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders shrug; eyes widen

**service,  
serve,  
wait on**



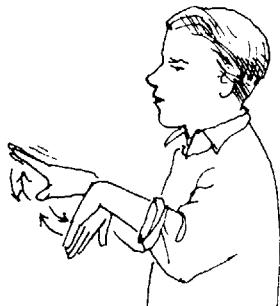
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide hands alternately back and forth twice

**serve  
(server,  
waiter,  
waitress)**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** slide hands alternately back and forth

**walk**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend hands alternately up and down at the wrist

**stairs,  
steps**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand higher than left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move left hand above right hand, then right hand above left hand, and repeat

## 2-Hand SIGNS OPEN B

**ancestors, generations**

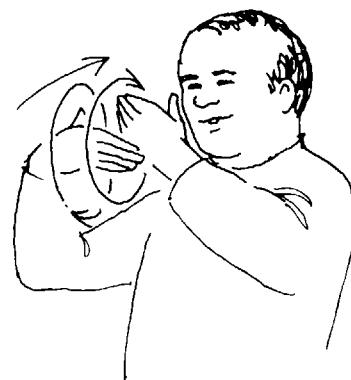
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in, one hand in front of the other

**Location:** near right shoulder

**Movement:** circle hands around each other while moving them back

**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder tilts back

**hands, manual**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in, right hand behind left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush back of right hand down left palm, then brush back of left hand down right palm

**descendants, generations,  
posterity**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

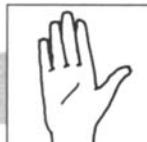
**Orientation:** palms in, one hand in front of the other

**Location:** near right shoulder

**Movement:** circle hands around each other while moving them forward

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward





## OPEN B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**anyhow, anyway, despite,  
doesn't matter, indifferent,  
nevertheless, regardless,  
whenever**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in, right hand in front of left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slap right fingers against left fingers, then  
slap left fingers against right fingers



**ambitious, diligent, eager,  
enthusiastic, industrious,  
Methodist, zealous**

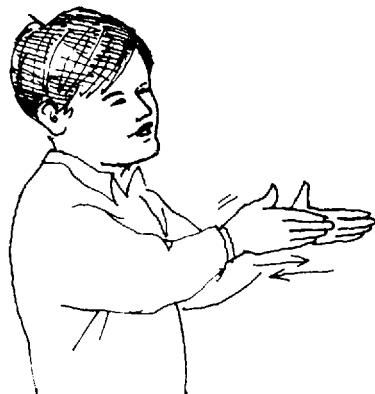
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms together

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** rub hands back and forth several times

**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression



**heaven**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** above head

**Movement:** move right hand under left, then  
circle hands in opposite directions

**Nonmanual signal:** eyes gaze upward



## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B



**kind, generous,  
gracious, merciful**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in, right hand closer to body

**Location:** left side of chest

**Movement:** circle hands around each other while slowly moving them forward

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; "grateful" expression



**towel,  
wash**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** face

**Movement:** move hands alternately up and down several times

**complete,  
end**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide edge of right hand across and off left index finger, then bring hand down

**confront, approach,  
face to face**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand closer to body

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc right hand up to face left hand

**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression



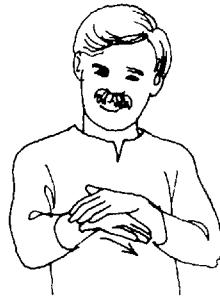
## OPEN B • 2-Hand SIGNS

**below, background, basic, basis,  
beneath, bottom, basement,  
foundation, underneath**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand below left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle right hand counterclockwise under left hand



**bake, oven**



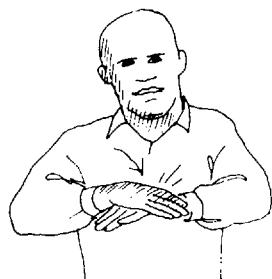
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm up, hands perpendicular; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand under left hand

**above, over**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand below left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right hand in toward body, then above left hand

**on**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down on top of left hand

**off**

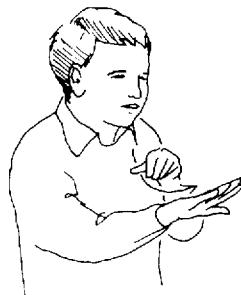


**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand crossed on top of left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** lift right hand off left hand

## 2-Hand SIGNS ➡ OPEN B

**than**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands angled toward each other, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slap fingers of right hand on and past fingers of left hand

**enter,  
entrance,  
go into**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands angled toward each other  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand under left hand

**warn,  
admonish,  
advise, alert,  
caution,  
forewarn**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands angled toward each other, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** smack back of left hand twice with fingers of right hand

**surface, cover,  
superficial**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand crossed on top of left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand back and forth along left hand

**operate,  
execute,  
run**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm up, hand below left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** quickly brush right fingers up and off left fingertips twice

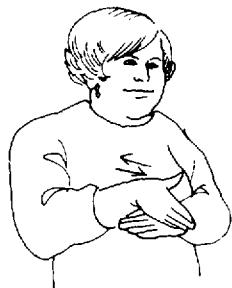
**time out**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, fingertips under left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** hit middle of left palm twice with right fingertips



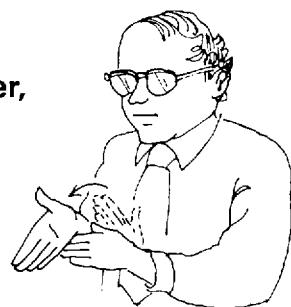
## OPEN B • 2-Hand SIGNS

**wood,  
saw**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, edge of hand on back of left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide edge of right hand back and forth across back of left hand

**across,  
cross over,  
over**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand behind left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** cross right hand over left hand

**laid off,  
discharge,  
dismiss,  
excuse**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply slide right fingers down and off left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**clean, nice,  
plain, pure,  
simple**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, palm on top of left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right palm across left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**wash dishes**



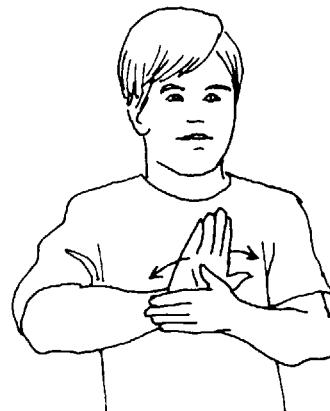
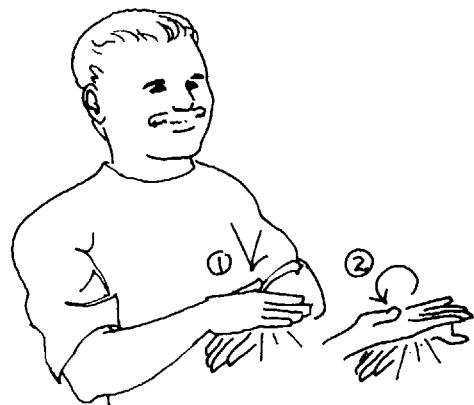
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on top of left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand counter-clockwise on left palm

**paper,  
manuscript,  
newspaper,  
page**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** smack heel of right hand twice against heel of left hand

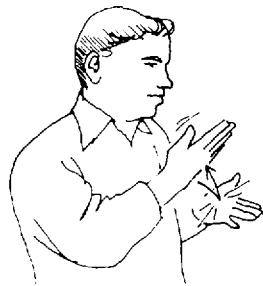
## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

**school****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** clap palms together twice**college,  
university****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** spiral right hand up**cheese****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out, heel of right hand on left palm; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** twist right wrist back and forth several times**cook, fry, kitchen,  
pancake****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, hand crossed on top of left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** flip right hand over and back on left palm



## OPEN B • 2-Hand SIGNS

**proof,  
evidence**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** smack back of right hand down sharply on left palm

**arrive,  
reach**



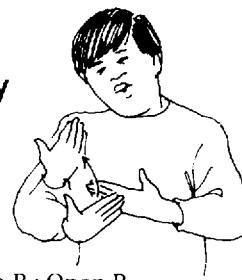
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand near shoulder  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right hand forward and down slowly, landing on left palm

**new,  
modern**



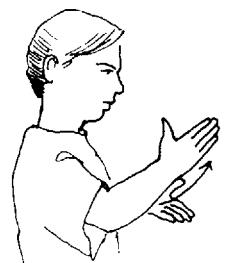
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, hands angled toward each other  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide back of right hand across left palm

**almost,  
about, nearly**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms angled up, right hand in front of left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush back of left fingers twice with right fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** "cz" mouth utterance

**rights,  
privileges**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, right pinky and ring fingertips on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide edge of right hand across left palm, ending with fingertips up  
**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

**all right,  
okay**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, edge of hand on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush edge of right hand across left palm twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

**stop, cease, halt**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand;  
 left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right hand down sharply on  
 left palm  
**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

**against, discriminate, oppose,  
prejudice, sue**

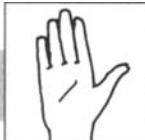
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, fingertips pointed at  
 left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** hit left palm sharply with fingertips  
 of right hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

**paint**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right fingertips up and  
 down left hand

**fish**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm  
 right, fingertips on right wrist  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right wrist left and right



## OPEN B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**cheap,  
inexpensive**



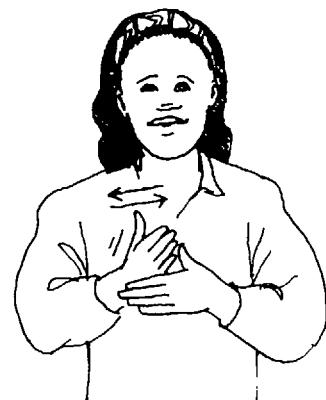
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slap right fingers down and off left palm

**psychology**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right hand down between left thumb and index finger twice

**average, medium,  
range, temperate**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, edge of hand resting on left index finger; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand back and forth along left index finger several times  
**Nonmanual signal:** "mm" mouth utterance

**share**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, slightly above left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing edge of right hand back and forth along left index finger twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

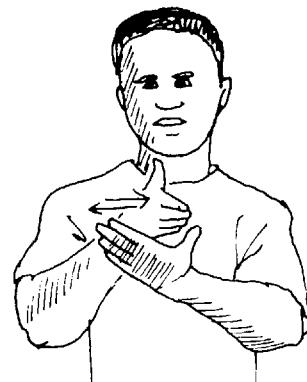
**between**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm left, edge in crease of left thumb; left palm in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right hand between thumb and knuckle of left index finger



**disrupt, hinder, impede,  
intercept, interfere, interrupt,  
obstruct, prevent (SM); annoy,  
bother, disturb (DM)**

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down sharply on edge of left hand

**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression



**after,  
beyond,  
next**



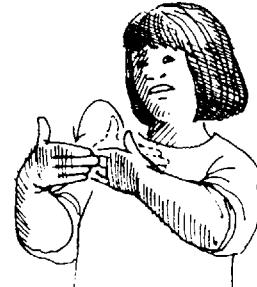
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in, palm of right hand against left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc right hand forward and down

**after, next**

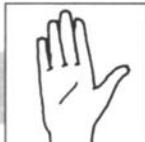
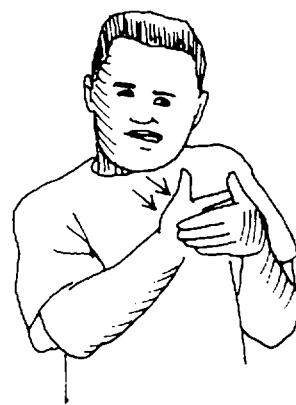


**Handshape:** Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** palms in, back of right hand against left palm

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc right hand up and over left hand

**before****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** palms in, back of right hand against left palm**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand toward body**all, entire,  
whole****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle right hand down and smack back of right hand into left palm**approach, close to,  
near, neighbor,  
next door, next to****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** palms in, right hand behind left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** hit back of right hand against left palm twice**Nonmanual signal:** "cz" mouth utterance;  
shoulders raised

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

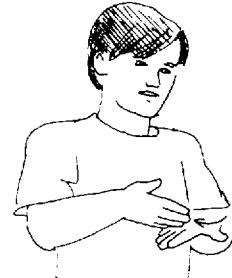


**gate,  
fence**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing right hand out and back twice

**some,  
part**



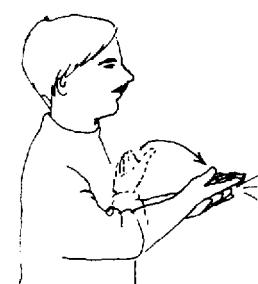
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, edge of hand on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand back in an arc on left palm

**videotape (v.),  
camcorder**



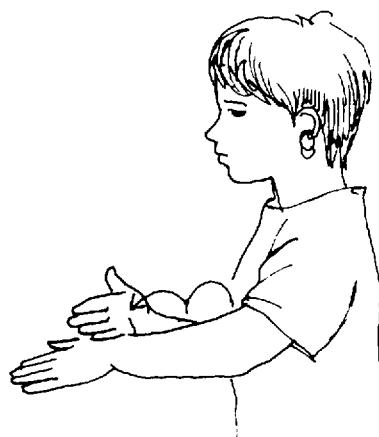
**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** slightly bend right fingers down and up twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder raised

**birth,  
born**



**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** right hand close to chest; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right hand forward and down, landing on left palm

**worsen, decrease, downhill,  
regress (passive)**

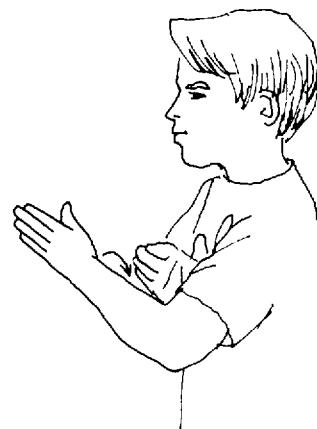


**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand on left arm; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right hand down left arm  
**Nonmanual signal:** "sad" expression



## OPEN B 2-Hand SIGNS

### **improve, appreciate, upgrade (passive)**



**Handshape:** Open B : passive

**Orientation:** right palm in, hand on left wrist;  
left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bounce right hand up left arm

**Nonmanual signal:** smile

### **power, authority, energy, might (passive)**



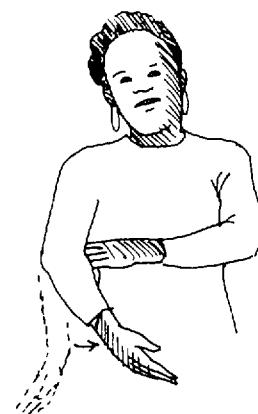
**Handshape:** Open B : passive

**Orientation:** right palm out, index finger against left  
upper arm; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc right hand down, ending with hand  
resting in left elbow crease, palm in

### **midnight (passive)**



**Handshape:** Open B : passive

**Orientation:** right palm left, arm relaxed at side; left  
palm down, fingertips in crease of right elbow

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move right hand left slightly

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B

**morning (passive)**

**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm up, arm outstretched;  
 left palm in, hand in crease of right elbow  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right arm up slightly

**noon (passive)**

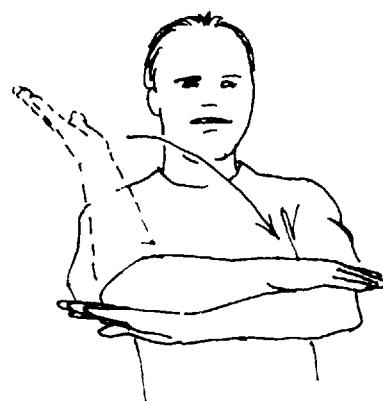
**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm left, elbow slightly above left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right arm down to rest elbow on back of left hand

**afternoon (passive)**

**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm out, arm against left wrist; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right arm against left arm twice

**all day (passive)**

**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm left, elbow on back of left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** dramatically bring right arm down to rest on left arm  
**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance





## OPEN B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

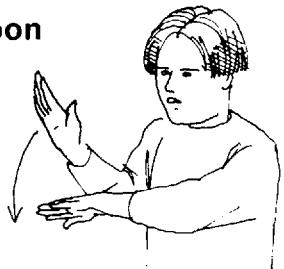
### all night (passive)

**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm down, fingers under right elbow  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing right arm clockwise, ending with palm up  
**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance



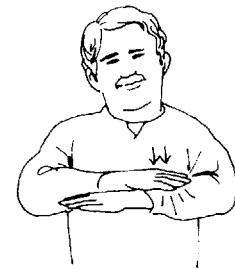
### all afternoon (passive)

**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm down, fingers under right elbow  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right arm down



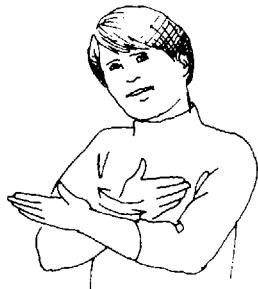
### table, desk (passive)

**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** palms down; right arm above left arm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap arms together twice



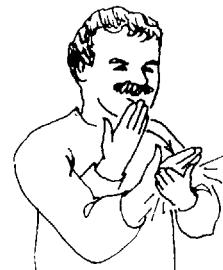
### sing, music (passive)

**Handshape:** Open B : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm in, above left arm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing right hand back and forth

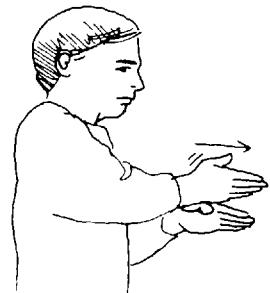
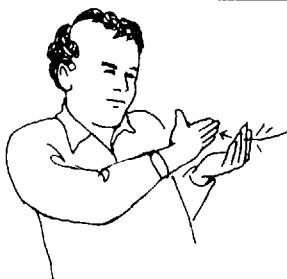


### good, well

**Handshape:** Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** right hand on mouth; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand out and smack back of hand on left palm  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile



## 2-Hand SIGNS ➡ OPEN B

**humble****Handshape:** Open B : Open B**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down  
**Location:** right hand on lips; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** pass right fingertips slowly under left hand**Nonmanual signal:** head lowered**straight,  
faithful,  
integrity****Handshape:** Open B : B**Orientation:** right palm left, pinky on top of left index finger; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand straight out**slight  
(insult)****Handshape:** Open B : Bent B**Orientation:** right palm left, hand in front of left hand; left palm up, fingers bent**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** sharply slap left fingers with right fingers**Nonmanual signal:** "wounded" expression**cover, lid****Handshape:** Open B : S**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand down to cover left hand**blow up, blow  
one's top  
(slang), hot  
temper****Handshape:** Open B : S**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left hand; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** lift right hand up while wiggling fingers, then bring hand down sharply on left hand**full,  
complete****Handshape:** Open B : S**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm in, hand closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right hand across top of left fist

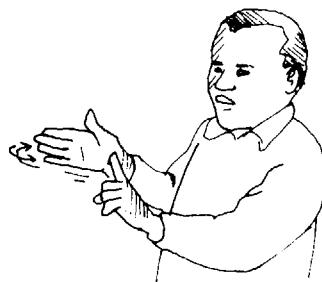

**OPEN B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS**

**fire,  
terminate**



**Handshape:** Open B : S  
**Orientation:** right palm up, directly above left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply brush back of right hand across top of left fist  
**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

**flag**



**Handshape:** Open B : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right, index finger on right wrist  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right wrist back and forth several times

**pressure, oppress,  
stress (an individual)**



**Handshape:** Open B : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** press right hand sharply down on left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed  
**Note:** See page 345 for a variation of this sign.

**convince  
(an individual)**



**Handshape:** Open B : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm up; left palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand to strike left index finger  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**through**



**Handshape:** Open B : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right fingers between left index and middle fingers

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN B



**depart,  
leave,  
withdraw**



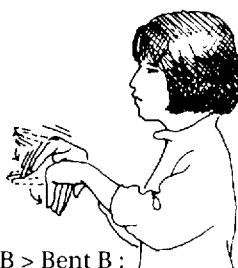
**Handshape:** Open B > A : Open B > A  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands angled to left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply pull hands in toward body, closing to A handshape

**donkey,  
mule,  
stubborn**



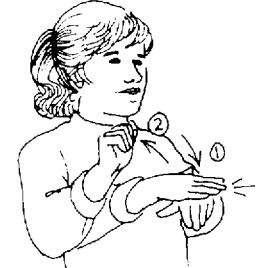
**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B : Open B > Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** thumbs on temples  
**Movement:** bend right and left fingers down twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut

**hypocrite,  
two-faced**



**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B : Open B > Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right palm on left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right and left fingers down  
**Nonmanual signal:** "sarcastic" expression

**call,  
summon**



**Handshape:** Open B > A : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right fingers on back of left hand, then brush fingers off left hand, ending in an A handshape

**pie**



**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide edge of right hand from left index finger to heel of left palm, then bend hand and slide hand from base of left thumb to left pinky


**OPEN B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS**
**center, intermediate, middle**

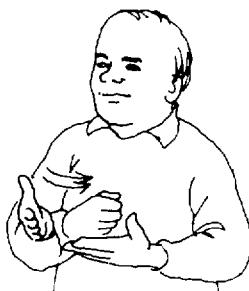
**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand;  
 left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle right fingers above left palm, then  
 bend fingers and hit center of palm


**frequent, often**

**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip right hand over twice, bending fingers,  
 and hit center of left palm  
**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance  
**Note:** See page 207 for a variation of this sign.


**pet (v.), tame,  
stroke (SM);  
pet (n.)(DM)**


**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right palm on  
 left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** stroke right fingers on back  
 of left hand twice

**accumulate,  
collect, earn,  
harvest, reap  
(SM); salary,  
income (DM)**


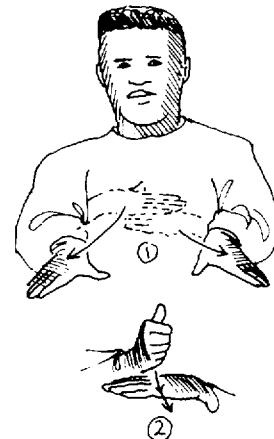
**Handshape:** Open B > S : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand rapidly down  
 left palm, closing to S handshape

## 2-Hand SIGNS ➤ BENT B



**not guilty**  
(compound: not + accuse)

**Handshape:** Open B > A : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands, then change right hand to A handshape and brush right hand across back of left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no" during first part of sign



**injustice**  
(compound: not + equal)

**Handshape:** Open B > Bent B : Open B > Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands, then change hands to Bent B handshape, and bring hands together twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no" during first part of sign



**limit, capacity,  
reserved, restrict**

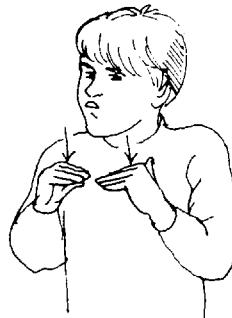
**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms in; right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrists out, ending with right fingers above left fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** "mm" mouth utterance





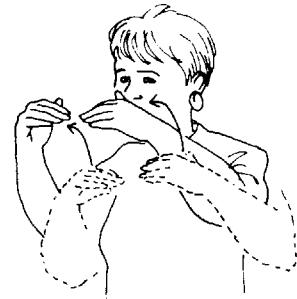
## BENT B 2-Hand SIGNS

**demote,  
debase,  
lower**



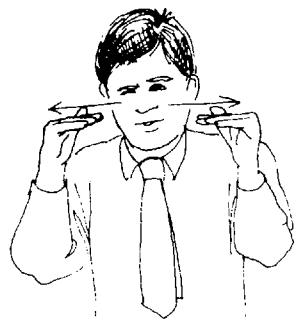
**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply move hands down  
 in unison

**promote,  
advance**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** dramatically arc hands up  
 in unison

**even**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips  
 almost touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands

**equal,  
equivalent,  
fair, justice**



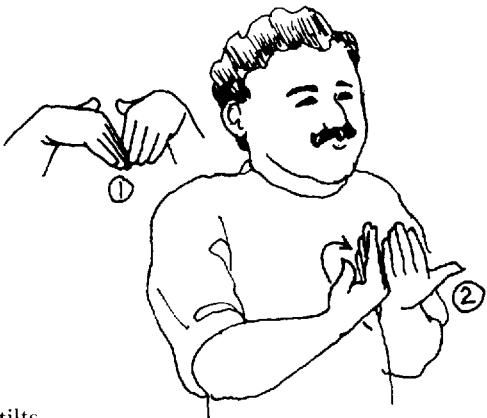
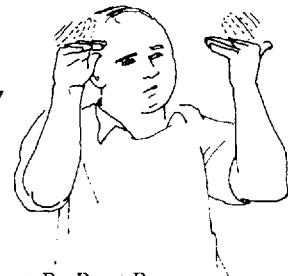
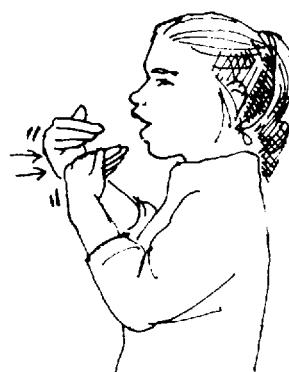
**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap fingertips together twice

**heavy**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hands down  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head  
 lowers; "strained" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT B

**how****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms down, index and middle fingernails touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** twist hands around, ending with palms up**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; "puzzled" expression**separate,  
apart, part****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms in; fingernails touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** separate hands**hope,  
anticipate,  
expect****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms facing; right hand near head**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend fingers down and up twice**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; eyes look up and left**sandwich (SM);  
picnic (DM)****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips toward mouth, right hand on left hand**Location:** near mouth**Movement:** move hands in twice toward mouth**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open



## BENT B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**responsibility,  
burden, fault,  
load, obligation**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B

**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips on right shoulder

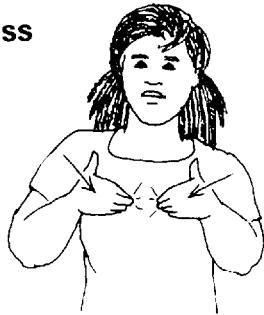
**Location:** right shoulder

**Movement:** tap shoulder twice with fingertips

**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression; head tilts right

**Note:** This sign can be made with the right hand only.

**have, possess**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring hands in to chest

**tired,  
exhausted,  
weary**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B

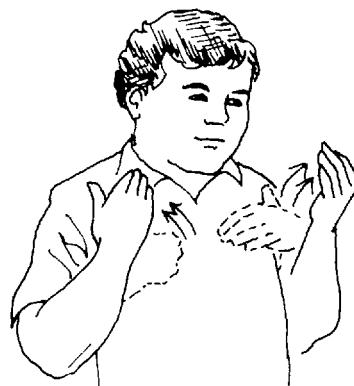
**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips on chest

**Location:** chest

**Movement:** twist hands forward and down, ending with fingers almost pointing up

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered

**young, youth**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B

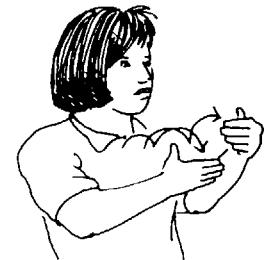
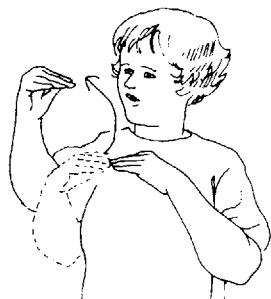
**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips on chest

**Location:** chest

**Movement:** brush fingers up and off chest twice

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT B

**balance, scales****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands up and down alternately**build,  
construct****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** alternately overlap hands  
while moving them up**process,  
procedure,  
progress****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms in; right hand closer  
to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** alternately circle hands  
around each other while moving them  
forward**exceed****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips  
touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc right hand up and above  
left hand**easy,  
simple****Handshape:** Bent B : Bent B**Orientation:** palms up, right hand below left**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right fingers against  
fingers of left hand twice**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



## BENT B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

### **little** (size of object)

**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand above left hand;  
 left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce right hand slightly  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; eyes look at  
 hands



### **reduce, decrease, diminish, discount, less, lessen**

**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm up  
**Location:** right hand near face; left hand in  
 neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders raised; "cz"  
 mouth utterance

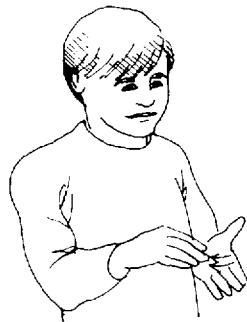


### **doctor, physician**



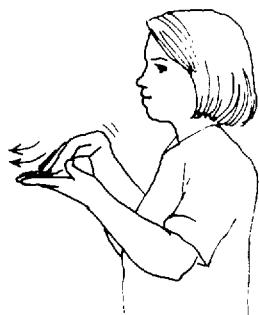
**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right fingers twice against  
 left wrist

### **soap**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** scrape right fingertips down  
 left palm twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT B

**scrape**

**Handshape:** Bent B > Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right fingertips down left hand twice

**again,  
repeat**

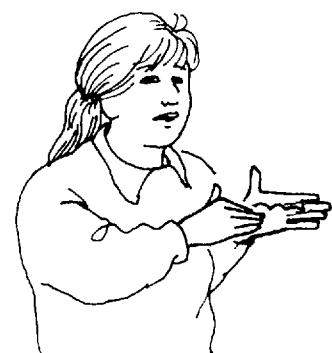
**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip right hand over, ending with fingertips in center of left palm

**thousand**

**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right fingertips down to touch left palm

**million**

**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right fingertips from left palm to fingertips

**frequently, often**

**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, fingertips on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right fingertips down left hand  
**Note:** See page 200 for a variation of this sign.



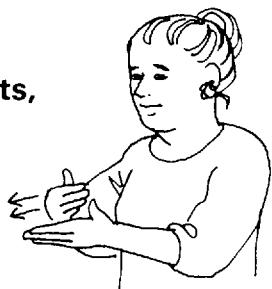
## BENT B • 2-Hand SIGNS

**excuse (n.), exempt,  
forgiveness, pardon (n.),  
parole (SM); pardon, excuse,  
forgive (v.) (DM)**

**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right fingers down and off left fingertips



**mortgage,  
installments,  
layaway**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand down left fingertips twice

**list, chapter,  
course, lesson,  
outline**



**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left fingertips; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right hand down left hand

**bread**



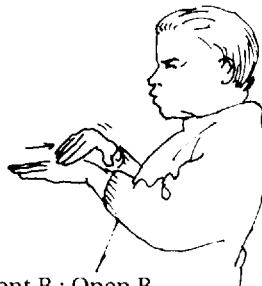
**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in; right hand in front of left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slice down back of left fingers with right fingers twice

**England,  
English**

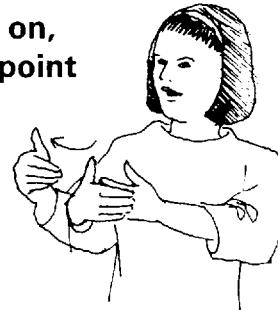


**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down; hands crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slightly pull hands in toward body twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT B

**slow**

**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down; right fingertips on left fingertips  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slowly slide right fingers back toward left wrist  
**Nonmanual signal:** "mm" mouth utterance

**from now on,  
from this point  
on**

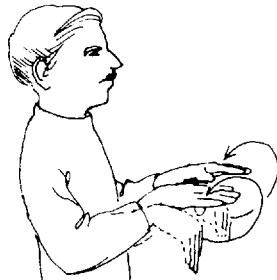
**Handshape:** Bent B : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand on back of left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right hand forward

**night (passive)**

**Handshape:** Bent B : passive  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** hit heel of right palm against back of left hand twice

**remind  
(one person)**

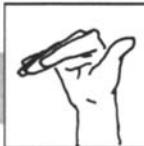
**Handshape:** Bent B : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand behind left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply tap right fingertips on left index finger twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

**bury,  
cemetery,  
grave**

**Handshape:** Bent B > Open B : Bent B > Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands up, straightening them, and pull them back toward body

**send,  
dispatch,  
refer,  
send away**

**Handshape:** Bent B > Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down; right fingertips on left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flick right fingertips off left hand



## BENT B ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**reject, cast off**

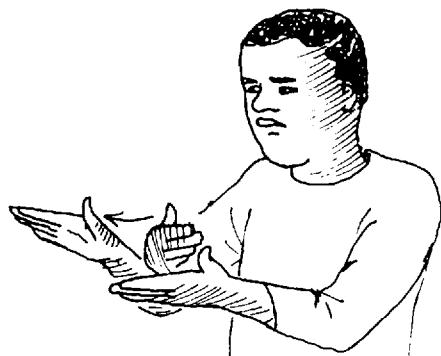
**Handshape:** Bent B > Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm in, hand on left palm;  
left palm up

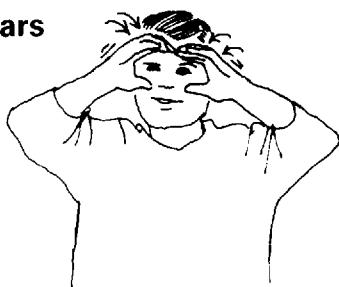
**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** sweep right hand sharply off  
left hand, straightening hand and ending  
with palm down

**Nonmanual signal:** "hurt" expression



**binoculars**



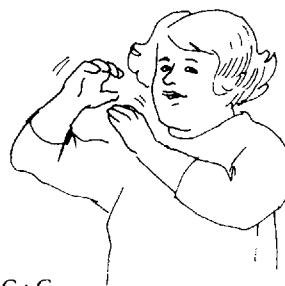
**Handshape:** C : C

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** eyes

**Movement:** twist hands in twice

**coconut**



**Handshape:** C : C

**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above  
left hand; left palm right

**Location:** near right ear

**Movement:** twist wrists slightly back  
and forth

**do, action, activity,  
deed, demeanor**



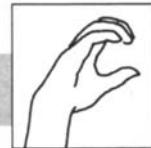
**Handshape:** C : C

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** swing hands in unison left and right twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS 2 C



**class, association, company,  
group, organization**



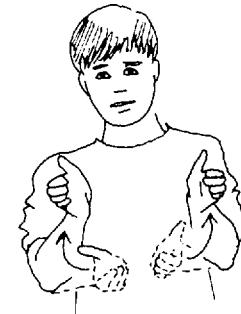
**Handshape:** C : C  
**Orientation:** palms out, thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands around, ending with palms in

**decorate,  
fancy**



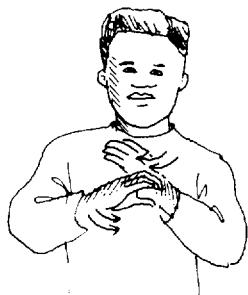
**Handshape:** C : C  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** spiral hands up

**bowl (dish)**



**Handshape:** C : C  
**Orientation:** palms up, hands nearly touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands up

**calculus**



**Handshape:** C : C  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush hands against each other twice

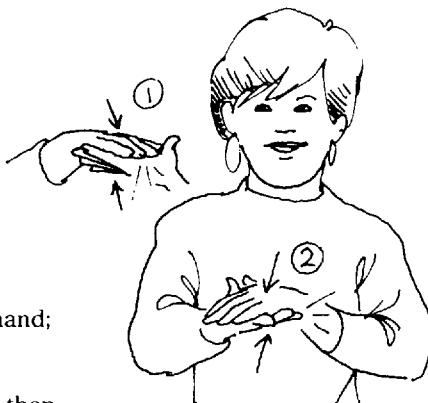
**client,  
consumer,  
customer**

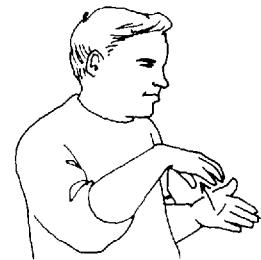
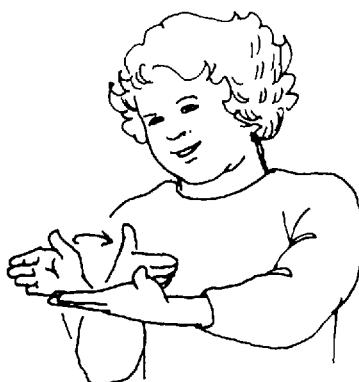


**Handshape:** C : C  
**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs on chest  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** slide hands down to waist



## C ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**marry****Handshape:** C : C**Orientation:** right palm angled out; left palm angled in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring hands together**communicate****Handshape:** C : C**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand near lips**Location:** face**Movement:** alternately move hands back and forth**comfortable****Handshape:** C : C**Orientation:** palms facing, left fingers on right fingers**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slowly slide left fingers down right fingers, then slide right fingers hand down left fingers**Nonmanual signal:** "contented" expression**hamburger****Handshape:** C : C**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down on left palm, then flip hands and bring left hand down on right palm

2-Hand SIGNS  C**certify****Handshape:** C : Open B**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** smack right hand down sharply on left palm**can, bottle, cup,  
glass, tumbler****Handshape:** C : Open B**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** double bounce right hand on left palm**cake****Handshape:** C : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand down left hand**Note:** See next sign and page 82 for variations of this sign.**cake****Handshape:** C : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand up slightly**Note:** See previous sign and page 82 for variations of this sign.**cream, skim (v.)****Handshape:** C : Open B**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left fingertips; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand down left palm, ending palm in



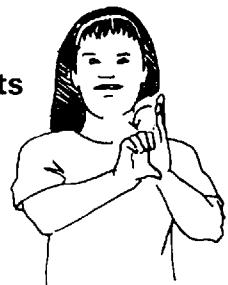
## C ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**picture,  
photograph**



**Handshape:** C : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** smack right hand against left palm

**constitution,  
commandments**



**Handshape:** C : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out, thumb against left fingers; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right hand down left hand

**paragraph**



**Handshape:** C : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right fingertips against left palm

**chapter**



**Handshape:** C : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand against left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right hand down left hand

**computer**



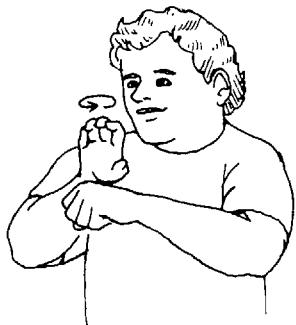
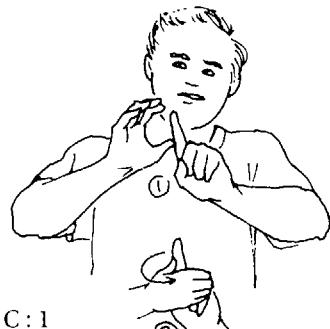
**Handshape:** C : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out, thumb above left wrist; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right hand up left arm in small spirals

**church**



**Handshape:** C : S  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand above left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce right hand on left hand

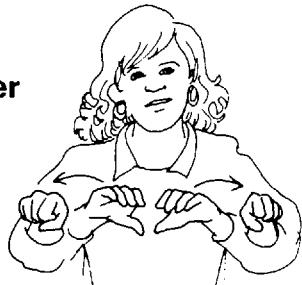
## 2-Hand SIGNS • C

**chocolate****Handshape:** C : S**Orientation:** right palm out, thumb on left hand; left palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle right hand on left hand**culture****Handshape:** C : 1**Orientation:** palms out, right thumb on left index finger**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** swing right hand around left index finger, ending palm in**force, coerce,  
compel, impel****Handshape:** C : 1**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm down, index finger at wrist of right hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend right wrist down**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder tilts forward; "serious" expression**president,  
superintendent****Handshape:** C > S : C > S**Orientation:** palms out**Location:** near head**Movement:** arc hands down and out, closing to S handshape**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture



## C ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**hot dog,  
frankfurter**



**Handshape:** C > S : C > S

**Orientation:** palms down, hands almost touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands apart, closing to S handshape

**summarize,  
abbreviate,  
brief,  
condense**



**Handshape:** C > S : C > S

**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand higher than left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring hands together, closing to S handshape and ending with right hand on left hand

**sausage**



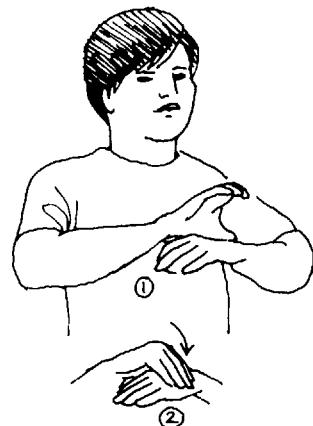
**Handshape:** C > S > C > S : C > S > C > S

**Orientation:** palms down, hands almost touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** close and open hands twice while moving them apart

**deflate, flat tire**



**Handshape:** C > Flattened O : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm out, thumb on left hand; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

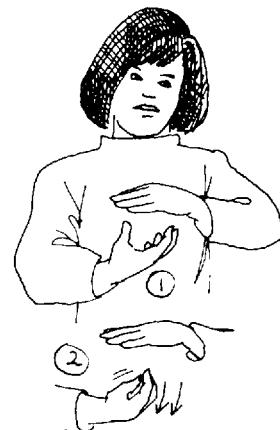
**Movement:** close right fingers down on left hand

## 2-Hand SIGNS C



**copy, photocopy,  
Xerox, xerography**

**Handshape:** C > Flattened O : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm up, hand below left palm;  
 left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down twice, closing  
 to Flattened O handshape



**subtract,  
deduct,  
eliminate,  
remove**



**Handshape:** C > S : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips  
 on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right fingertips down and  
 off left palm, closing to S handshape

**expire, all gone,  
run out**



**Handshape:** C > S : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand on left  
 palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand down left  
 hand, closing to S handshape

**tackle, catch, nab**

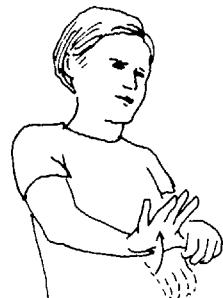


**Handshape:** C > S : H  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm in,  
 fingertips down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** grab left fingers with right hand



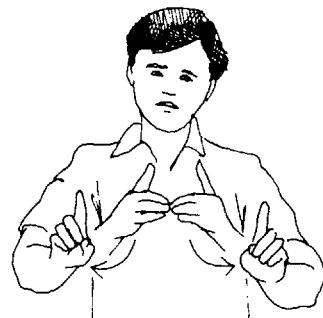
## C 2-Hand SIGNS

**incompetent,  
dumb, moron,  
thick-skulled,  
unskilled**



**Handshape:** C > 5 : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, right thumb inside left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply bend right wrist back, opening to 5 handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** "disparaging" expression

**divorce**



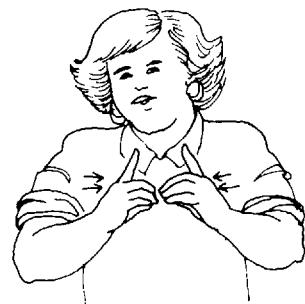
**Handshape:** D : D  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hands out, ending with palms out

**decoder**



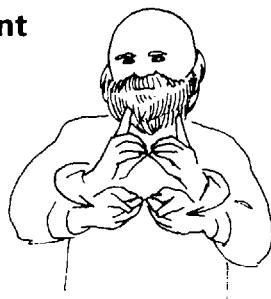
**Handshape:** D : D  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands apart and back together twice

**date  
(social)**



**Handshape:** D : D  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap fingertips together twice

**department**



**Handshape:** D : D  
**Orientation:** palms facing; fingertips touch  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands around, ending with fingers touching

**describe,  
define,  
direction**

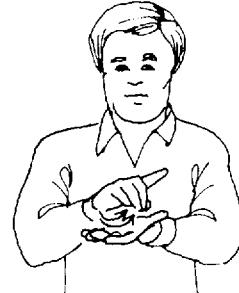


**Handshape:** D : D  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands alternately back and forth

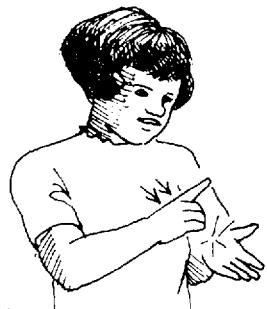
## 2-Hand SIGNS • D

**diamond**

**Handshape:** D : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce right hand down on left ring finger

**dictionary**

**Handshape:** D : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right fingertips on left palm twice

**doctor,  
physician**

**Handshape:** D : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand;  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right fingertips on left wrist twice

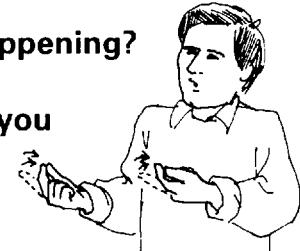
**develop**

**Handshape:** D : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, right fingertips on left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand up and off left palm

**day (passive)**

**Handshape:** D : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm left, elbow on left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right hand down to rest on left arm

**what's happening?  
what?  
what are you  
doing?**



**Handshape:** D > Baby O : D > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** open and close index fingers and thumbs, several times  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; "puzzled" expression



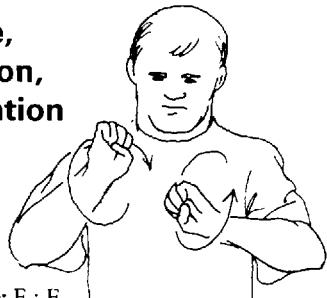
## E 2-Hand SIGNS

**effort**

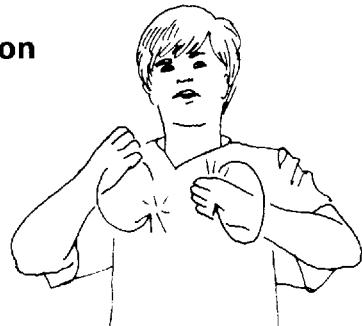
**Handshape:** E : E  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands down and out,  
 ending with palms out  
**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression

**education,  
educate**

**Handshape:** E : E  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** forehead  
**Movement:** double bounce hands forward

**evaluate,  
evaluation,  
examination**

**Handshape:** E : E  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** alternate hands in circling  
 toward center  
**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

**emotion**

**Handshape:** E : E  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** brush knuckles up chest  
 while making alternating circles

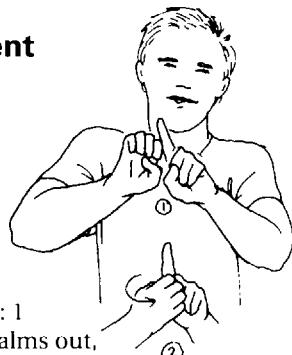
**encyclopedia**

**Handshape:** E : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand  
 above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right hand across left  
 palm twice

**engaged  
(to be  
married)**

**Handshape:** E : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down; right hand  
 above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand in a circle  
 and then land on left ring finger

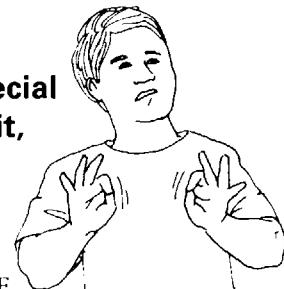
## 2-Hand SIGNS ↗ F

**environment**

Handshape: E : 1

Orientation: palms out,  
hands touching

Location: neutral space

Movement: rotate right hand around  
left index finger**nothing,  
nothing special  
nothing to it,  
petty**

Handshape: F : F

Orientation: palms out

Location: neutral space

Movement: shake hands side-to-side  
several timesNonmanual signal: lips pursed; body and  
head lean back**exact,  
perfect,  
precise**

Handshape: F : F

Orientation: palms facing, right hand  
closer to body

Location: neutral space

Movement: bend wrists toward each other  
in a short, quick motion

Nonmanual signal: lips tight

**feedback**

Handshape: F : F

Orientation: palms facing

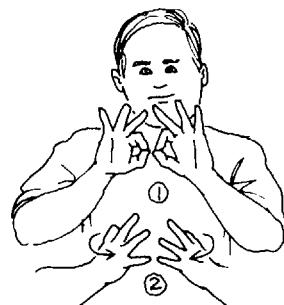
Location: neutral space

Movement: bend wrists toward each  
other twice**free**

Handshape: F : F

Orientation: right palm left; left palm  
right, wrists crossed

Location: neutral space

Movement: swing hands out and around,  
ending with palms out**family**

Handshape: F : F

Orientation: palms out, thumbs touching

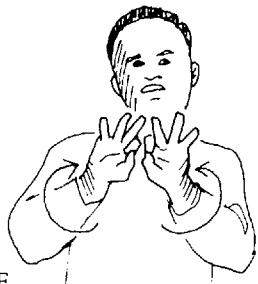
Location: neutral space

Movement: circle hands around, ending  
with pinkies touching



## F ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**important,  
imperative,  
significant,  
value, vital,  
worth**



**Handshape:** F : F  
**Orientation:** palms facing; thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands up, ending with thumbs touching, palms out  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilted back; "serious" expression

**caption,  
subtitle**



**Handshape:** F : F  
**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands apart and back together twice

**sentence**



**Handshape:** F : F  
**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands in wiggling motion

**belong,  
affiliate,  
attach,  
connect,  
enlist, join,  
unite,  
participate**



**Handshape:** F : F  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hands together, interlocking thumbs and index fingers

**cooperate**



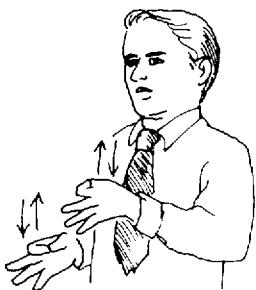
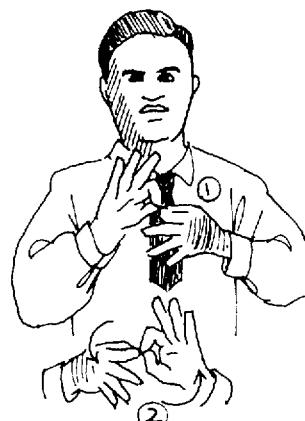
**Handshape:** F : F  
**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs and index fingers interlocked  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands right

**connection,  
relationship**



**Handshape:** F : F  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in, thumbs and index fingers interlocked  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands back and forth twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS F

**cat****Handshape:** F : F**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** cheeks**Movement:** brush hands across and off cheeks twice**Note:** See page 71 for a one-hand variation of this sign.**describe,  
define,  
explain****Handshape:** F : F**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands alternately back and forth**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; body and head lean back**judge, if****Handshape:** F : F**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** alternately move hands up and down**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight; "strained" expression**exchange,  
replace,  
trade****Handshape:** F : F**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc hands around each other to reverse positions**interpret, translate****Handshape:** F : F**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in, thumbs and index fingers touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** twist wrists to switch hand positions



## F 2-Hand SIGNS

### Olympics



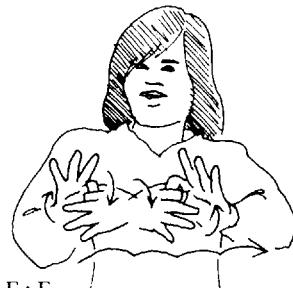
**Handshape:** F : F

**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in,  
thumbs and index fingers interlocked

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** unlock hands and reverse  
positions

### chain



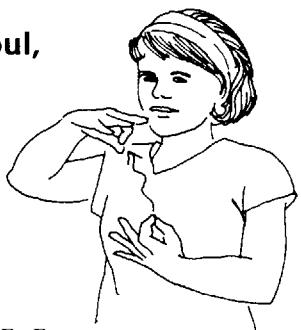
**Handshape:** F : F

**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in,  
thumbs and index fingers interlocked

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** unlock hands and reverse  
positions several times while moving  
hands right

### ghost, soul, spirit



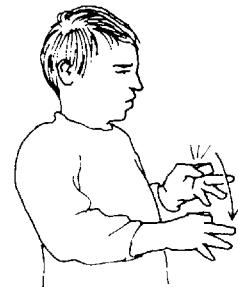
**Handshape:** F : F

**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm  
up, thumbs and index fingers touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** spiral right hand up

### unfair



**Handshape:** F : F

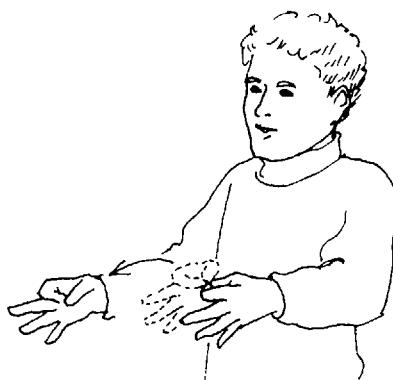
**Orientation:** palms  
facing, right hand above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down,  
brushing right thumb and index finger  
past left thumb and index finger

**Nonmanual signal:** "annoyed" expression

### defer, delay, postpone, procrastinate, put off



**Handshape:** F : F

**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs and index fingers  
touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc right hand deliberately forward

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; "annoyed" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS • F

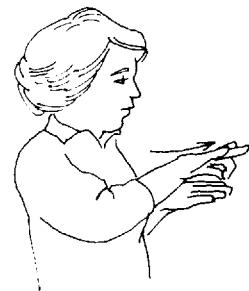


**field  
(profession)**



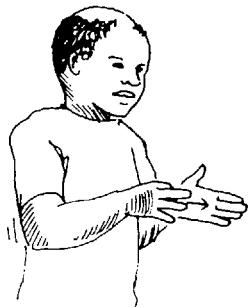
**Handshape:** F : B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, thumb and index finger on base of left index finger; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand along left index finger

**very  
religious,  
religion,  
religious**



**Handshape:** F : B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply brush right fingertips down and off left palm

**count**



**Handshape:** F : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing; right thumb and index finger on left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand down left hand

**flunk, fail,  
forbid**



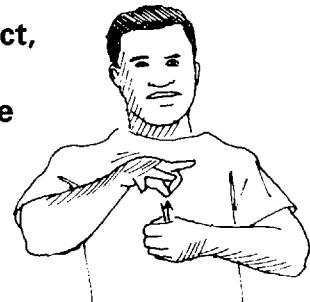
**Handshape:** F : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply smack right hand on left palm

**pen,  
write**



**Handshape:** F : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, thumb and index finger on left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** draw circles down left palm with right thumb and index finger

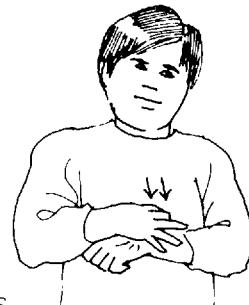
**vote, elect,  
election,  
nominate**



**Handshape:** F : O  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** dip right fingertips into left hand twice



## F 2-Hand SIGNS

**tea****Handshape:** F : O**Orientation:** right palm down, thumb and index finger in left hand; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle right thumb and index finger around left thumb and index finger**watch****Handshape:** F : S**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left wrist**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right hand on left wrist twice**foreign (passive)****Handshape:** F : passive**Orientation:** palms down, right hand at left elbow**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** make small circles on left elbow with right hand**except, unique****Handshape:** F : 1**Orientation:** right palm down, thumb and index finger grasping left index finger; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** pull left index finger up with right hand**Nonmanual signal:** body and head thrust back; lips pursed

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN F



**detach, break-up,  
disassociate, disconnect**



**Handshape:** F > 5 : F > 5

**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs and index fingers interlocked

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** release fingers and separate hands

**worthless, insignificant,  
trivial, unimportant**



**Handshape:** F > 5 : F > 5

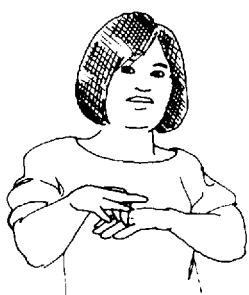
**Orientation:** palms facing, hands almost touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** sharply flick fingertips apart and separate hands, ending palms down

**Nonmanual signal:** smirk

**ring**



**Handshape:** Open F : Open B

**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right thumb and index finger down left ring finger

**meat, beef,  
content (n.),  
steak,  
substance**



**Handshape:** Open F : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** grip left hand with right thumb and index finger and shake hands slightly



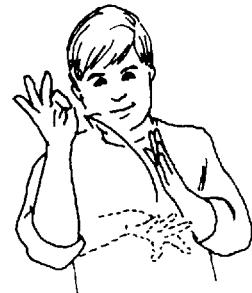
## OPEN F • 2-Hand SIGNS

**story, narrate,  
statement,  
tell a story**



**Handshape:** Open F > F : Open F > F  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hands together, interlocking thumbs and index fingers, then move hands apart and repeat

**find,  
discover**



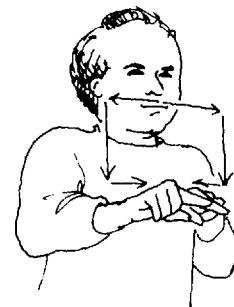
**Handshape:** Open F > F : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand below left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand up past left hand, closing thumb and index finger

**choose,  
choice,  
either,  
select**



**Handshape:** Open F > F : V  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand closer to body; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** pluck left index finger with right thumb and index finger, then repeat on left middle finger

**frame**



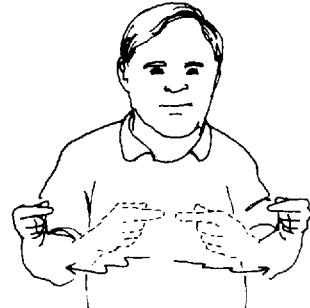
**Handshape:** G : G  
**Orientation:** palms out, hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands, then move them down and back together

**group**



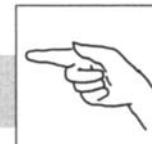
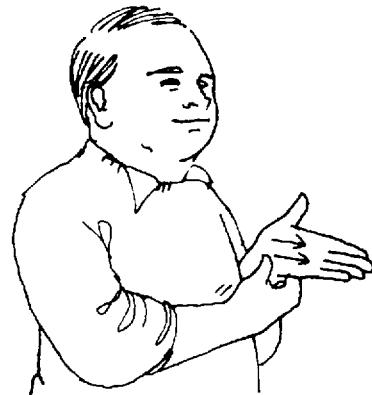
**Handshape:** G : G  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands around, ending with palms in

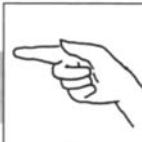
**grammar**



**Handshape:** G : G  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands in wiggling motion

## 2-Hand SIGNS ➤ G

**geometry****Handshape:** G : G**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush hands against each other twice**graduate****Handshape:** G : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** flip right hand over and land in left palm**magazine, booklet, brochure,  
leaflet, manual, pamphlet****Handshape:** G : Open B**Orientation:** right palm up, fingers gripping edge of left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand along left hand twice**Note:** See page 260 for a variation of this sign.**word,  
vocabulary****Handshape:** G : I**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right fingertips on left index finger twice**wake up****Handshape:** G > L : G > L**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** near eyes**Movement:** open fingers up into L handshape**Note:** See page 256 for a variation of this sign.



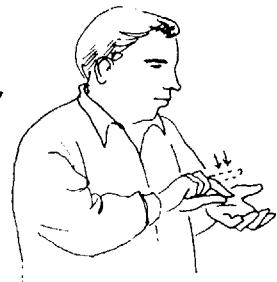
## G 2-Hand SIGNS

**gossip,  
rumor**



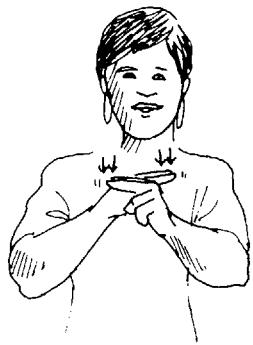
**Handshape:** G > Baby O : G > Baby O  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** right hand on mouth; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands clockwise, opening and closing fingers repeatedly

**print,  
newspaper,  
publish**



**Handshape:** G > Baby O : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, thumb on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** close right index finger and thumb twice

**rabbit**



**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms facing, hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend fingers down twice

**egg**



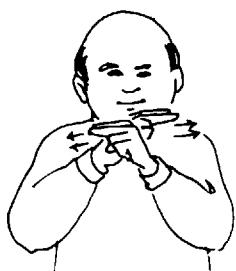
**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrists down

**bacon**



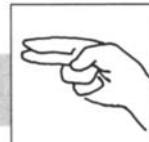
**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands while wiggling index and middle fingers

**highway,  
freeway,  
interstate,  
thoroughfare,  
throughway,  
thruway**

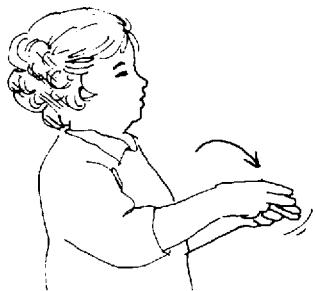


**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms facing, hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush hands past each other twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS &amp; H



**named,  
called**



**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands out and down

**bandit,  
burglar,  
crook,  
thief**



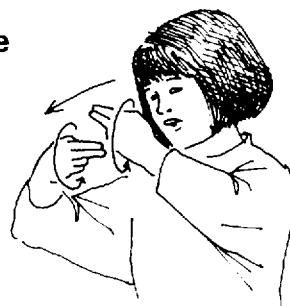
**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips touching  
**Location:** below nose  
**Movement:** separate hands  
**Note:** This sign is sometimes formed with an agent marker.

**innocent**



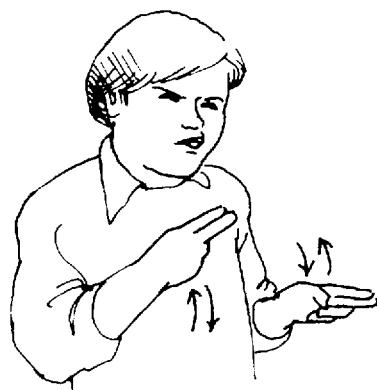
**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** mouth  
**Movement:** move hands down, ending with palms up

**heritage**

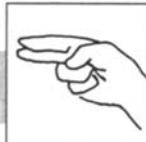


**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** near shoulder  
**Movement:** circle hands around each other while moving them forward

**hurry, haste, rush**



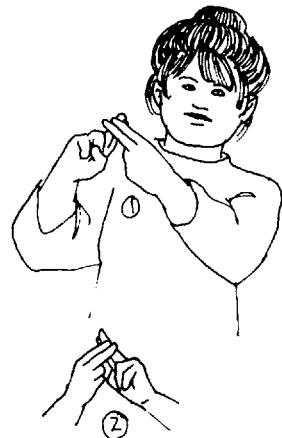
**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** alternate hands in moving up and down rapidly  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; "concerned" expression



## H 2-Hand SIGNS

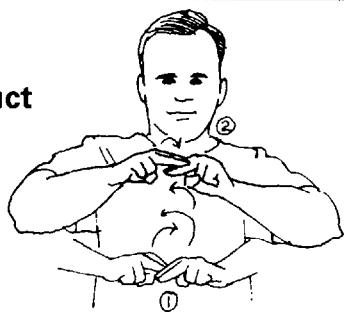
### closet, locker

**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in, fingers crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** turn hands over, reversing positions



### build, construct

**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms down, right fingers on left fingers  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** alternately slap fingers on top of each other while moving hands up



### weigh, pound, scale, weight

**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rock right fingers on left fingers



### sharp

**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply brush right fingers off left fingers

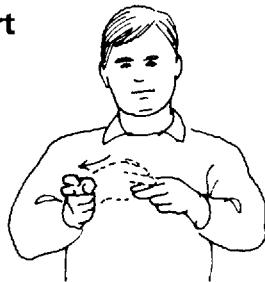
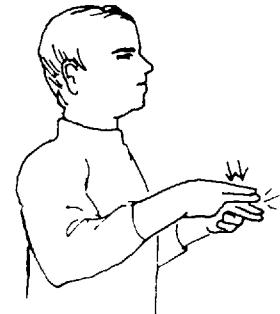
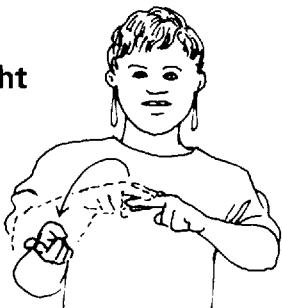
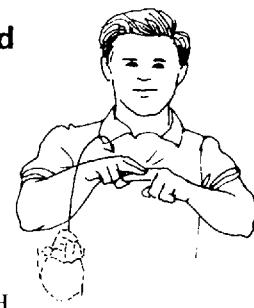
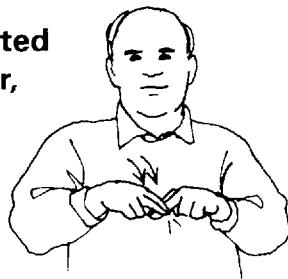
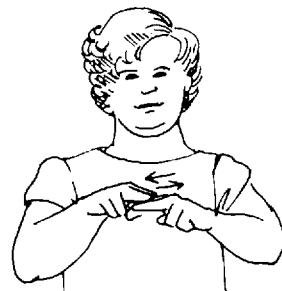


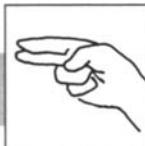
### knife

**Handshape:** H : H  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** saw right fingers back and forth across left index finger



## 2-Hand SIGNS ➤ H

**brief, short****Handshape:** H : H**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers crossed**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right fingers off left index finger**name (n.)****Handshape:** H : H**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers crossed**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** double bounce right fingers on left fingers**decrease,  
lose weight****Handshape:** H : H**Orientation:** palms down, fingers crossed**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** flip right hand off left hand, ending with palm up**increase, add  
(on), gain,  
onto, raise****Handshape:** H : H**Orientation:** right palm up, hand below left hand; left palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** flip right hand over to rest on top of left fingers**sit, be seated  
(SM); chair,  
seat (DM)****Handshape:** H : H**Orientation:** palms down, right fingers above left fingers**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** double bounce right fingers down on left fingers**train,  
railroad****Handshape:** H : H**Orientation:** palms down, fingers crossed**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right fingers down and back left fingers several times



## H 2-Hand SIGNS

**spoon, soup**



**Handshape:** H : H

**Orientation:** palms up,  
right fingers on left fingers

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** scoop right hand up  
toward mouth

**stamp,  
postage**



**Handshape:** H : H

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up

**Location:** right hand at mouth; left hand  
in neutral space

**Movement:** flip right hand down and land  
on left fingers

**Note:** See page 236 for a variation of this  
sign.

**fun**



**Handshape:** H : H

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down

**Location:** right hand on nose; left hand in  
neutral space

**Movement:** flip right hand down to rest on  
left fingers

**Nonmanual signal:** smile; eyes widen

**spoon,  
ice cream,  
soup**



**Handshape:** H : Open B

**Orientation:** palms up, right hand above  
left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush right fingers off left  
palm and up toward mouth

**butter**



**Handshape:** H : Open B

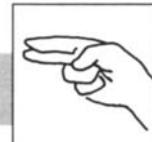
**Orientation:** right palm down, wrist bent down; left  
palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush right fingertips off left palm twice

**Note:** Right fingers can bend each time.

## 2-Hand SIGNS • H

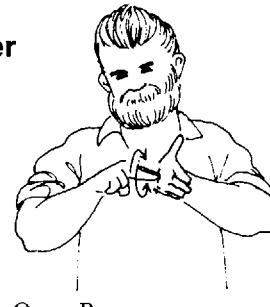


**sign (SM);  
contract,  
signature  
(DM)**



**Handshape:** H : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip right hand over to smack fingers on left palm

**screwdriver**



**Handshape:** H : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist right fingertips back and forth twice

**holy**



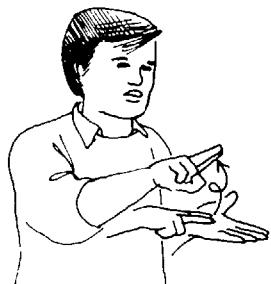
**Handshape:** H : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand down in an arc on left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** "solemn" expression

**honest,  
frank,  
sincere,  
truthful**



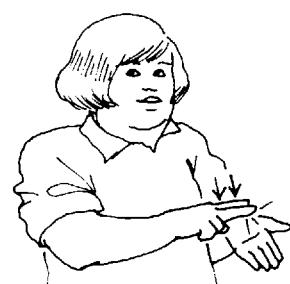
**Handshape:** H : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, middle finger on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide edge of right middle finger down and off left palm

**university**



**Handshape:** H : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingers on left palm; left palm facing up; right hand on left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** spiral right hand above left hand

**nurse**



**Handshape:** H : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips above left wrist; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right fingertips on left wrist twice



## H ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**natural, naturally,  
of course**

**Handshape:** H : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle right hand over left hand, then drop fingertips on left hand



**stamp, postage**

**Handshape:** H : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up  
**Location:** right fingertips on lips; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** flip right hand down and smack fingers on left palm  
**Note:** See page 234 for a variation of this sign.

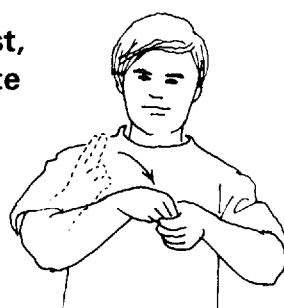


**get into bed**

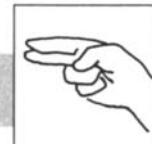


**Handshape:** H : C  
**Orientation:** right palm up; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right fingers inside left hand

**join, enlist,  
participate**



**Handshape:** H : O  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** insert right fingers into left hand

2-Hand SIGNS  H

**quit, drop out,  
resign, retire**

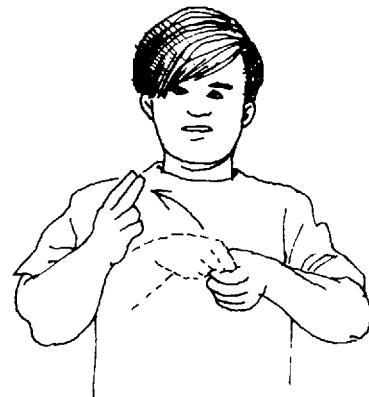
**Handshape:** H : O

**Orientation:** palms in, right fingers inside left hand

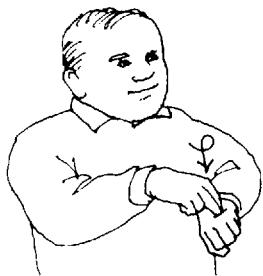
**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** pull right fingers out of left hand,  
ending with fingers up

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans away from repelling  
reference; "disgusted" expression



**nation  
(native)**



**Handshape:** H : S

**Orientation:** palms down, right hand  
above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle right hand above left  
hand, then drop fingertips on left hand

**bandage,  
Band-Aid**



**Handshape:** H : S

**Orientation:** palms down, right fingers  
on pinky edge of left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right fingers across left  
hand

**use, utilize,  
wear**



**Handshape:** H : S

**Orientation:** right palm out, heel on left  
hand; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle right hand clockwise on  
left hand twice

**used to,  
usually**

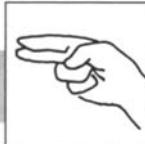


**Handshape:** H : S

**Orientation:** right palm out, heel on  
left hand; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move both hands down



## H 2-Hand SIGNS

### couch

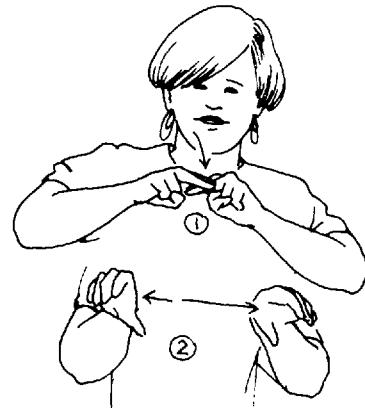
(compound: sit + long seat)

**Handshape:** H > C : H > C

**Orientation:** palms down, right fingers above left fingers

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** drop right fingers on left fingers, then change both hands to C handshape, hands touching, and separate hands



### Bible

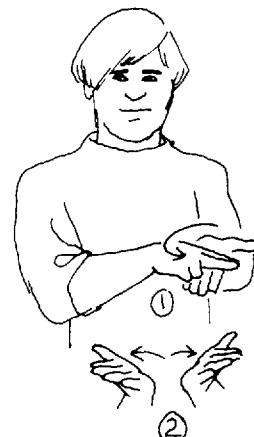
(compound: holy + book)

**Handshape:** H > Open B : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right hand down in an arc on left hand, then bring hands together and open them



### too late

(compound: train + gone)

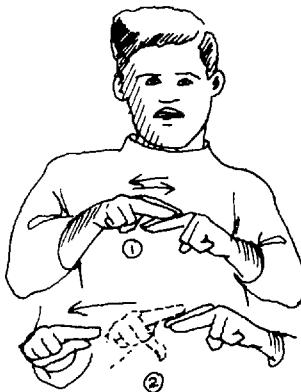
**Handshape:** H > G > Baby O : H

**Orientation:** palms down; fingers crossed

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right fingers along left fingers, then change right hand to G handshape and slide off left hand, closing thumb and index finger

**Nonmanual signal:** "pah" mouth utterance



## 2-Hand SIGNS 2-1



**spaghetti, line, string,  
thread, twine**



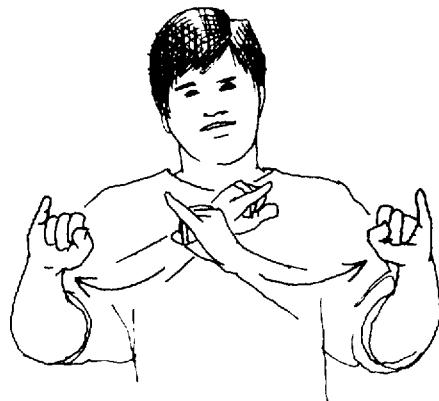
**Handshape:** I : I

**Orientation:** palms in; pinkies touch

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** separate hands with a spiraling motion

**independent,  
independence**



**Handshape:** I : I

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right, wrists crossed

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** sharply separate hands, ending with palms out

**Nonmanual signal:** body and head thrust back; "satisfied" expression

**isolated,  
lonely,  
talk to  
oneself**



**Handshape:** I : I

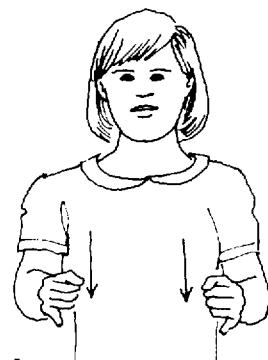
**Orientation:** palms in; hands touching

**Location:** near face

**Movement:** tap hands together twice

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; "sad" expression

**individual**



**Handshape:** I : I

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands down



## I 2-Hand SIGNS

**paranoid**

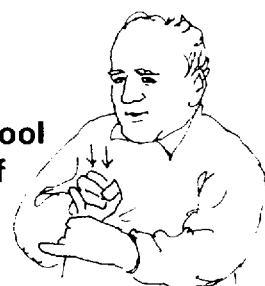
**Handshape:** I : I  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** near head  
**Movement:** spiral hands up alternately  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans back and sways; tongue protruding

**egotism, conceited**

**Handshape:** I : I  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right hand on chest; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** tap hands on chest with alternating motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** chest puffs out; shoulders alternately tilt back and forth; lips pursed

**end,  
final,  
last**

**Handshape:** I : I  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slice right pinky down through left pinky

**institute,  
residential  
school, school  
for the deaf**

**Handshape:** I : I  
**Orientation:** right palm left, right hand on left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right hand on left hand twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS • K



**thin, skinny,  
slender**



**Handshape:** I : I  
**Orientation:** palms in, pinky fingers touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down  
**Nonmanual signal:** cheeks sucked in

**international**



**Handshape:** I : I  
**Orientation:** right palm left, right hand on left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle right hand completely around left hand

**jam,  
jelly**



**Handshape:** I : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, right hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right pinky down heel of left palm twice

**art, draw,  
design (*artist,  
designer,  
illustrator*)**



**Handshape:** I : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, right pinky on left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** squiggle right pinky down left palm

**place,  
location,  
position**

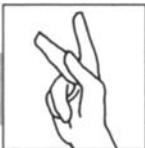


**Handshape:** K : K  
**Orientation:** palms facing, middle fingers touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands back, ending with middle fingers touching

**person**

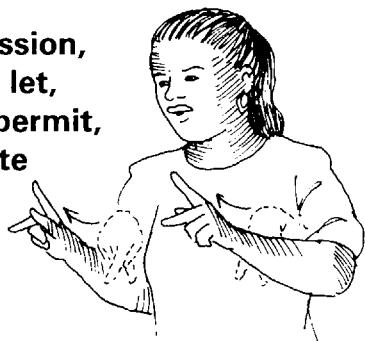


**Handshape:** K : K  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move both hands down



## K 2-Hand SIGNS

**permission,  
allow, let,  
may, permit,  
tolerate**



**Handshape:** K : K  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands up

**party**



**Handshape:** K : K  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands left and right

**perfect,  
precise**



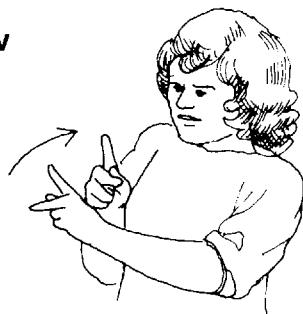
**Handshape:** K : K  
**Orientation:** palms facing; right hand closer to body and above left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring middle fingers together  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**supervise,  
care for,  
take care of  
(caregiver,  
supervisor)**



**Handshape:** K : K  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands clockwise

**borrow**



**Handshape:** K : K  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands back toward chest

**lend, loan**



**Handshape:** K : K  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands forward

## 2-Hand SIGNS ↗ K



**multiply,  
arithmetic,  
calculate,  
figure**



**Handshape:** K : K

**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush hands past each other twice

**worse**



**Handshape:** K : K

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc hands toward each other, then brush past each other

**Nonmanual signal:** "pained" expression

**people,  
humanity,  
mankind,  
public**



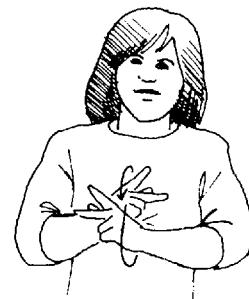
**Handshape:** K : K

**Orientation:** palms out

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle hands out, alternating hands

**kind, sort,  
type**



**Handshape:** K : K

**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** rotate hands around each other, ending in original position

**careful,  
be careful**



**Handshape:** K : K

**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** double bounce right hand on left hand

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; "urgent" expression

**keep,  
maintain**

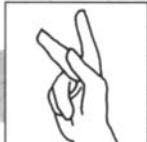


**Handshape:** K : K

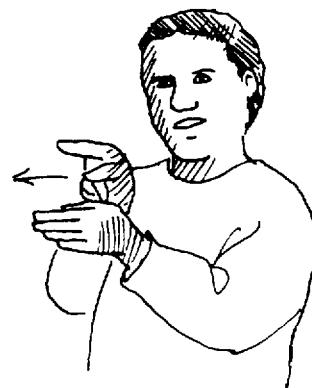
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down on left hand



## K • 2-Hand SIGNS

**pure, professional****Handshape:** K : B**Orientation:** right palm left, middle finger on base of left thumb; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right middle finger off left index finger**Nonmanual signal:** "cz" mouth utterance**fail, flop****Handshape:** K : Open B**Orientation:** palms up, right hand on left palm**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand across left palm**Nonmanual signal:** "sad" expression**graduate school****Handshape:** K : Open B**Orientation:** palms angled in, right hand above left palm**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** double bounce right hand on left wrist**psychiatry  
(psychia-trist)****Handshape:** K : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, middle finger above left wrist; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right middle finger on left wrist twice**piece****Handshape:** K : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, middle finger on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right middle finger across left palm

## 2-Hand SIGNS ↗ K

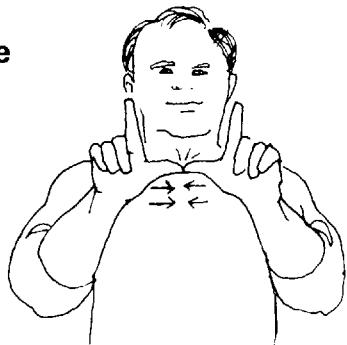
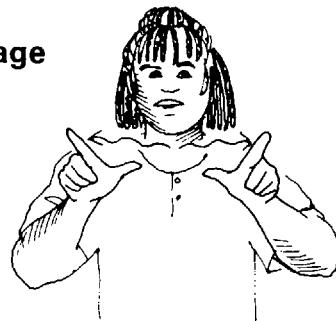
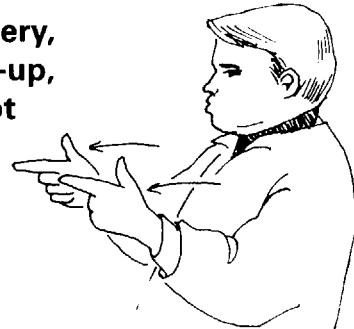
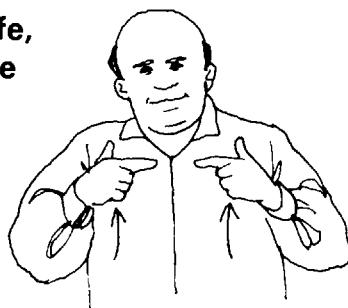
**poison****Handshape:** K : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, middle finger on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** wiggle right hand side to side**Nonmanual signal:** "sour" expression**principle****Handshape:** K : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left palm; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bounce right hand down to left wrist**kitchen****Handshape:** K : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** flip right hand over twice, ending with palm up**program****Handshape:** K : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, middle finger on heel of left palm; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right middle finger up left palm and over fingertips, then slide down back of left hand



## K ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**poetry  
(passive)****Handshape:** K : passive**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left arm; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** swing right hand back and forth over left arm**Passover****Handshape:** K : S**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc right hand over left hand, ending palm down**principal****Handshape:** K : S**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle right hand over left hand, then drop middle finger on left hand**profession****Handshape:** K : 1**Orientation:** right palm down, middle finger on left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right middle finger off left index finger

## 2-Hand SIGNS • L

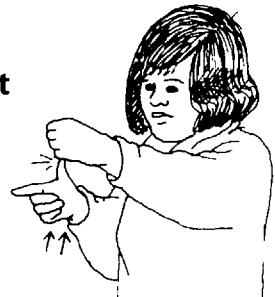
**license****Handshape:** L : L**Orientation:** palms out, thumbs touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap thumbs twice**language****Handshape:** L : L**Orientation:** palms out, thumbs touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** separate hands with slight wiggling motion**gun,  
rifle (SM);  
hunt (DM)****Handshape:** L : L**Orientation:** palms facing; index fingers angled up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists down, ending with index fingers out**robbery,  
hold-up,  
shoot****Handshape:** L : L**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands forward**vagina****Handshape:** L : L**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs and index fingers almost touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap fingertips twice**live, life,  
survive****Handshape:** L : L**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** waist**Movement:** brush hands up chest



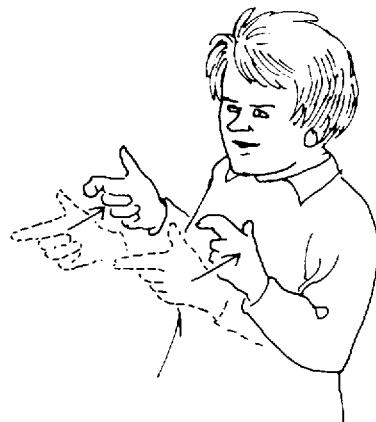
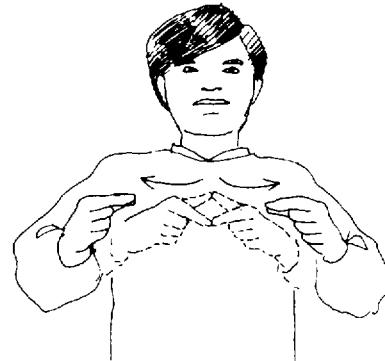
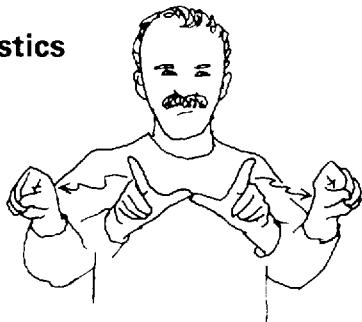
## L 2-Hand SIGNS

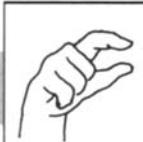
**sister****Handshape:** L : L**Orientation:** right

palm left; left palm right

**Location:** right thumb on cheek; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down to rest on left hand**brother****Handshape:** L : L**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right**Location:** right thumb on temple; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down to rest on left hand**law (attorney,  
lawyer)****Handshape:** L : Open B**Orientation:** palms facing, right palm on left fingertips**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bounce right hand down left palm**later,  
after awhile,  
subsequently****Handshape:** L : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out, thumb on left palm; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend right hand down**ban, forbid,  
prohibit****Handshape:** L : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** swing right hand around and smack into left palm**Nonmanual signal:** "stern" expression**aide,  
assistant****Handshape:** L : S**Orientation:** right palm hand below left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right thumb on bottom of left hand twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT L

**fast****Handshape:** L > Bent L : L > Bent L**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend index fingers while sharply pulling hands back**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks back**Japan, Japanese****Handshape:** L > Baby O : L > Baby O**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs and index fingers touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** separate hands and close thumbs and index fingers**linguistics****Handshape:** L > S : L > S**Orientation:** palms out; thumbs touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** wiggle hands apart, changing to S handshape**plate,  
platter,  
dish****Handshape:** Bent L : Bent L**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands down slightly



## BENT L • 2-Hand SIGNS

**lucky**



**Handshape:** Bent L : Bent L

**Orientation:** palms up

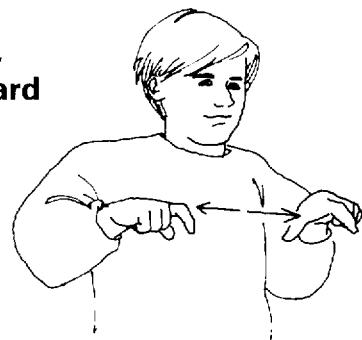
**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide hands in to center and out twice

**Nonmanual signal:** head leans back

**Note:** This is a regional sign.

**card,  
placard**



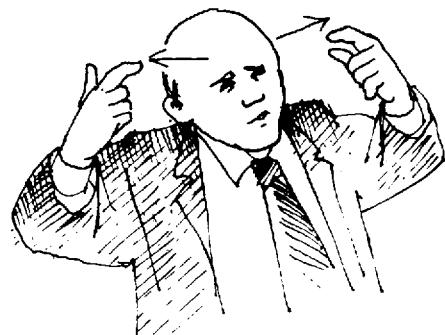
**Handshape:** Bent L : Bent L

**Orientation:** palms down, hands touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** separate hands

**conceited, arrogant, big  
shot (slang), egotistical,  
swelled head (slang)**



**Handshape:** Bent L : Bent L

**Orientation:** palms in, index fingertips on forehead

**Location:** forehead

**Movement:** move hands off head with an exaggerated motion

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans back;  
"disgusted" expression

**glasses, eyeglasses**



**Handshape:** Bent L : Bent L

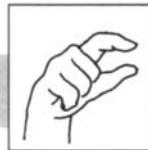
**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** eyes

**Movement:** tap thumbs under eyes twice

**Note:** See page 251 for a variation of this sign.

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT L



**huge, big,  
enormous,  
great,  
immense**



**Handshape:** Bent L : Bent L

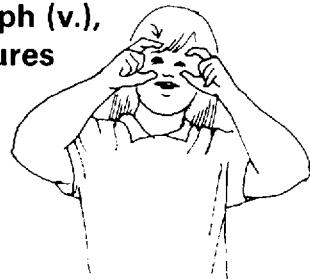
**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc hands apart in spiral motion

**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance

**camera,  
photograph (v.),  
take pictures**



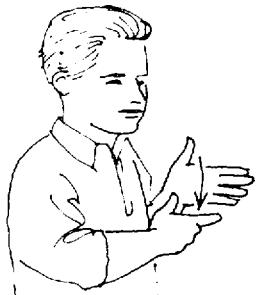
**Handshape:** Bent L : Bent L

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** near eyes

**Movement:** bend right index finger twice

**article  
(written)**



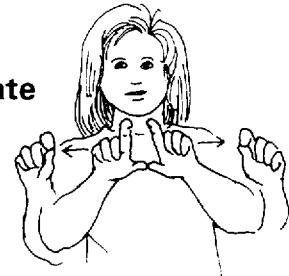
**Handshape:** Bent L : Open B

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush thumb and index fingertips down left palm

**card,  
license plate**



**Handshape:** Bent L > Baby O : Bent L >  
Baby O

**Orientation:** palms out, thumbs touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** separate hands, closing  
thumbs and index fingers

**glasses, eyeglasses**



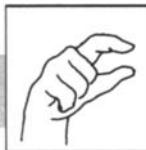
**Handshape:** Bent L > Baby O : Bent L > Baby O

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** thumbs and index fingertips around  
eyes

**Movement:** move hands off face, closing  
thumbs and index fingers

**Note:** See page 250 for a variation of this sign.



## BENT L ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**run**

**Handshape:** Bent L : L > Bent L

**Orientation:** right palm left, index finger gripping left thumb; left palm right

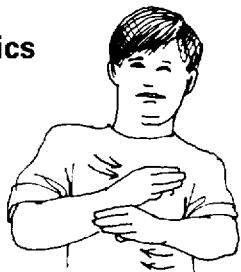
**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bend thumbs and left index fingers while moving hands forward

**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks back and forth when fingers bend



**mathematics**



**Handshape:** M : M

**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush hands against each other twice

**doctor,  
medical,  
physician**



**Handshape:** M : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left wrist; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** tap right fingertips on left wrist twice

**-ment  
(suffix)**



**Handshape:** M : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm out, hand on left palm; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right hand down left palm

**none, no  
(quantity)**



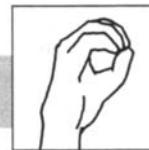
**Handshape:** O : O

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right, wrists crossed

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** separate hands

**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

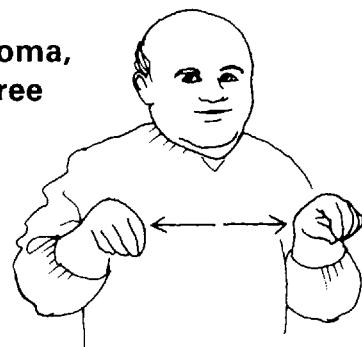
2-Hand SIGNS  O

**nothing,  
naught**



**Handshape:** O : O  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide hands slightly toward center and out twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

**diploma,  
degree**



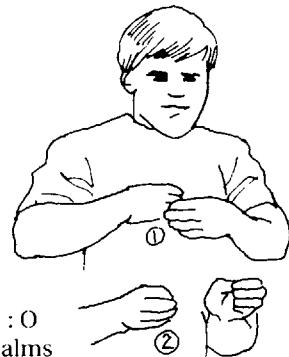
**Handshape:** O : O  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands

**organization**



**Handshape:** O : O  
**Orientation:** palms out, thumbs touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands around, ending with pinkies touching

**office**



**Handshape:** O : O  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand behind left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands and twist wrists, ending with palms facing

**zero,  
absolutely  
nothing**



**Handshape:** O : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply slap right hand on left palm

**sunrise  
(passive)**

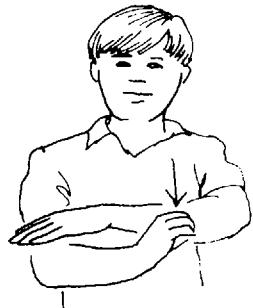


**Handshape:** O : passive  
**Orientation:** palms down, right arm in front of and below left arm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right arm up



## O 2-Hand SIGNS

**sunset,  
Shabbat  
(passive)**



**Handshape:** O : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm left arm in front of and above left arm; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right arm down

**opportunity**



**Handshape:** O > K : O > K  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists up, changing to K handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes widen

**none,  
nothing**



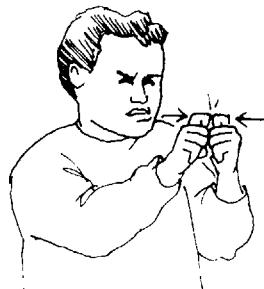
**Handshape:** O > 5 : O > 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing, hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands out and down, opening to 5 handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

**exact,  
precise,  
specific**



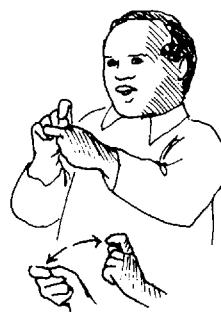
**Handshape:** Baby O : Baby O  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle right hand slightly, then bring hands together  
**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

**revenge,  
get even,  
retaliate**



**Handshape:** Baby O : Baby O  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply tap index fingers together  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression

**tear, torn,  
rip**



**Handshape:** Baby O : Baby O  
**Orientation:** right palm out, thumb on left thumb; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist and bend wrists back

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BABY O



**celebrate, anniversary,  
cheer, rejoice, reunion,  
victory, win**

**Handshape:** Baby O : Baby O

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** above shoulders

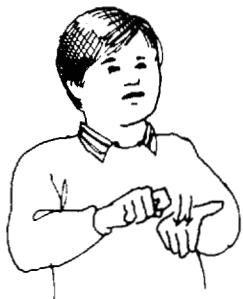
**Movement:** twirl hands around

**Nonmanual signal:** smile

**Note:** See page 109 for a one-hand variation  
of this sign.



**write**



**Handshape:** Baby O : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down; fingertips  
on left palm; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush right fingertips down  
left palm twice

**match**



**Handshape:** Baby O : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm in; index finger  
on left palm; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush right index finger up  
left palm

**chicken**



**Handshape:** Baby O : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm up

**Location:** right hand at nose; left hand in  
neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down and  
peck on left palm

**pencil**



**Handshape:** Baby O : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up

**Location:** right hand on lips; left hand in  
neutral space

**Movement:** twist right hand around and  
bring down to slide across left palm



## BABY O ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**surprise, amaze,  
astonish, astound**

**Handshape:** Baby O > 1 : Baby O > 1

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** under eyes

**Movement:** move hands out while flicking  
index fingers up

**Nonmanual signal:** body and head thrust  
back; "surprised" expression



**awake, wake up**

**Handshape:** Baby O > 1 : Baby O > 1

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** under eyes

**Movement:** flick index fingers up

**Nonmanual signal:** body and head thrust  
back; eyes open wide

**Note:** See page 229 for a variation of this sign.



**spend (time)**

**Handshape:** Baby O > 1 : Baby O > 1

**Orientation:** palms up

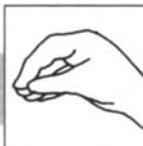
**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** flick index fingers out  
while moving hands up



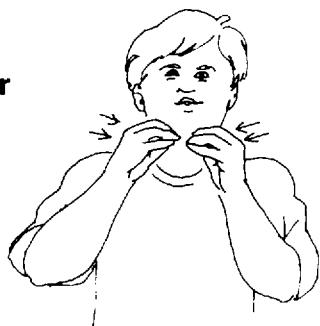
## 2-Hand SIGNS FLATTENED O

**correspondence,  
letter writing****Handshape:** Baby O > 1 : Baby O > 1**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists and flick index fingers out twice**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed**Note:** See page 262 for a variation of this sign.**teach, educate, instruct  
(teacher, educator,  
instructor, professor)****Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** near head**Movement:** double bounce hands forward**dirt, soil****Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O**Orientation:** palms up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** rub thumbs across fingertips repeatedly



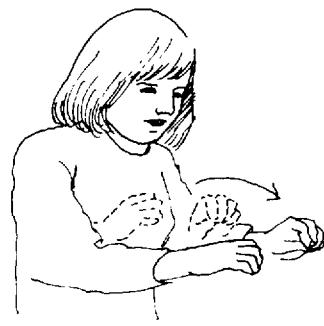
## FLATTENED O ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**more,  
further**



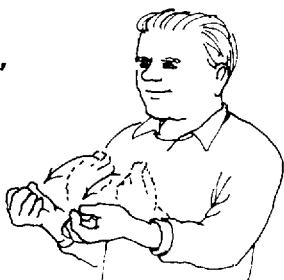
**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap fingertips twice

**put,  
move**



**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands forward

**provide,  
give**



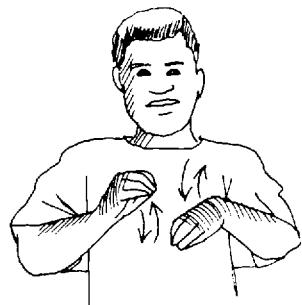
**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists back and move hands forward  
**Note:** See page 92 for a one-hand variation of this sign.

**sell, sale,  
vend (SM); store,  
market (seller,  
merchant,  
salesclerk,  
vendor)  
(DM)**



**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flick wrists up

**pack**



**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** alternately move hands up and down

**fix, repair**



**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush fingertips past each other while moving hands back and forth

## 2-Hand SIGNS ➔ FLATTENED O

**number**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm in;  
 hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hands in opposite  
 directions, then back to original position

**budget**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand closer  
 to body  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** switch hand positions several  
 times

**cosmetics, make-up**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** near face  
**Movement:** move hands alternately up  
 and down

**feast, banquet,  
luncheon, reception**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands alternately toward  
 mouth  
**Nonmanual signal:** "mm" mouth utterance


**FLATTENED O ➡ 2-Hand SIGNS**

**magazine, booklet,  
brochure, leaflet,  
manual, pamphlet**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm up, hand gripping left hand;  
 left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand along left hand  
**Note:** See page 229 for a variation of this sign.

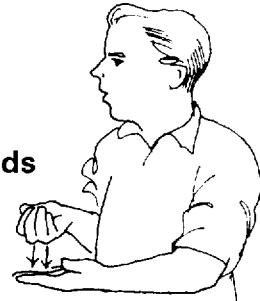


**buy, purchase  
(buyer,  
customer,  
purchaser)**



**Handshape:** Flattened O : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand on  
 left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right hand up and out

**money,  
budget,  
economics,  
finance, funds**



**Handshape:** Flattened O : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand on left  
 palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** smack right hand on left palm  
 twice

**shop, shopping**

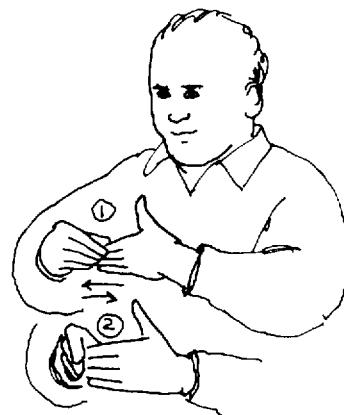
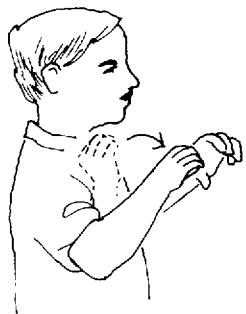


**Handshape:** Flattened O : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand on left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand off left hand  
 repeatedly in different directions  
**Nonmanual signal:** body moves left to right  
 with movement

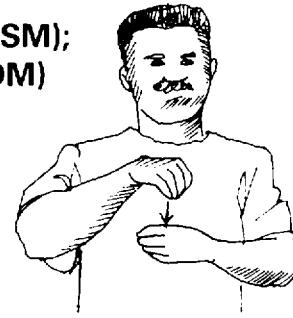
## 2-Hand SIGNS • FLATTENED O

**flexible**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand gripping left fingers; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend left fingertips back and forth  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**install,  
investment**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : C  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand into left hand

**in, into (SM);  
inside (DM)**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : O  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand into left hand

**cherry,  
berry**

**Handshape:** Flattened O : 5  
**Orientation:** palms in; right fingertips gripping left pinky  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist right hand back and forth

**spend,  
treat (v.)**

**Handshape:** Flattened O > A : Flattened O > A  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands forward while sliding thumbs across and off fingertips



## FLATTENED O 2-Hand SIGNS

### correspondence

**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing, arms at an angle  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands toward each other and flick fingers open  
**Note:** See page 255 for a variation of this sign.

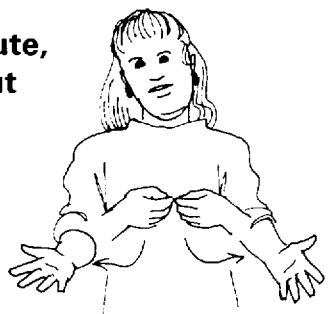


### lose, lost, misplaced

**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palms in, fingers touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands down, opening to 5 handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** head down; eyes searching; "distressed" expression

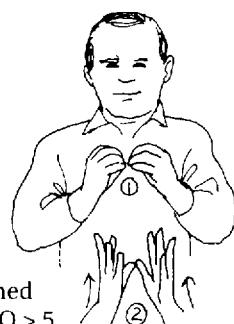


### distribute, give out



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palms in; fingers touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands out while opening fingers

### blossom, bloom

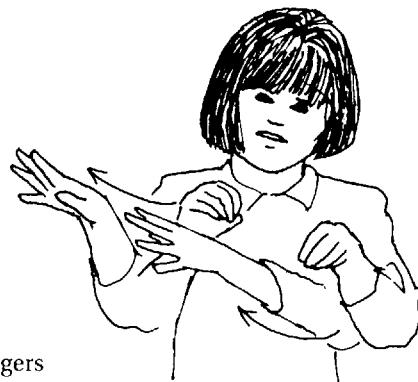


**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing; fingertips touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands up while opening fingers

## 2-Hand SIGNS • FLATTENED O



**move away,  
move out**



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands across body, opening fingers

**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts and eyes gaze in direction of referent

**spread,  
spill**



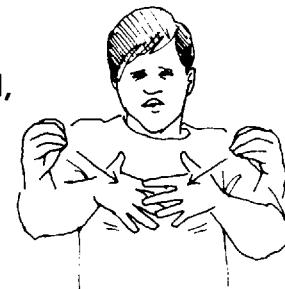
**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5

**Orientation:** palms down; fingertips touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** open hands out, spreading fingers

**afraid,  
frightened,  
scared**



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands toward each other and flick fingers open

**Nonmanual signal:** "scared" expression

**inform, information,  
news, notify**



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** right fingertips on head; left hand near face

**Movement:** arc hands down and forward, opening fingers



## FLATTENED O ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**record (v.), put down,  
register**

**Handshape:** Flattened O > Open B : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, right fingertips on left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** open right hand and press against left palm



**advise, affect,  
counsel, influence**

**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand on left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand off left hand, opening hand



**expensive, costly**

**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** lift right hand and flick fingers open  
**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance



## 2-Hand SIGNS ➤ FLATTENED O



waste,  
extravagant,  
squander



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand on left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sling right hand out, opening hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

rich,  
wealthy



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palms left, hand on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** raise right hand, twisting and changing to 5 handshape  
**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance

overflow



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand on left palm; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand up and over left hand, changing to 5 handshape, then wiggle fingers down

grow, develop, mature (SM);  
spring, plant (n.)(DM)



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : C  
**Orientation:** right palm up, hand below left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand up through left hand, opening fingers



## FLATTENED O ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

### feed

(compound: food + give)



**Handshape:** Flattened O : Flattened O

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** right hand at mouth; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** move right hand down, then double bounce hands out

### land

(compound: dirt + surface)



**Handshape:** Flattened O > 5 : Flattened O > 5

**Orientation:** palms up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** rub thumbs across fingertips several times, then open hands, turn them over and circle them toward each other

### relay (operator service)



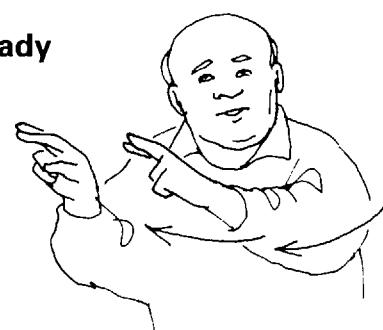
**Handshape:** R : R

**Orientation:** right palm left, left palm right, wrists crossed

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bend wrists down twice

### ready



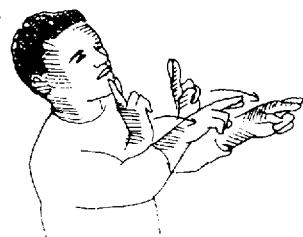
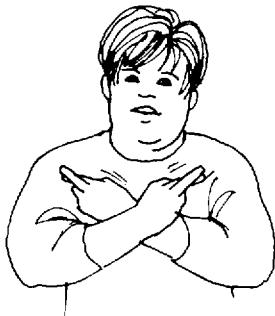
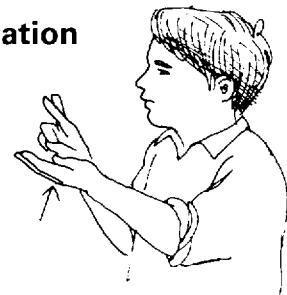
**Handshape:** R : R

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc hands across body

## 2-Hand SIGNS R

**doughnut****Handshape:** R : R**Orientation:** palms facing; fingertips touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc hands down, ending with palms in**response,  
reply,  
report,  
react****Handshape:** R : R**Orientation:** palms out**Location:** right hand at mouth; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** arc hands forward and down  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward**rest,  
relax****Handshape:** R : R**Orientation:** palms in, arms crossed**Location:** chest**Movement:** tap hands on chest twice**Nonmanual signal:** "contented" expression**rabbi****Handshape:** R : R**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** chest**Movement:** slide fingers down chest**room****Handshape:** R : R**Orientation:** palms in; right hand in front of left**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists back, ending with palms facing**rehabilitation****Handshape:** R : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** lift left hand up



## R 2-Hand SIGNS

**require**

**Handshape:** R : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; fingertips on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands back toward body

**rule,  
regulation**

**Handshape:** R : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms facing, right fingers on left fingertips  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right hand down left palm

**research**

**Handshape:** R : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up  
**Location:** right hand on nose; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down and brush fingers down left palm  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered; "inquiring" expression

**reinforce**

**Handshape:** R : S  
**Orientation:** palms in; right hand below left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** hit base of left hand with right fingertips and push left hand up

**power, might,  
strength,  
sturdy,  
tough**

**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hands forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders and head thrust back; lips pursed

**ski**

**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing arms back

## 2-Hand SIGNS S

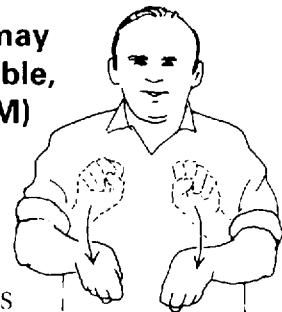


**cold, chilly,  
shiver, winter**



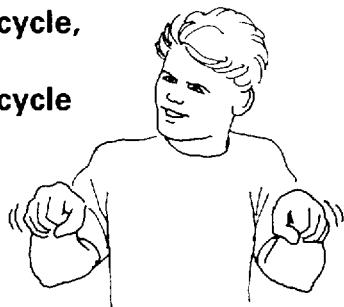
**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake arms toward each other  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered; "shivering" expression

**can, able, may  
(SM); possible,  
capable (DM)**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists down while moving arms down  
**Nonmanual signal:** head nods "yes"

**motorcycle,  
ride a  
motorcycle**



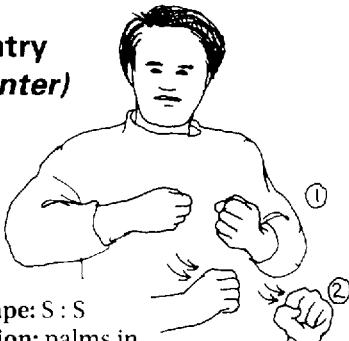
**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrists out twice

**canoe**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms facing, arms at an angle  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing arms back to left side

**carpentry  
(carpenter)**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slightly twist hands out while moving them forward, ending with palms facing

**stretch**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** pull hands apart



## S 2-Hand SIGNS

**shoes**

**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap hands together twice

**hold**

**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** right palm left, right hand on left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hands slightly

**baseball**

**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** right palm in, right hand on left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hands forward

**accustom,**  
**bound,** **custom,**  
**habit,**  
**locked into,**  
**tradition**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand on left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands down

**accident,**  
**collide,**  
**collision**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** smack hands into each other

**break,**  
**fracture**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands up and to sides, ending with palms facing

## 2-Hand SIGNS S



**defend, guard,  
protect, shield**



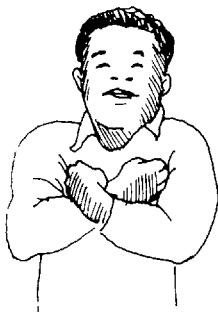
**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right,  
 wrists crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** push arms forward forcefully

**free, emancipate,  
liberate, redeem, relief,  
rescue, safe, save**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right,  
 wrists crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands and twist them  
 around, ending with palms out  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans back; smile

**embrace,  
dear, hug,  
love**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in, arms crossed  
**Location:** chest  
**Movement:** slightly squeeze arms to chest  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile; shoulders raised

**neck (v.)**

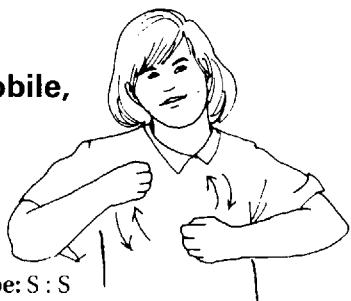


**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm  
 right, wrists crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists down twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



## S ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**car,  
automobile,  
drive**



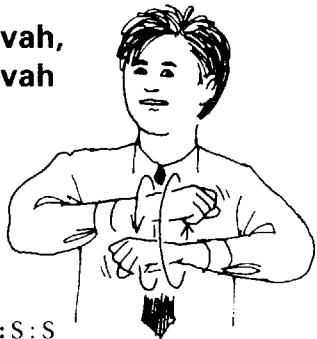
**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands alternately up and down  
**Note:** "Drive" is usually made with larger movements than "car."

**bicycle, bike,  
ride a bicycle**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands alternately forward

**Bar Mitzvah,  
Bat Mitzvah**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands around each other

**box, fight**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand closer to body  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** punch hands alternately toward each other

**make, create,  
construct,  
manufacture,  
produce**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand on left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists back

**doubt,  
disbelief,  
waver**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands alternately up and down  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts; "disbelieving" expression

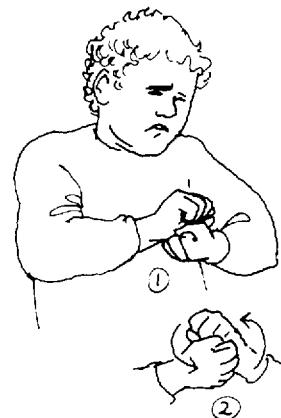
## 2-Hand SIGNS • S


**grieve, grief,  
heartbreak**
**Handshape:** S : S

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left hand;  
left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** sharply twist hands around, switching  
positions

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head  
lowered; "sad" expression

**agony, suffer,  
suffering**
**Handshape:** S : S

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle hands alternately  
around each other, ending in original  
position

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded;  
head lowered; "pained" expression

**stone, rock**
**Handshape:** S : S

**Orientation:** palms down, right hand  
above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** tap right hand on left hand  
twice

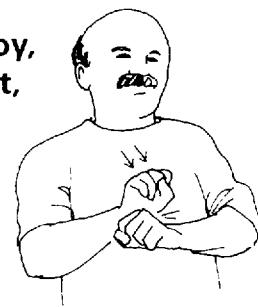
**appointment,  
engagement,  
reservation,  
reserve**

**Handshape:** S : S

**Orientation:** palms down, right hand  
above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle right hand above left  
hand, then drop hand down on left hand

**work, employ,  
employment,  
job, labor,  
task, toil**

**Handshape:** S : S

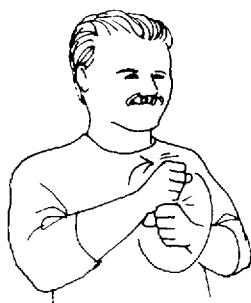
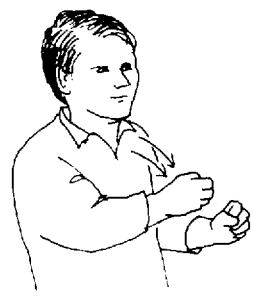
**Orientation:** right palm out, wrist on left  
wrist; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** double bounce right hand on  
left wrist twice



## S 2-Hand SIGNS

**year****Handshape:** S : S**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle right hand around left hand and return to original position**hammer****Handshape:** S : S**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend right hand down several times**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance**fix, repair****Handshape:** S : S**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right hand against left hand twice**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression**coffee****Handshape:** S : S**Orientation:** palms in; right hand on left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle right hand counter-clockwise on left hand**umbrella****Handshape:** S : S**Orientation:** palms in; right hand on left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** double bounce right hand up

## 2-Hand SIGNS S



**support, advocate, endorse,  
maintain, reinforce, sponsor,  
sustain, uphold**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand below left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** push left hand up with right hand

**exaggerate**



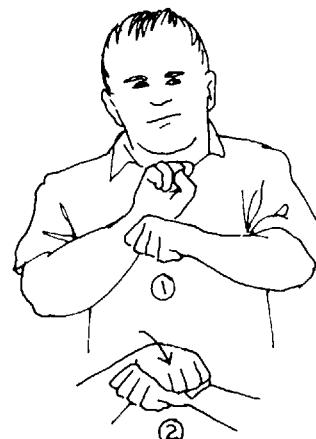
**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand in front of left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right hand forward in small arcs

**advertise,  
propaganda,  
publicize**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand in front of left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand forward twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** pursed lips

**defeat, conquer**



**Handshape:** S : S  
**Orientation:** right palm out, wrist against edge of left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply bend right hand over left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression



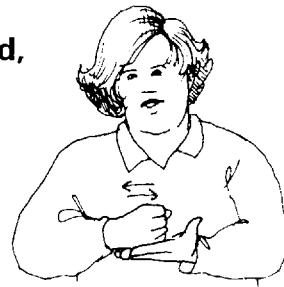
## S • 2-Hand SIGNS

**certify,  
license,  
seal**



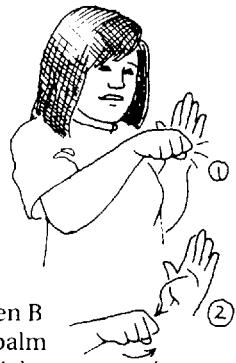
**Handshape:** S : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand above left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** stamp left palm with edge of right fist

**credit card,  
charge**



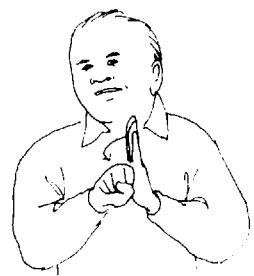
**Handshape:** S : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand on left fingertips; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rapidly slide right hand back and forth across left palm

**bell, chimes,  
ring bells**



**Handshape:** S : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right hand against left palm

**state  
(geography),  
statute (law)**



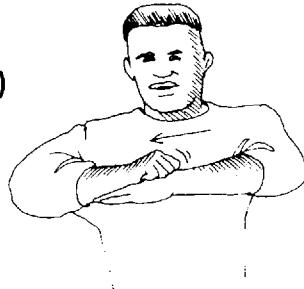
**Handshape:** S : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand on left fingertips; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right hand once down to heel of left hand

**sample,  
symbol**



**Handshape:** S : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand against left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands forward in two quick motions

**stage  
(passive)**



**Handshape:** S : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left wrist; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand down to left fingertips

## 2-Hand SIGNS S

**situation**

**Handshape:** S : 1  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right hand around left index finger

**abuse, hit (more than once), attack, strike (more than once)**

**Handshape:** S : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand closer to body; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right knuckles harshly back and forth against left index finger  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression

**obey**

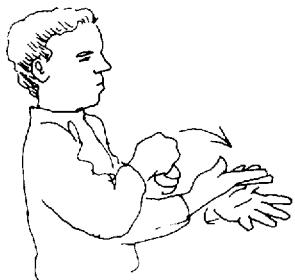
**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** right hand on forehead; left hand in front of left cheek  
**Movement:** move hands down and forward while opening hands

**terrible, awful, dreadful, horrible**

**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** both sides of the temple  
**Movement:** move hands straight out while opening hands  
**Nonmanual signal:** "disgusted" expression



## S 2-Hand SIGNS

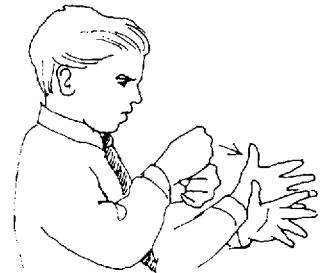
**cause**

**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5

**Orientation:** palms up, right hand in front of left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands forward while opening hands

**bawl out**

**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5

**Orientation:** right palm left, right hand on top of left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** flick fingers out sharply

**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks forward; "angry" expression

**many, lots,  
multiple,  
numerous**



**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** sharply thrust hands forward while flicking fingers open

**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance

**how many,  
how much**



**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5

**Orientation:** palms up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands up, flicking fingers open

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; eyebrows knit

**magic**

**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands forward slightly, then down, flicking fingers open

**express  
(feelings)**



**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** chest

**Movement:** arc hands forward while opening hands

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

## 2-Hand SIGNS S



**expand,  
enlarge**



**Handshape:** S > Bent 5 : S > Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palms in; right hand on top of left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands apart while opening hands to Bent 5 handshape

**fireworks**



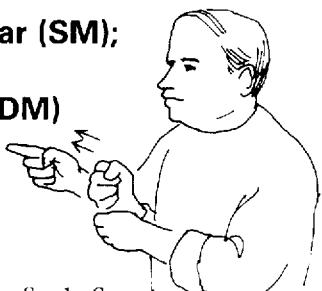
**Handshape:** S > 5 : S > 5  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** alternately open and close hands rapidly in different locations in the air

**climb, ladder**



**Handshape:** S > Bent 5 : Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** close and open hands while moving hands up in alternating motions

**next year (SM);  
annual,  
yearly (DM)**



**Handshape:** S > 1 : S  
**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on top of left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flick right index finger out as right hand moves forward

**abortion**



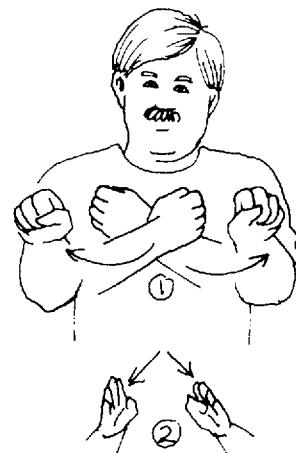
**Handshape:** S > 5 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm up, hand against left palm; left palm angled right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand sharply out and down, flicking fingers open



## S 2-Hand SIGNS

**refuge, shelter**  
(compound: safe + roof)

**Handshape:** S > B : S > B  
**Orientation:** palms in, wrists crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands and twist them around,  
then change to B handshape, palms down, fingertips  
touching, and angle hands down



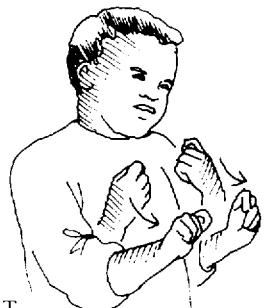
**hill**  
(compound: rock + slope)

**Handshape:** S > Open B : S > Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand above  
left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** drop right hand onto left hand,  
then change to Open B handshape and  
outline the contours of a hillside



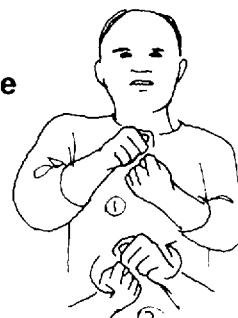
**try**

**Handshape:** T : T  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands down and twist  
forward, ending with palms out  
**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression



**translate,**  
**transliterate**

**Handshape:** T : T  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand  
resting on left hand; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** reverse hand positions



## 2-Hand SIGNS ➤ T

**team**

**Handshape:** T : T  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing hands around, ending with pinkies nearly touching

**time  
(abstract)**

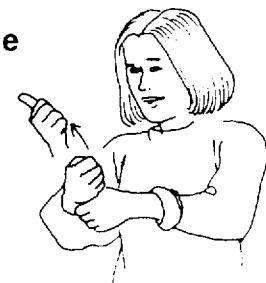
**Handshape:** T : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand against left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand clockwise around left palm

**Total Communication**

**Handshape:** T : C  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** alternately move hands back and forth

**temple,  
synagogue**

**Handshape:** T : S  
**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce heel of right hand on back of left hand

**champagne**

**Handshape:** T > Open A : S  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand on top of left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand quickly upward while flicking thumb out

**fast, quick,  
rapid**

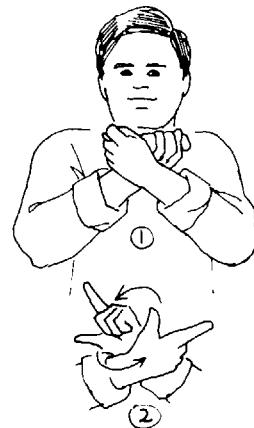
**Handshape:** T > Open A : T > Open A  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** quickly flick thumbs out while moving hands forward



## T 2-Hand SIGNS

**transliterate, translate**

**Handshape:** T > L : T > L  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand on heel of left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** reverse positions of hands, flicking open thumbs and index fingers

**look forward to, anticipate**

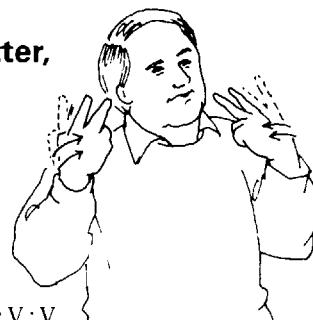
**Handshape:** V : V  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands angled left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hands forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** eyes widen

**funeral**

**Handshape:** V : V  
**Orientation:** palms out, right hand behind left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce hands forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** "sad" expression

**contempt, patronize, scorn**

**Handshape:** V : V /  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands angled left  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move fingers down and up sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** "smirking" expression

**vain, flatter, vanity**

**Handshape:** V : V  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** above shoulders  
**Movement:** bend fingers down and up twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture

2-Hand SIGNS  V

**tent,  
camping**



**Handshape:** V : V

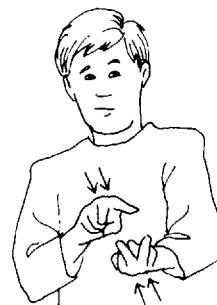
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips angled toward each other

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands down at an angle

**Note:** See page 305 for a variation of this sign.

**intercourse,  
copulate,  
fornicate**



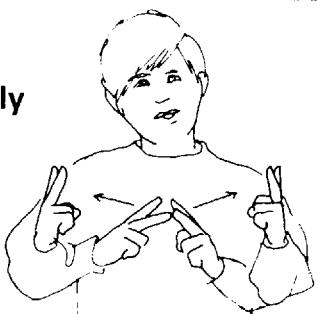
**Handshape:** V : V

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** double bounce right hand on left hand

**very,  
extremely**



**Handshape:** V : V

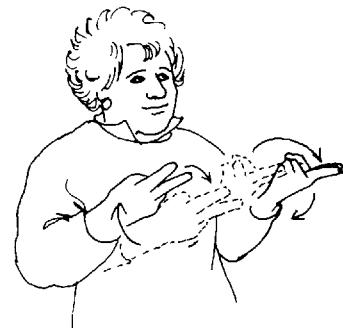
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips angled toward each other and touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** separate hands sharply

**Nonmanual signal:** "intense" expression

**visit**



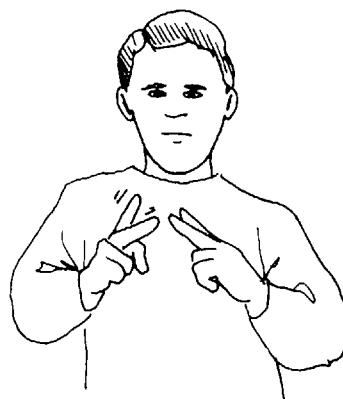
**Handshape:** V : V

**Orientation:** palms up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle hands out alternately

**either, or**



**Handshape:** V : V

**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips angled toward each other

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** tap left index finger with right index finger, then tap left middle finger with right middle finger, repeat

**Nonmanual signal:** body tilts slightly side to side



## V • 2-Hand SIGNS

**save, preserve,  
reserve, store**

**Handshape:** V : V

**Orientation:** palms in, right hand in front of left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** hit left fingers twice with right fingers

**Note:** See page 288 for a variation of this sign.



**indecision,  
uncertainty**



**Handshape:** V : B

**Orientation:** right palm down, index and middle finger straddling left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** rock right hand side to side

**Nonmanual signal:** "indecisive" expression

**ride  
(horse,  
bike)**



**Handshape:** V : B

**Orientation:** right palm down, index and middle fingers straddling left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bounce hands forward several

times (horse); move hands forward (bike)

**predict, forecast,  
foretell, omen, prophecy  
(fortune-teller, prophet)**

**Handshape:** V : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down

**Location:** right hand below eyes; left hand in neutral space

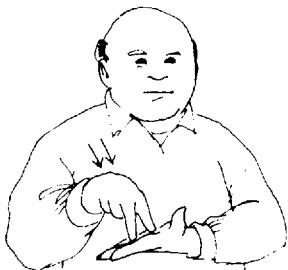
**Movement:** move right hand under and beyond left hand



## 2-Hand SIGNS • V

**drown****Handshape:** V : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out, fingertips wedged between left index and middle fingers; left palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** wiggle right hand down**lose  
(competition)****Handshape:** V : Open B**Orientation:** right palm

down, hand above left hand; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** smack right hand down sharply on left palm**Nonmanual signal:** "sad" expression**dance,  
party****Handshape:** V : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** swing right hand left and right**Nonmanual signal:** smile**stand****Handshape:** V : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips above left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand down so fingertips touch left palm**fork****Handshape:** V : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips above left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** stab left palm with right fingertips twice**recline,  
lie down****Handshape:** V : Open B**Orientation:** palms up, back of right hand on left palm**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide back of right hand across left palm**Nonmanual signal:** "tired" expression



## V 2-Hand SIGNS

**arise, get up,  
stand up**



**Handshape:** V : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** flip right fingers over to  
stand on left palm

**fall down,  
fall**



**Handshape:** V : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand  
above left hand; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** flip right hand over and  
smack onto left palm

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans back

**read**



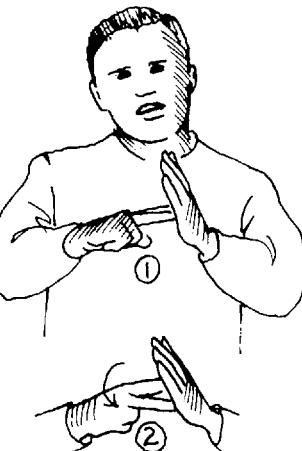
**Handshape:** V : Open B

**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush right fingertips down  
left palm

**mean, imply, intend,  
motive, purpose, signify**



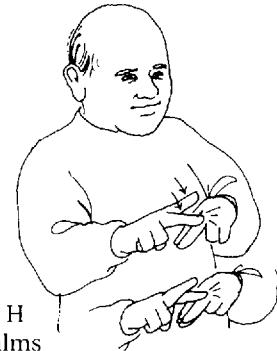
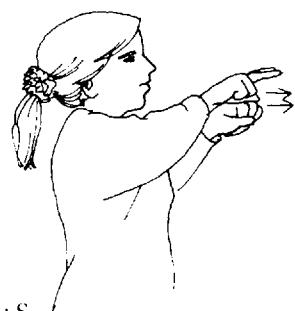
**Handshape:** V : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left  
palm; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** rotate right fingertips on left palm

## 2-Hand SIGNS ➡ V

**toast****Handshape:** V : Open B**Orientation:** palms facing; right fingertips toward left palm**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** stab palm and back of left hand with right fingertips by rotating both hands**twice, double,  
duplicate****Handshape:** V : Open B**Orientation:** right palm in, middle finger on left palm; left palm right, fingertips up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right middle finger up left palm**salt****Handshape:** V : H**Orientation:** palms down, right fingertips above left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap left fingers twice with alternating right index and middle fingers**dive****Handshape:** V : H**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on back of left fingers; left palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** flip right hand off left hand, ending below left hand with fingertips up**watch****Handshape:** V : S**Orientation:** palms down; right hand on left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands forward in two quick motions



## V 2-Hand SIGNS

**save, store,  
reserve,  
preserve**



**Handshape:** V : S

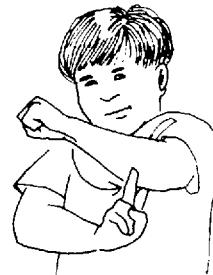
**Orientation:** palms in,  
right hand in front of left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** tap right fingertips on back of  
left hand twice

**Note:** See page 284 for a variation of this  
sign.

**bridge  
(passive)**



**Handshape:** V : passive

**Orientation:** right palm left, fingertips on  
left wrist; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc right fingertips along left  
arm, ending at left elbow

**sheep  
(passive)**



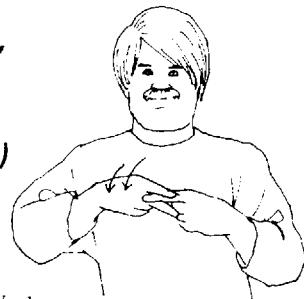
**Handshape:** V : passive

**Orientation:** right palm up, fingers on left  
arm; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** shear back of left arm with  
right fingertips

**plumbing,  
wrench  
(plumber,  
mechanic)**



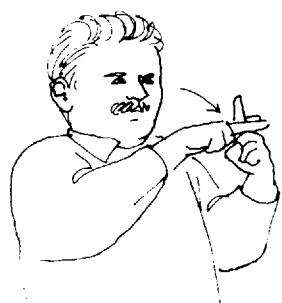
**Handshape:** V : I

**Orientation:** palms in, right index and  
middle fingers straddling left index finger

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** twist right index and middle  
fingers around left index finger

**apply,  
shelve it  
(slang),  
table it  
(slang)**



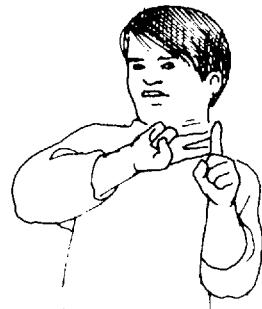
**Handshape:** V : I

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move right hand down onto  
left index finger

**vocabulary**



**Handshape:** V : I

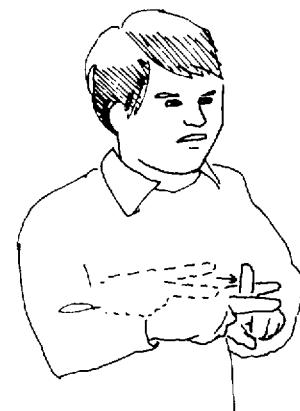
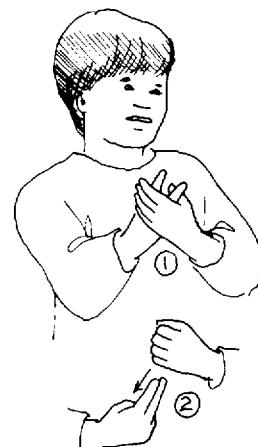
**Orientation:** palms out,

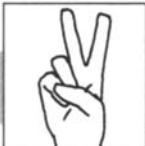
right fingertips above left index finger

**Location:** neutral space

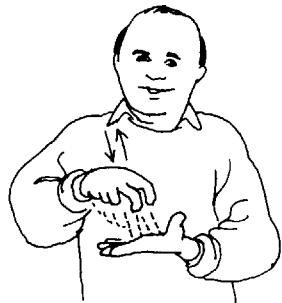
**Movement:** tap right fingertips on left  
index finger twice as hands move left  
slightly

## 2-Hand SIGNS • V

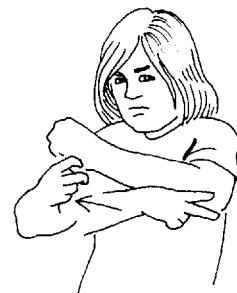
**plug, electric outlet****Handshape:** V : 1**Orientation:** right palm down, behind left hand; left palm out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** plug right index and middle fingers into left index finger**both****Handshape:** V > H : C > S**Orientation:** palms in, right hand inside left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand down left palm, closing left hand as right fingers come together**videotape (n.)****Handshape:** V > T : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out, index finger against left palm; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle right hand clockwise, ending in T handshape



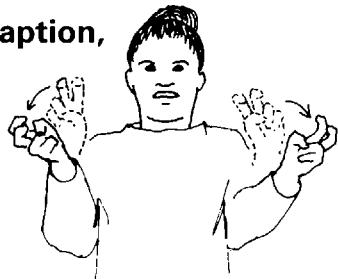
## V → 2-Hand SIGNS

**jump**

**Handshape:** V > Bent V : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right fingertips on left palm, bending the fingers on the way up

**rob, steal  
(passive)**

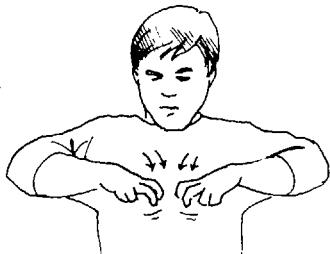
**Handshape:** V > Bent V : passive  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply slide right hand from left elbow to left wrist while bending fingers

**quote, caption,  
subject,  
theme,  
title,  
topic**

**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrists, ending with palms facing

**dead  
(animal),  
kick the  
bucket  
(slang)**

**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply twist wrists up  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**analyze,  
analysis,  
research**

**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** palms down, knuckles facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slightly straighten and bend fingers twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered; "inquiring" expression

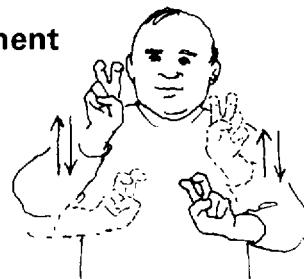
**laid up**

**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers out  
**Location:** left side of body  
**Movement:** arc hands up sharply toward right shoulder  
**Nonmanual signal:** pursed lips, body and head lean back

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT V

**poison**

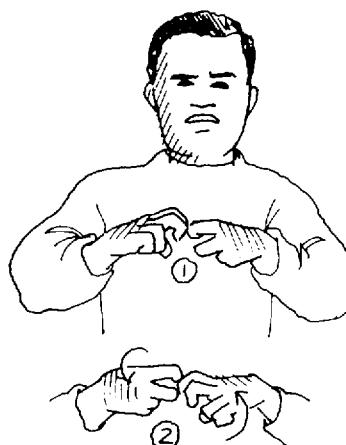
**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** palms in, wrists crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap wrists against each other twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** "sour" expression

**tournament**

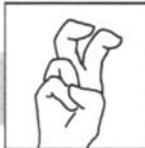
**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** palms out, right hand higher than left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shift hands up and down several times

**difficult,  
hardship**

**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** palms in, knuckles facing, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush knuckles against each other in alternating pattern  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight; "strained" expression

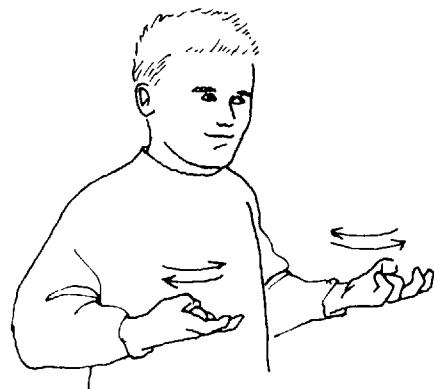
**problem**

**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm in, knuckles touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hands to switch palm positions  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight; "strained" expression



## BENT V 2-Hand SIGNS

### roller skate



**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V

**Orientation:** palms up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide hands alternately back  
and forth several times

### tough



**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V

**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left  
hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down, brushing  
knuckles of left hand sharply

**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression

### dumbfounded, open-mouthed, speechless

**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm out, back of left  
hand against mouth

**Location:** in front of mouth

**Movement:** arc right hand down, ending with  
palm up

**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; "shocked"  
expression



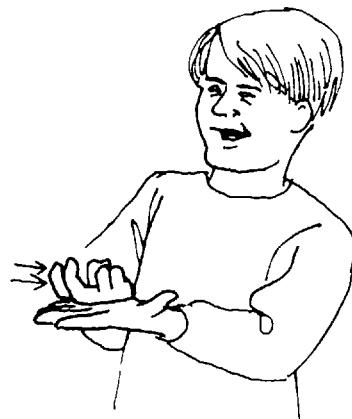
## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT V

**squirrel**

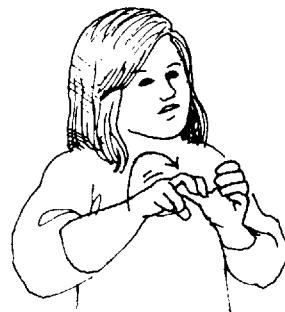
**Handshape:** Bent V : Bent V  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right hand above mouth; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down to left hand, then tap fingertips together several times  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered; cheeks puffed

**hilarious, laughter,  
rolling in the aisles  
(slang)**

**Handshape:** Bent V : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand on left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand across left palm while straightening and bending right index and middle fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; head tilted back

**kneel**

**Handshape:** Bent V : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, knuckles above left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down onto left palm

**get in**

**Handshape:** Bent V : C  
**Orientation:** right palm up; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip right hand down to perch on left thumb



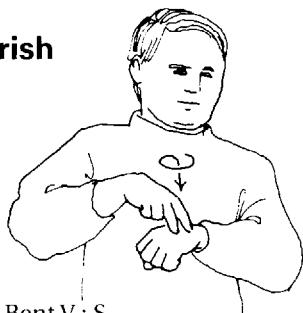
## BENT V • 2-Hand SIGNS

**get out**

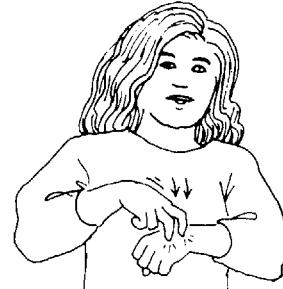
**Handshape:** Bent V : C  
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingers on left thumb; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip right hand off left thumb

**hard**

**Handshape:** Bent V : S  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand above left hand; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right hand down onto back of left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight

**Ireland, Irish**

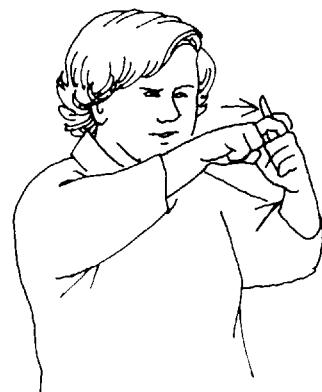
**Handshape:** Bent V : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, right fingertips above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle right hand above left hand, then land on left hand

**potato**

**Handshape:** Bent V : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, right fingertips above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right fingertips on back of left hand twice

**nab,**  
**caught in the act,**  
**contact, corner (v.)**

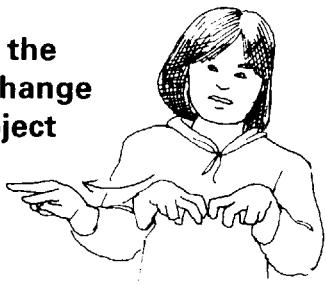
**Handshape:** Bent V : I  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand in back of left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand forward to trap left index finger between right knuckles  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



## 2-Hand SIGNS • W



**change the topic, change the subject**



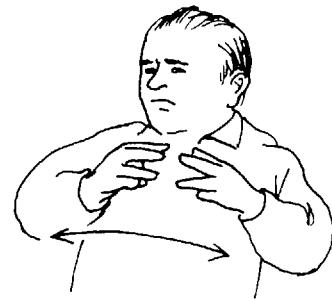
**Handshape:** Bent V > V : Bent V

**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** arc right hand to the right, straightening bent fingers

**war**



**Handshape:** W : W

**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips pointing toward each other

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands side to side in unison

**winter**



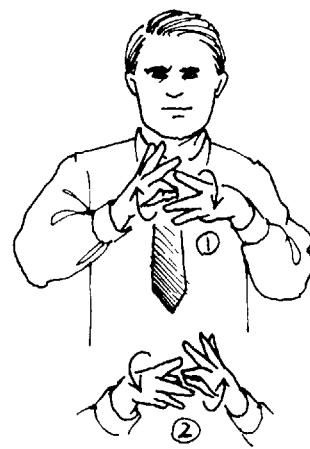
**Handshape:** W : W

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** tap pinkies and thumbs together twice

**weather**

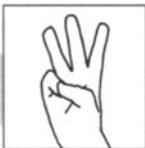


**Handshape:** W : W

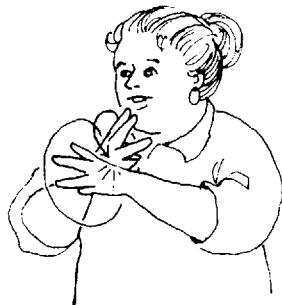
**Orientation:** palms facing, thumbs and pinkies touching

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** twist hands in opposite directions twice



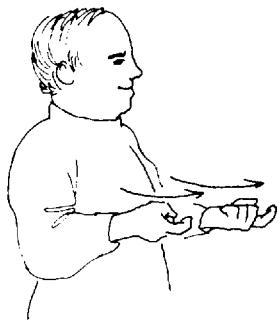
## W 2-Hand SIGNS

**world****Handshape:** W : W**Orientation:** right palm left; hand on top of left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle hands around each other**worship****Handshape:** W : W**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm down**Location:** right index finger on right side of head; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** right hand twists down, ending with hand on top of left hand**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression**dangerous,  
hazardous****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** palms up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** flip hands over sharply**Nonmanual signal:** eyes widen;

"frightened" expression

**give, award, contribute,  
present, reward (SM); gift,  
award, contribution,  
present, reward (DM)****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** palms facing, index fingers up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists forward and down

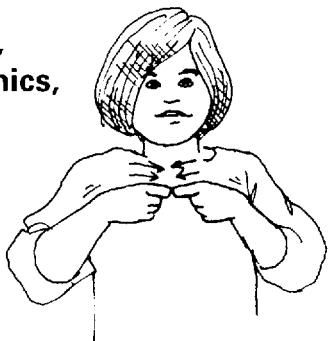
## 2-Hand SIGNS X

**ski**

**Handshape:** X : X  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** glide hands forward and back slightly

**urge,  
coax,  
persuade,  
prod**

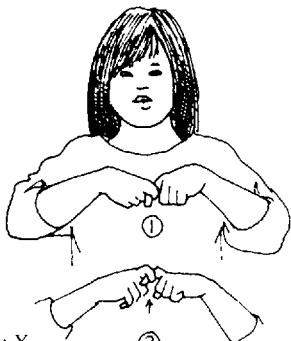
**Handshape:** X : X  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand closer to body  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tug hands in toward body twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** "earnest" expression

**electric,  
electronics,  
physics**

**Handshape:** X : X  
**Orientation:** palms in, knuckles touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** hit knuckles together twice

**Spain, Spanish  
(Spaniard)**

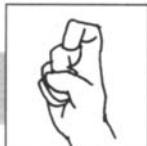
**Handshape:** X : X  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** shoulders  
**Movement:** move hands forward, ending with index fingers clasped

**suspend,  
hold up**

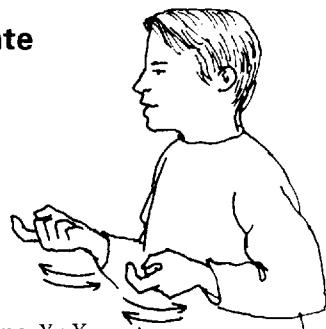
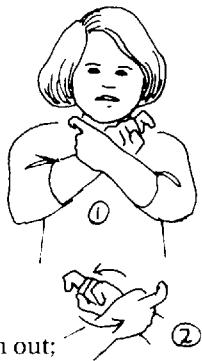
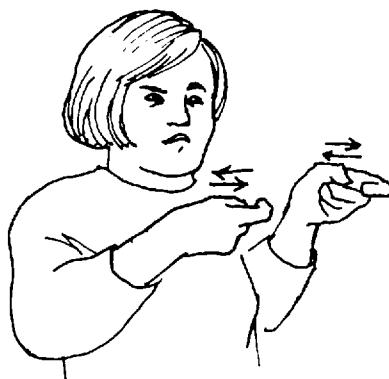
**Handshape:** X : X  
**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers clasped  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply bring wrists up

**best friend**

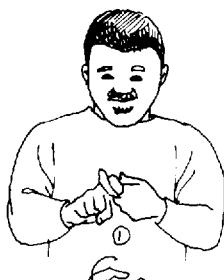
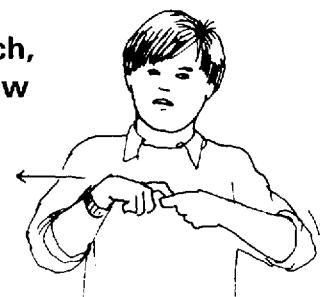
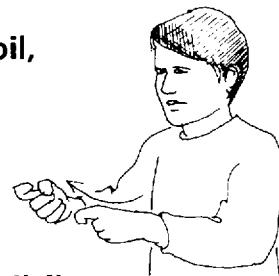
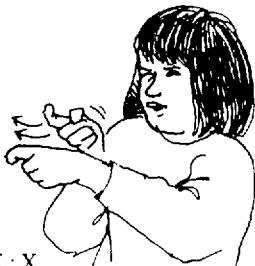
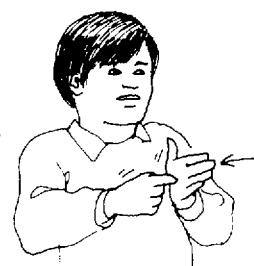
**Handshape:** X : X  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up, index fingers clasped  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands sharply forward and down  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut; "earnest" expression



## X 2-Hand SIGNS

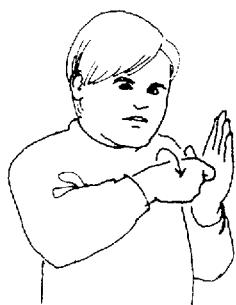
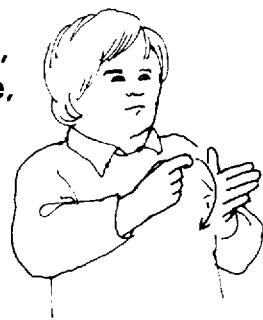
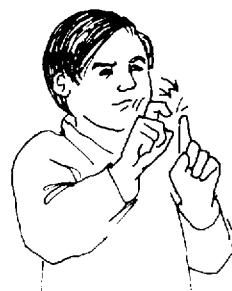
**expression,  
grimace****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** palms out**Location:** right hand near temple; left hand near cheek**Movement:** move hands alternately up and down**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed**ice skate****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** palms up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide hands side to side twice**Nonmanual signal:** body sways**change, adapt,  
adjust, modify****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in; hands crossed at wrists**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** twist hands around, reversing palm positions**exchange,  
switch, trade****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right, closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** rotate hands so right hand is closer to body**direct, control, discipline,  
govern, manage, regulate,  
reign, rule****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands back and forth in alternating motion**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture

## 2-Hand SIGNS X

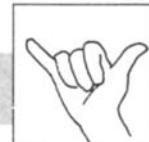
**friend****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up; index fingers clasped**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** rotate hands to switch palm positions**pull, hitch,  
hook, tow****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm in; index fingers clasped**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** use right hand to pull left hand to the right**cards,  
play cards****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right hand off left hand several times while moving hands right**ruin, spoil,  
torment****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** right palm left, above and in back of left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right hand across left hand, arcing wrist forward and up**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance**tease****Handshape:** X : X**Orientation:** right palm left, above and in back of left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right hand across left hand twice**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; "taunting" expression**demand,  
command,  
insist, require****Handshape:** X : Open B**Orientation:** right palm in, index fingertip on left palm; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** sharply pull hands in toward body**Nonmanual signal:** "insistent" expression



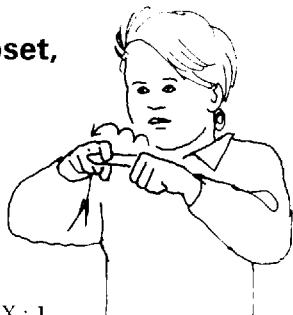
## X 2-Hand SIGNS

**key, lock****Handshape:** X : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; index finger knuckle on left palm; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** twist right hand on left palm**charge, cost,  
expense, fee,  
fine, price,  
tax, toll****Handshape:** X : Open B**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right index finger down left palm**time  
(passive)****Handshape:** X : S**Orientation:** palms down, right index finger above left wrist**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right fingertip on left wrist twice**tempt,  
temptation  
(passive)****Handshape:** X : passive**Orientation:** palms in, right index fingertip on left arm below elbow**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right index finger on left elbow twice**from****Handshape:** X : I**Orientation:** right palm left, index finger against left index finger; left palm out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** pull right hand back, away from left index finger**pick on,  
henpeck,  
nag****Handshape:** X : I**Orientation:** palms out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** peck right index finger on left index finger twice**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

## 2-Hand SIGNS ↗ Y



**hang, closet,  
hanger**



**Handshape:** X : 1

**Orientation:** palms down, right index finger crooked over left index finger

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bounce right hand on left index fingertip several times

**telegram, call  
(by TTY)**



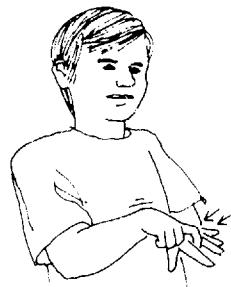
**Handshape:** X : 1

**Orientation:** right palm down, index fingertip at base of left index finger; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right fingertip off left index finger

**sandals,  
thongs**



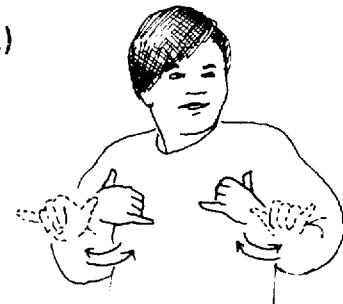
**Handshape:** X : 5

**Orientation:** palms down, right index finger between left index and middle fingers

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move right index finger forward and back twice

**play (v.)**



**Handshape:** Y : Y

**Orientation:** palms out

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** twist wrists in and out twice

**Nonmanual signal:** body bounces

**now,  
presently,  
today**



**Handshape:** Y : Y

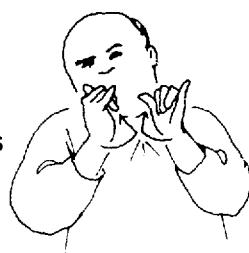
**Orientation:** palms up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands down sharply

**Nonmanual signal:** "cz" mouth utterance

**contrary,  
antagonistic,  
bullheaded,  
cantankerous**



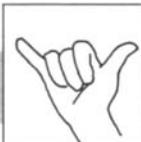
**Handshape:** Y : Y

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring heels of hands together twice

**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression



## Y 2-Hand SIGNS

**measure, ruler,  
size**



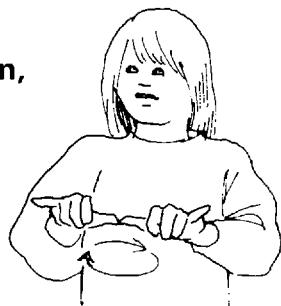
**Handshape:** Y : Y  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap thumbs together twice

**still, yet**



**Handshape:** Y : Y  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands forward,  
 bending wrists up

**uniform,  
in common,  
same,  
standard,  
universal**



**Handshape:** Y : Y  
**Orientation:** palms down, thumbs  
 touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands in a large circle

**cow,  
bull**



**Handshape:** Y : Y  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** thumbs at temples  
**Movement:** bend wrists down and up  
**Note:** See page 113 for a one-hand  
 variation of this sign.

**humorous,  
comical**



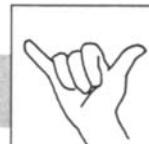
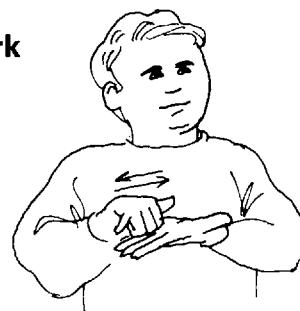
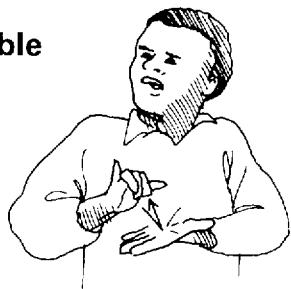
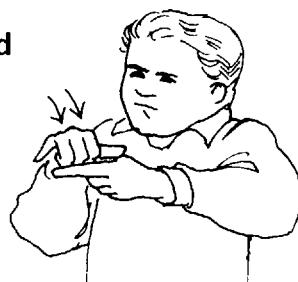
**Handshape:** Y : Y  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right hand in front of nose; left  
 hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** twist wrists up and down twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile

**drafting,  
engineering  
(engineer)**



**Handshape:** Y : Y  
**Orientation:** palms down, thumbs  
 touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist right hand down twice

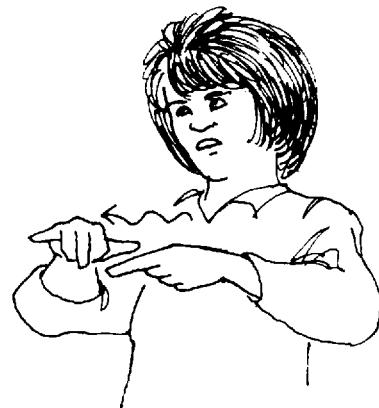
## 2-Hand SIGNS • Y

**that****Handshape:** Y : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down onto left palm**New York****Handshape:** Y : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand back and forth along left palm**impossible****Handshape:** Y : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down sharply onto left palm, then bounce hand up**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"**fat (demeaning),  
obese****Handshape:** Y : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** rock right knuckles side to side on left palm**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance**country  
(foreign)  
(passive)****Handshape:** Y : passive**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** make a clockwise circle with right hand in front of left elbow**big word****Handshape:** Y : I**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand down so knuckles hit left index finger



## Y 2-Hand SIGNS

### **swear, curse**



**Handshape:** Y : 1

**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm right

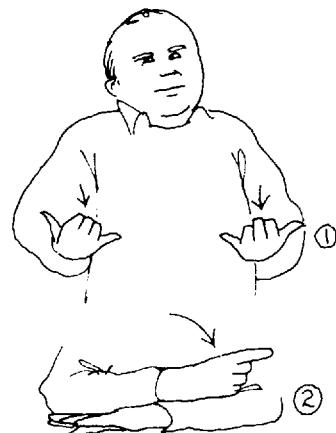
**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** wiggle right hand down and off left index finger

**Nonmanual signal:** "cha" mouth utterance

### **today**

**(compound: now + day)**



**Handshape:** Y > 1 : Y > B

**Orientation:** palms up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands down, then change right hand to 1 handshape, palm left, and left hand to B handshape, palm down, right elbow on left fingers, bend right arm down onto left arm

### **I love you (casual)**



**Handshape:** L-I : L-I

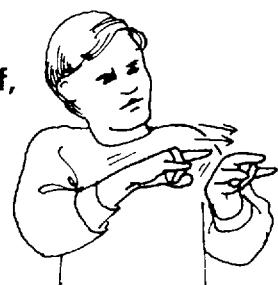
**Orientation:** palms out

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** shake hands slightly side to side

**Nonmanual signal:** smile

### **mock, make fun of, ridicule**



**Handshape:** 1-I : 1-I

**Orientation:** palms down, right hand closer to body, hands angled to left

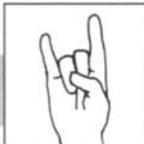
**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** double bounce hands forward

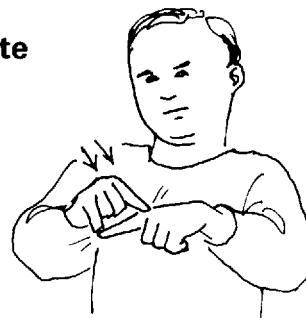
**Nonmanual signal:** "smirking" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS 2-1-1

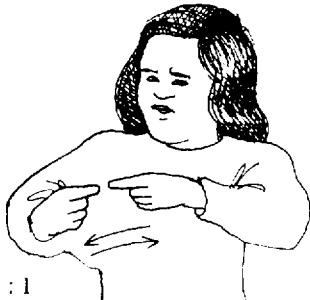
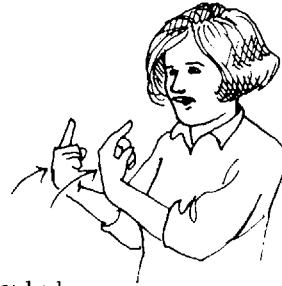
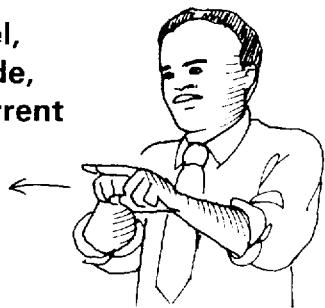
**tent, camping****Handshape:** 1-I : 1-I**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands down at an angle**Note:** See page 283 for a variation of this sign.**sarcasm, cynical,  
ironic****Handshape:** 1-I : 1-I**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** right index finger on tip of nose; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** move right hand down to meet left hand, then brush hands past each other**Nonmanual signal:** "smirking" expression**liquor,  
whiskey****Handshape:** 1-I : 1-I**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** double bounce right hand down on left hand**Note:** See page 306 for a variation of this sign.**trick, deceive,  
defraud, fraud****Handshape:** 1-I : 1-I**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips forward, right hand above left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand off left hand**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



## 1-I 2-Hand SIGNS

**liquor,  
whiskey****Handshape:** 1-I : S**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** double bounce right hand down on left hand**Note:** See page 305 for a variation of this sign.**cigarette****Handshape:** 1-I : I**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right index finger and pinky on left index finger twice**sin****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms facing, index fingers angled toward each other**Location:** index fingertips at corners of mouth**Movement:** arc hands out, then rotate hands, ending with palms in**hurt, ache,  
injure, harm,  
pain****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** twist hands in opposite**directions****Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded;**"pained" expression****opposite, contrast,  
oppose, reverse  
(enemy, foe, opponent)****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc hands up then out to opposite sides

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1

**struggle****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands side to side in unison**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight; "pained" expression**quake,  
scared****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands together and apart in short, quick shakes**Nonmanual signal:** "frightened" expression**go to,  
attend****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms out, right hand slightly behind left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists down while moving hands forward**come****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms up, right hand slightly closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring hands in toward the body while bending wrists in**parallel,  
coincide,  
concurrent****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands forward**during,  
meantime,  
meanwhile,  
while****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in, index fingers angled in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc index fingers down and out while moving hands forward



## 1 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**happen, event,  
incident, occur**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** palms up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** flip hands over

**accomplish, achieve,  
prosper, succeed, triumph**



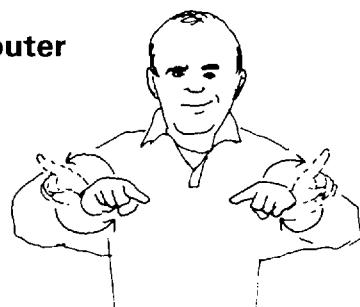
**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** index fingers at sides of forehead  
**Movement:** move hands forward in two spiraling motions, ending with palms out  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders and head thrust back

**finally,  
pah!**



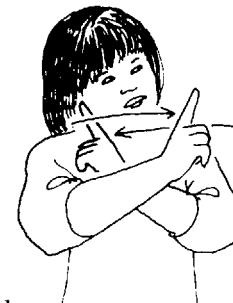
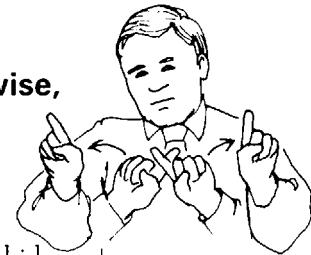
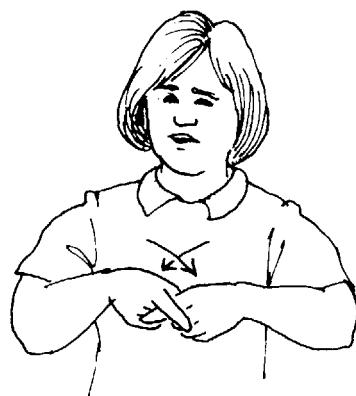
**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** sides of head  
**Movement:** twist wrists out in an exaggerated motion, ending with palms out  
**Nonmanual signal:** body and head thrust back; "pah" mouth utterance

**computer**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands out in opposite directions

## 2-Hand SIGNS 2 1

**wheelchair****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** outside of thighs**Movement:** circle index fingers forward twice**pass by****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand closer to body**Location:** near shoulders**Movement:** move hands toward and past each other**meet, encounter,  
face-to-face,  
one-to-one****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** right palm out, right hand closer to body; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands toward each other until they meet**but,  
contrariwise,  
however****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms out, index fingers crossed**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc hands out in opposite directions**Nonmanual signal:** body and head thrust back; eyes widen**intersect, conflict,  
cross****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in, index fingers angled toward each other**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring hands together so that index fingers cross



## 1 2-Hand SIGNS

**conflict, clash,  
cross-purposes**

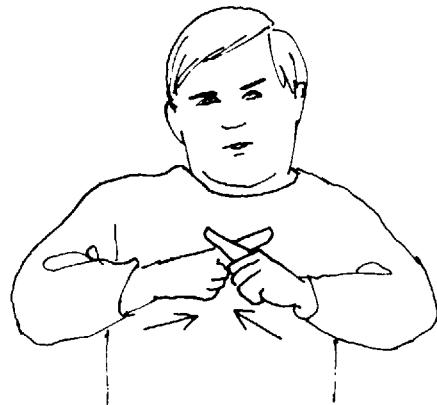
**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers angled up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring hands together sharply until index fingers cross and knuckles clash

**Nonmanual signal:** brows furrowed; "serious" expression



**same, alike,  
identical,  
similar (SM);  
according to,  
also,  
too (DM)**



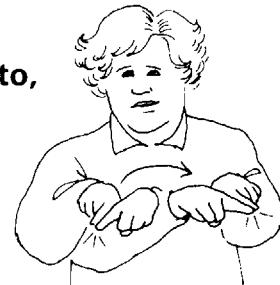
**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms down, hands parallel

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring hands together so index fingers touch

**as,  
according to,  
also**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms down, hands parallel

**Location:** right side of neutral space

**Movement:** bring hands together and tap index fingers together, then move hands to the left and tap index fingers again

**since,  
all along,  
ever since,  
so far**



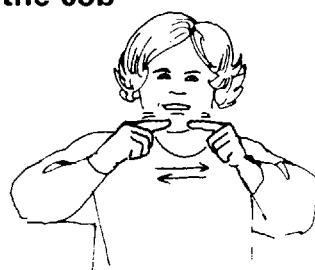
**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms in, index fingers angled toward right shoulder

**Location:** in front of right shoulder

**Movement:** slowly arc hands out, ending with palms up

**corn on the cob**



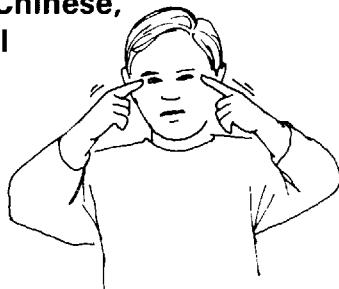
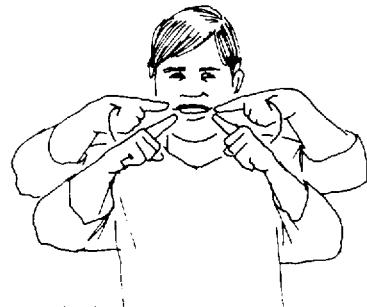
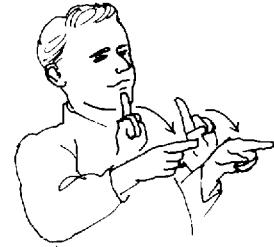
**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** in front of mouth

**Movement:** move hands left and right in unison

## 2-Hand SIGNS 2 1

**China, Chinese,  
Oriental****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** corners of eyes**Movement:** rotate fingertips back and forth**Note:** See page 126 for the preferred sign.**smile****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms facing, index fingers angled up**Location:** corners of mouth**Movement:** slide index fingers up cheeks**Nonmanual signal:** smile**laugh,  
laughter****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in, index fingers angled toward each other**Location:** corners of mouth**Movement:** brush index fingers off cheeks twice**Nonmanual signal:** mimic laughter**answer,  
comment,  
order, reply,  
respond****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms out**Location:** back of right index finger on lips; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists forward, ending with palms down**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks forward slightly**announce, declare,  
proclaim****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in, index fingers angled toward each other**Location:** corners of mouth**Movement:** swing hands out to opposite sides, ending with palms out**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts back



## 1 2-Hand SIGNS

**famous, fame,  
popular, renown**

**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms in, index fingers angled toward each other

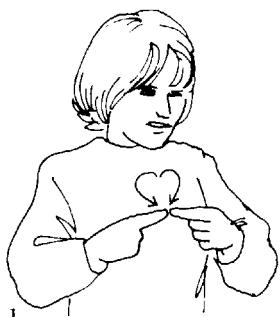
**Location:** corners of mouth

**Movement:** move hands out and spiral forward

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders and head thrust back



**heart  
(romantic)**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms in, index fingertips touching

**Location:** left side of chest

**Movement:** outline the shape of a heart with the index fingers

**knit**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm out, index fingertips crossed

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** twist wrists forward

**quarrel, argue**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms in, right index finger up, left index finger down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** shake index fingers alternately up and down

**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1



**variety, assorted, different,  
diverse, etcetera**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

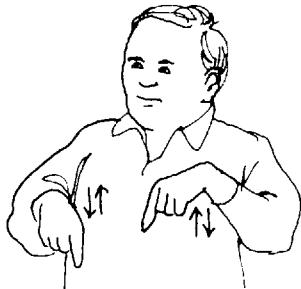
**Orientation:** palms down, right hand higher than left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands out to the sides while alternately bending wrists up and down

**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks slightly

**crippled,  
lame**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands alternately up and down

**Nonmanual signal:** left shoulder dips twice

**tornado**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** right side of body

**Movement:** rapidly spiral index fingers around one another while moving hands left

**Nonmanual signal:** lips blow out air

**travel, journey,  
roam, trip,  
wander**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

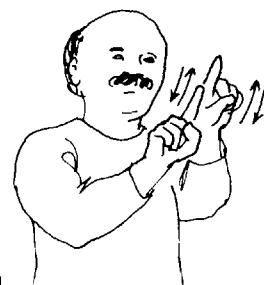
**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** spiral index fingers around each other while moving hands forward

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**stars,  
astrology**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** palms out, right index finger against base of left thumb

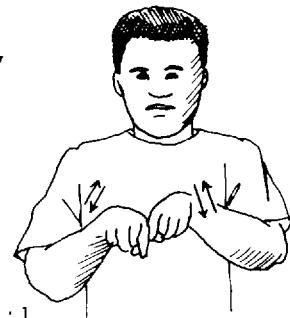
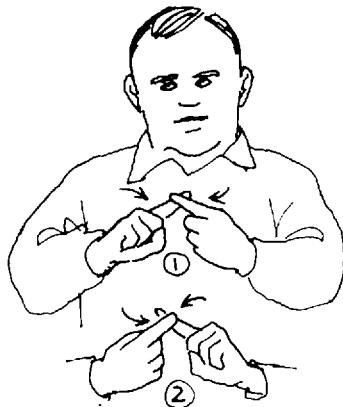
**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** alternately brush one index finger up and off the other

**Nonmanual signal:** gaze upward



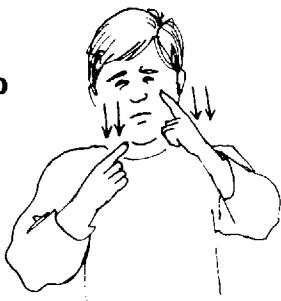
## 1 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**sign language,  
signs****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands in alternating circles toward the body**stockings,  
socks****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide index fingers alternately back and forth against each other**relatives****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** right palm out, right hand slightly higher than left hand; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring index fingers together until tips touch, then rotate hands to switch positions**consider, contemplate,  
ponder, reckon,  
speculate, wonder****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** palms in, index fingers angled up**Location:** near temples**Movement:** move hands in small, alternating circles**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders raise; head tilts right; "pensive" expression**Note:** See page 120 for a one-hand variation of this sign.

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1

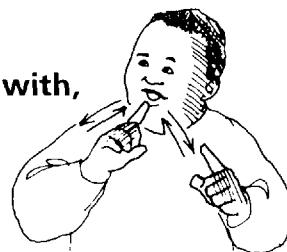


**cry, bawl,  
tears, weep**



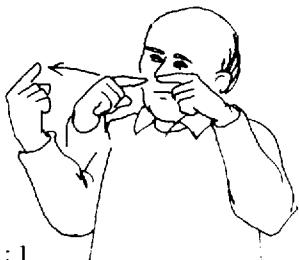
**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** index fingers below eyes  
**Movement:** brush alternating index fingers down cheeks  
**Nonmanual signal:** "sad" expression

**talk,  
converse with,  
dialogue**



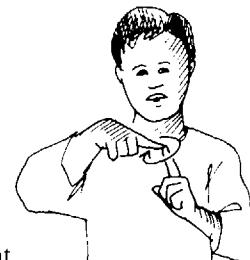
**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right index fingertip on lips; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands in opposition forward and back from mouth  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**allergy**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand slightly higher than left  
**Location:** in front of nose  
**Movement:** pull right hand away from nose sharply  
**Nonmanual signal:** body pulls away from the offending source

**when**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rotate right finger clockwise around left index finger, ending with index fingers touching  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; eyebrows knit

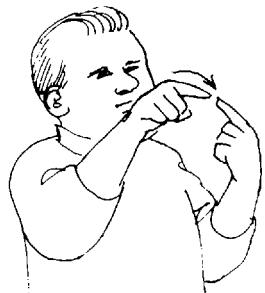
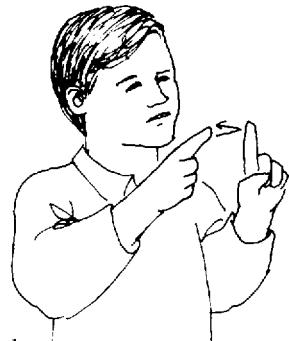
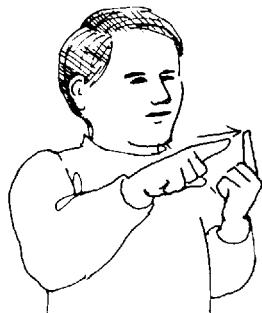
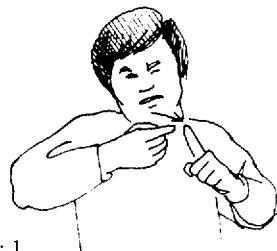
**objective, aim, ambition,  
goal, purpose**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm out  
**Location:** right hand at right temple; left hand in front of face  
**Movement:** move right hand to left index finger  
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts right; eyes on left index finger



## 1 2-Hand SIGNS

**until****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm in  
**Location:** right hand near right shoulder; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** arc right hand up then down until fingertips touch**point (n.)****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm out  
**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right index finger on left index finger twice**to, toward****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** right palm out, right hand closer to body; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand forward to meet left index finger**specific****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** right palm in, right hand closer to body; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** sharply hit left index fingertip with right index fingertip**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight; "strained" expression; right shoulder raised**digress, distracted,  
off the subject****Handshape:** 1 : 1**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand toward left index finger, then bounce right index finger off left index finger, detouring to the left**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; "annoyed" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1

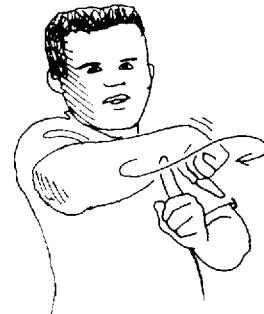


**stray,  
deviate,  
divert**



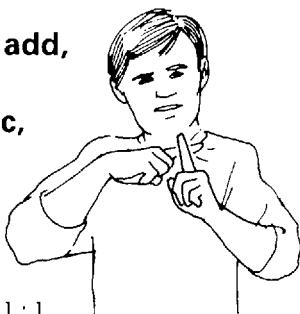
**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right index finger off to the left

**turn back,  
go back,  
return,  
turn around**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle right index finger counterclockwise around left hand

**positive, add,  
addition,  
optimistic,  
plus**



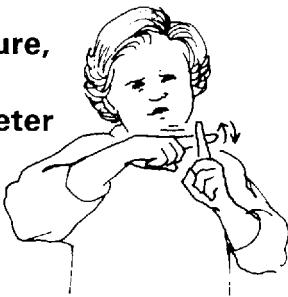
**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right index finger on middle of left index finger

**month (SM),  
monthly (DM)**



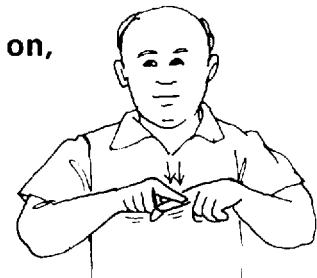
**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right index finger down edge of left index finger

**temperature,  
fever,  
thermometer**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right index finger up and down edge of left index finger

**depend on,  
rely**

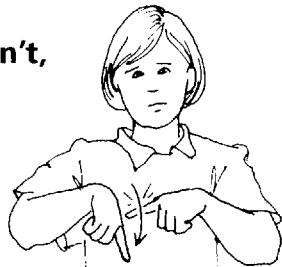


**Handshape:** 1 : 1  
**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers crossed  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce index fingers down twice



## 1 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**cannot, can't,  
unable**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

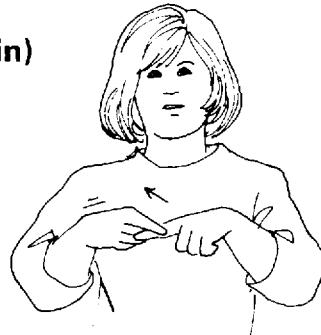
**Orientation:** palms down, index fingers perpendicular, right hand above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring right index finger down, hitting left index finger

**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"

**cut (skin)**



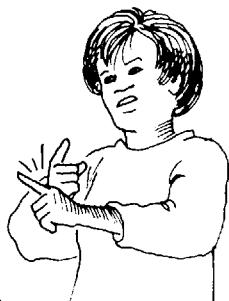
**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right index finger across left index finger

**correct,  
accurate,  
decent,  
exact,  
proper,  
right**



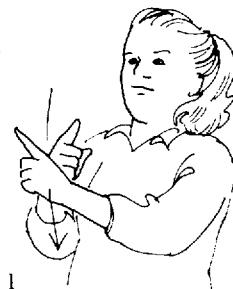
**Handshape:** 1 : 1

**Orientation:** right palm left, right hand above left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring right hand down, landing on left hand

**consistent,  
faithful,  
regular**



**Handshape:** 1 : 1

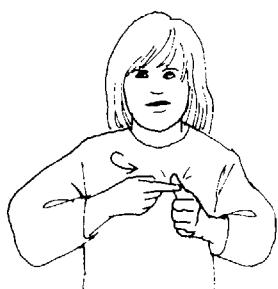
**Orientation:** right palm left, right hand on left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring hands down in an exaggerated motion

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**first**



**Handshape:** 1 : Open A

**Orientation:** right palm left, index finger forward; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** swing right index finger around to hit left thumb

**begin,  
commence,  
initiate,  
originate,  
start**



**Handshape:** 1 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, index finger between left index and middle fingers; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** twist right index finger forward

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1



**escape, flee,  
get away,  
runaway**

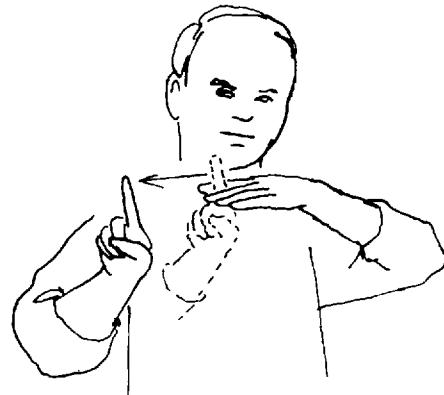
**Handshape:** 1 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm out, index finger between left index and middle fingers; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** sharply slide right index finger out of left hand

**Nonmanual signal:** "poo" mouth utterance



**appear, pop up,  
show up**

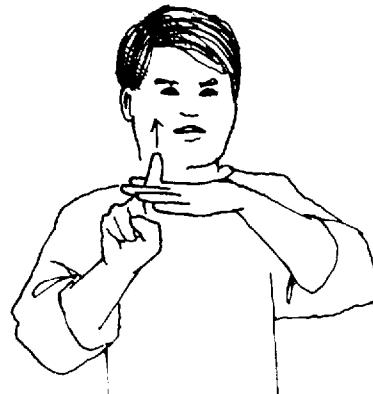
**Handshape:** 1 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm out, right hand below left hand; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** lift right index finger up between left index and middle fingers

**Nonmanual signal:** body and head thrust back; "surprised" expression



**disappear**

**Handshape:** 1 : Open B

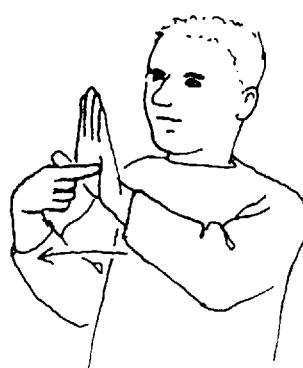
**Orientation:** right palm out, index finger between left index and middle fingers; left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

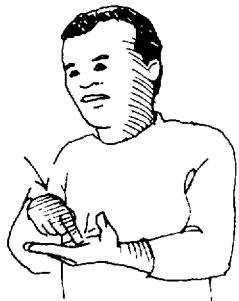
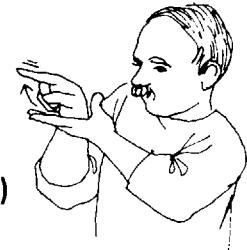
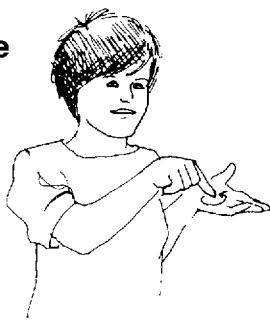
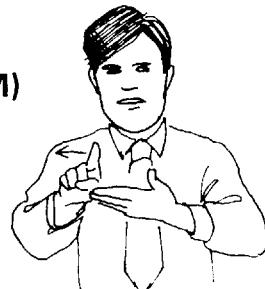
**Movement:** slide right index finger down and away from left hand

**Nonmanual signal:** "surprised" expression



**kill, murder****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** palms down, right hand closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** pass right hand under left hand, sharply brushing against left palm while moving forward**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression**notice, observe,  
recognize****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up**Location:** right index finger on right eye; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** move right hand down, ending with right index finger on left palm**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; body and head lean back**show, demonstrate, display,  
exhibit (v.), illustrate, indicate,  
represent, signify (SM);  
demonstration, exhibit (n.),  
example (DM)****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm in, index finger on left palm; left palm out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** push both hands forward

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1

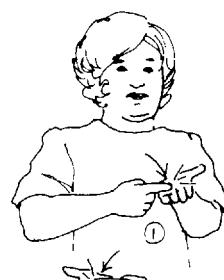
**this****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, right hand above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right index finger down to stab center of left palm**owe, afford,  
debt, due****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, right hand above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right index finger down and sharply poke left palm twice**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed**pay****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush right index finger down and off left palm**check (SM);  
inspect,  
examine,  
investigate,  
research (DM)****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** in front of shoulders**Movement:** slide right index finger off left fingertips**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered; "inquiring" expression**coin, change****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** draw a small circle on left palm with right index finger**week (SM);  
weekly (DM)****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** place right hand on heel of left palm, then slide right hand down to left fingertips



## 1 ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**discuss**

**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, index finger above left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right index finger down and tap left palm twice

**debate**

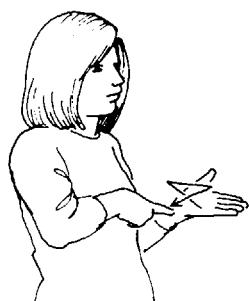
**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, (1) index finger above left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right index finger down and tap left palm, then reverse handshapes and repeat or run down hand

**last week,  
one week ago**

**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on heel of left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand off left fingertips, then arc hand back toward right shoulder  
**Nonmanual signal:** head and right shoulder tilt toward each other; "cz" mouth utterance

**next week**

**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on heel of left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand off left fingertips, then arc hand forward

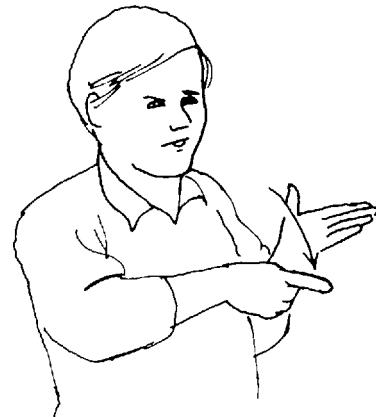
**cancel,  
correct,  
criticize,  
find fault**

**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, index finger above left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** draw a large X on left palm with right index finger

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1

**what**

**Handshape:** I : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right index finger down  
left palm  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward;  
head tilts right; eyebrows knit

**once (SM); sometimes (DM)**

**Handshape:** I : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, index finger  
on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right index finger up  
and off left palm

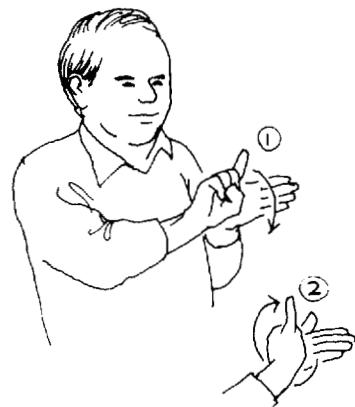
**occasionally,  
once in a while**

**Handshape:** I : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, index finger  
on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right index finger up  
and off left palm twice in a slow,  
elliptical motion





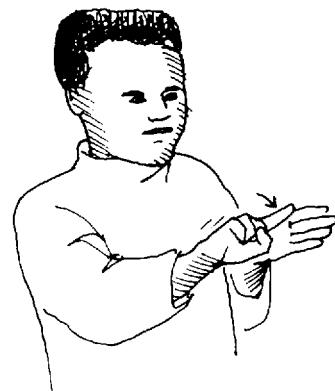
## 1 2-Hand SIGNS

**tall, height****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out, right hand below  
left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right index finger up and off  
left palm**Nonmanual signal:** eyes gaze upward**hour****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out, edge of hand  
against left palm; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** rotate right index finger around left  
palm, ending with palm in**half hour****Handshape:** 1 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm out, edge of hand against  
left palm; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend right wrist down, ending with  
index finger down

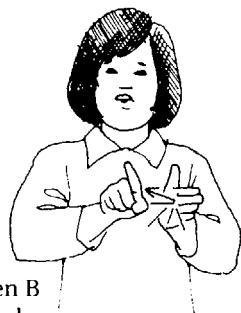
## 2-Hand SIGNS 1

**minute, moment**

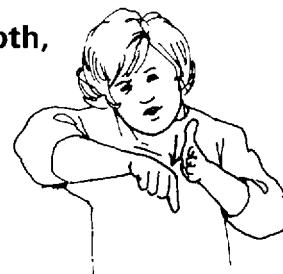
**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm out, edge of hand against left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right index finger forward slightly  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder lifts up; head tilts right, "cz" mouth utterance

**alarm**

**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm angled out; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply smack right hand against left palm several times  
**Nonmanual signal:** "alarmed" expression

**deep, depth, detail**

**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, edge of index finger on left palm; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right index finger across left palm and down

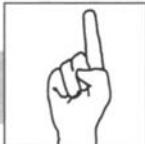
**minus, negative**

**Handshape:** 1 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand in front of left palm; left palm out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sharply smack right index finger against left palm

**day (passive)**

**Handshape:** 1 : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm in, index finger up, elbow on left fingertips; left palm down, arm across body  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right arm down onto left arm

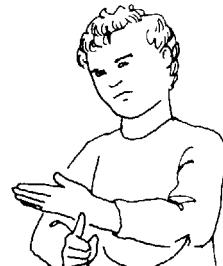




## 1 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**length, long  
(passive)**

**Handshape:** 1 : passive  
**Orientation:** palms down, right index finger on back of left wrist, left arm extended forward  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right index finger along left forearm toward elbow

**pail, bucket  
(passive)**

**Handshape:** 1 : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm left, index finger touching underside of left wrist; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right index finger along left arm, ending at left elbow

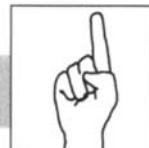
**Episcopal (passive)**

**Handshape:** 1 : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm left, index finger on left wrist; left palm down, arm across body  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right index finger out and around to left elbow

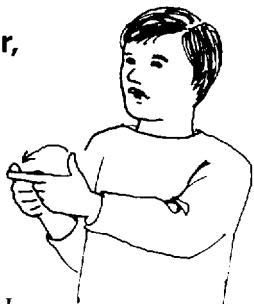
**swallow**

**Handshape:** 1 : C  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm in  
**Location:** right index finger under chin; left hand in front of neck  
**Movement:** slide right index fingertip down neck  
**Note:** See page 125 for a variation of this sign.

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1



**then, either,  
or**



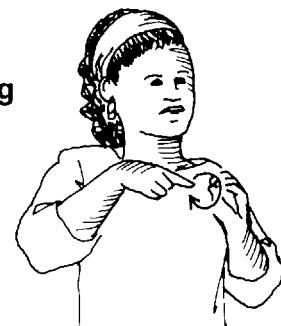
**Handshape:** 1 : L

**Orientation:** right palm in; index finger on left thumb; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bounce right index finger from left thumb to left index finger

**about,  
concerning**



**Handshape:** 1 : Flattened O

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle right index finger around left fingertips

**tomato**



**Handshape:** 1 : S

**Orientation:** right palm in; index finger up; left palm down

**Location:** right index finger in front of lips; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** brush right index finger down lips, then turn palm out and brush down edge of left hand

**penalty, punish  
(passive)**



**Handshape:** 1 : passive

**Orientation:** right palm down; index finger in front of left elbow; left palm down, arm across body

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** sharply brush right index finger down left elbow

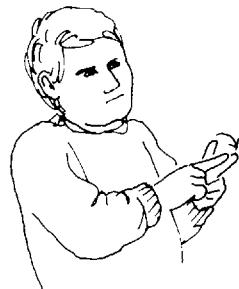
**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight



## 1 ➤ 2-Hand SIGNS

**might, power  
(passive)**

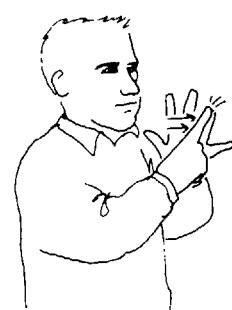
**Handshape:** 1 : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm down; left palm in  
**Location:** right index fingertip on left shoulder; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right index finger down to crook of left arm  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**second,  
secondly**

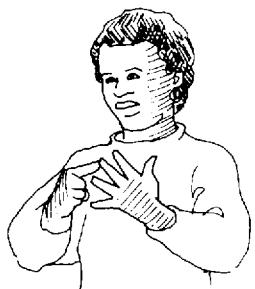
**Handshape:** I : V  
**Orientation:** right palm out, index finger above left middle finger; left palm angled right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right index finger on left middle finger

**preparatory  
(year)**

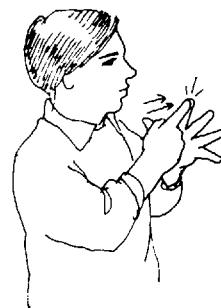
**Handshape:** 1 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm left, index finger near left pinky; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap left pinky twice with right index finger

**freshman**

**Handshape:** 1 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm left, index finger near left ring finger; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right index finger on left ring finger twice

**sophomore**

**Handshape:** 1 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm left, index finger near left middle finger; left palm angled up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right index finger on left middle finger twice

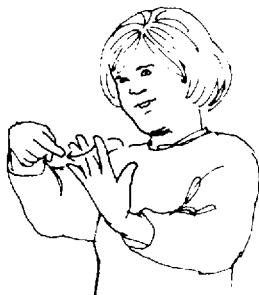
**junior**

**Handshape:** 1 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right index finger on left index finger twice

## 2-Hand SIGNS 1



**among,  
amid**



**Handshape:** 1 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm down, index finger above left index finger; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** weave right index finger between left fingers, ending at left pinky

**review**



**Handshape:** 1 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm in, index finger on left pinky; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** arc right index finger backward across left fingertips, ending at left thumb

**insult**

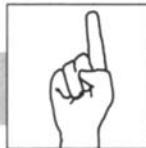


**Handshape:** 1 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right hand in front of right shoulder; left hand in front of left shoulder  
**Movement:** propel right index finger through left index and middle fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** tongue protrudes

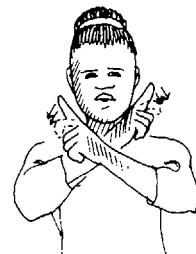
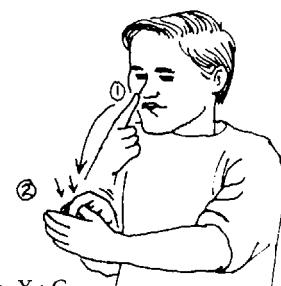
**skip class, absent,  
cut class**



**Handshape:** 1 : Open 8  
**Orientation:** right palm down, index finger above left middle finger; left palm down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right index finger sharply past left middle finger  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed  
**Note:** See page 364 for a variation of this sign.



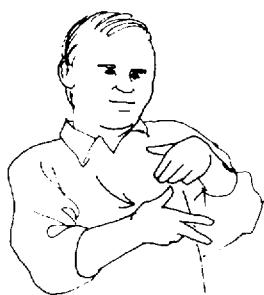
## 1 2-Hand SIGNS

**complex, complicated****Handshape:** 1 > X : 1 > X**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand behind left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands toward opposite shoulders while bending index fingers several times**Nonmanual signal:** "serious" expression**ugly, homely****Handshape:** 1 > X : 1 > X**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right, wrists crossed**Location:** under nose**Movement:** move hands apart while bending index fingers to X handshape**Nonmanual signal:** "revolted" grimace**Note:** See page 127 for a one-hand variation of this sign.**test,  
exam,  
quiz****Handshape:** 1 > X : 1 > X**Orientation:** palms out**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands down, changing both index fingers to X handshape**pry,  
meddle,  
nosy****Handshape:** 1 > X : C**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm angled in**Location:** right index fingertip on nose; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** bring right index finger down to left palm, changing to X handshape

## 2-Hand SIGNS 3

**walk****Handshape:** 3 : 3**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** swing hands alternately forward and back**awkward,  
clumsy****Handshape:** 3 : 3**Orientation:** palms

down, right hand lower than left hand

**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands alternately up and down**Nonmanual signal:** body shifts awkwardly; bite tongue**garage****Handshape:** 3 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm left, hand close to body; left palm down, fingers angled right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand under left hand**park  
(vehicle)****Handshape:** 3 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring right hand down, landing on left palm**ship****Handshape:** 3 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm left, hand on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** gently bounce hands forward**cheat****Handshape:** 3 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm down, hands parallel**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand left, catching left fingers between right index and middle fingers twice



## 3 2-Hand SIGNS

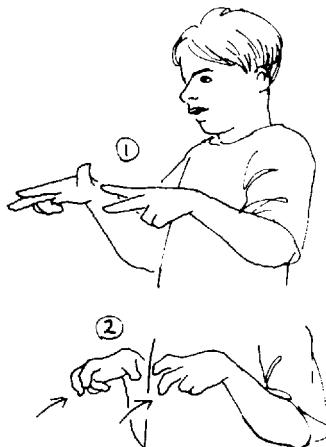
**accident (car),  
collide, collision**

**Handshape:** 3 > Open A : 3 > Open A  
**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips pointing toward each other  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands toward each other, closing hands, until they collide  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight



**greedy, selfish,  
stingy**

**Handshape:** 3 > Bent 3 : 3 > Bent 3  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands parallel  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** pull hands back in a sharp, quick motion while bending index and middle fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression



**mischiefous,  
devilish**

**Handshape:** 3 > Bent 3 : 3 > Bent 3  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** near temples  
**Movement:** circle hands toward head, brushing thumbs down temples and bending index and middle fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** "mischiefous" expression





### devil, demon, Satan

**Handshape:** 3 > Bent 3 : 3 > Bent 3

**Orientation:** palms out

**Location:** thumbs on temples

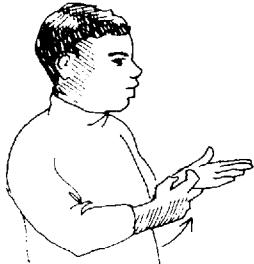
**Movement:** bend index and middle fingers down twice

**Nonmanual signal:** "mischievous" expression

**Note:** See page 134 for a one-hand variation of this sign.



### ticket



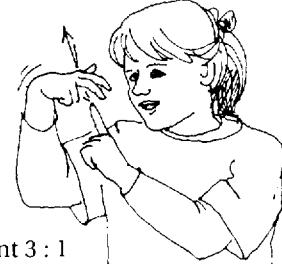
**Handshape:** Bent 3 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm in; left palm up, hands parallel

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move right hand left, sandwiching edge of left hand between right index and middle fingers

### champion



**Handshape:** Bent 3 : 1

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left index finger; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bounce right palm off left index finger

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back; erect posture

### war, battle



**Handshape:** 4 : 4

**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands left and right in unison

### curtains, drapes



**Handshape:** 4 : 4

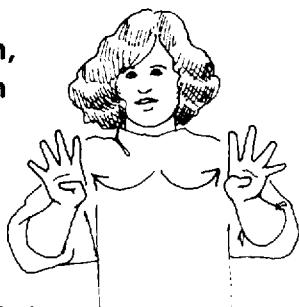
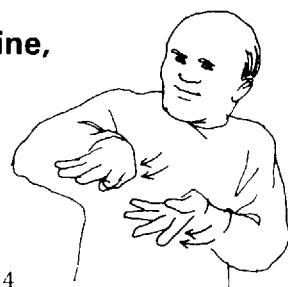
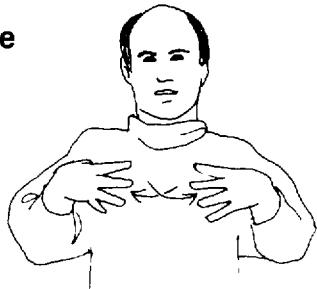
**Orientation:** palms out

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands down and slightly apart



## 4 2-Hand SIGNS

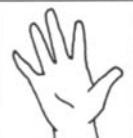
**Chanukah,  
Hanukkah****Handshape:** 4 : 4**Orientation:** palms out, index fingers touching**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc hands down and out to sides**assembly line,  
mass  
production****Handshape:** 4 : 4**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide hands to the left in short quick motions**Nonmanual signal:** "mm" mouth utterance**net, sieve****Handshape:** 4 : 4**Orientation:** palms in, back of right fingers against left fingers**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** hands slowly arc down and out to opposite sides**line,  
form a line,  
line up****Handshape:** 4 : 4**Orientation:** right palm left, pinky almost touching left index finger; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move right hand back toward right shoulder**jail, cage, prison****Handshape:** 4 : 4**Orientation:** palms in, fingers angled toward each other, right hand closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** smack back of right hand into left palm

## 2-Hand SIGNS 5

**well! so!****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** arc hands down, ending with palms up**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks forward; head tilts back; eyes widen**what?****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** shake hands back and forth toward center**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head tilts right; eyebrows knit**catch  
(catcher)****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms up,

right hand in front of left hand

**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring hands together while moving in toward body**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight; "strained" expression**chat****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** right palm angled left; left palm angled right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** shake hands down at an angle twice**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; body and head lean back



## 5 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**abandon,  
desert (v.),  
forsake,  
leave,  
leftover**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend wrists down, ending with fingers pointing forward

**wind, breeze,  
storm**



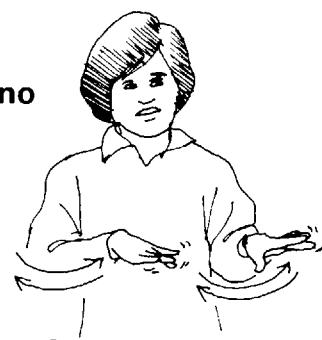
**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** sway hands side to side  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth blows out air

**party (v.),  
good time**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing, right hand higher than left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** shake hands exaggeratedly out to opposite sides twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** body sways; smile

**piano,  
play piano**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** wiggle fingers as hands move side to side in unison

**excellent, fantastic, grand,  
marvelous, splendid,  
wonderful**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** above shoulders  
**Movement:** double bounce hands forward  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile

## 2-Hand SIGNS • 5



**friendly,  
amiable,  
cheerful,  
pleasant**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** in front of cheeks  
**Movement:** wiggle fingers as hands move back toward ears  
**Nonmanual signal:** smile

**cool, air,  
fresh**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** in front of shoulders  
**Movement:** bend wrists slightly to fan face twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** mouth blows out air; body and head lean back

**sad,  
dejected,  
frown**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand higher than left hand  
**Location:** in front of face  
**Movement:** bring hands down in a sharp, slight motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** "sad" expression; head lowered

**embarrass,  
blush, flush**



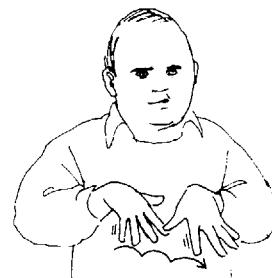
**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers up  
**Location:** in front of cheeks  
**Movement:** move hands up cheeks slowly  
**Nonmanual signal:** head and eyes lowered; "embarrassed" expression

**traffic,  
bumper-to-  
bumper,  
gridlock**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips forward, right hand closer to body  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** double bounce hands forward with exaggerated motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** "weary" expression

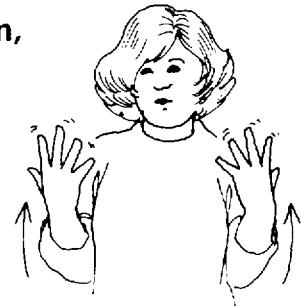
**parade,  
march,  
procession**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms in, fingers pointing down, right hand in back of left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands forward in a marching motion



## 5 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**snow****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** above shoulders**Movement:** wiggle fingers as hands slowly move down**fire, arson,  
burn****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms toward body, fingers up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** wiggle fingers as hands move up**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders raised**wait****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms angled up, right hand closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** wiggle fingers**nervous,  
anxious****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** shake hands while moving them down**Nonmanual signal:** "nervous" expression**fear, afraid, dread,  
frightened, scared, terror****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips facing**Location:** in front of chest**Movement:** move hands toward each other twice**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded;

"frightened" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS 5



**finish, already, done,  
end, over, then**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** flip wrists out to sides, ending  
with palms out

**flirt**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

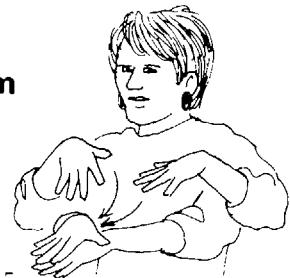
**Orientation:** palms angled out

**Location:** in front of face

**Movement:** flutter fingers

**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts; "coy"  
expression

**merge,  
mainstream**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms angled in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** move hands toward each  
other, then forward, ending with right  
hand on top of left hand and fingers  
forward

**America**



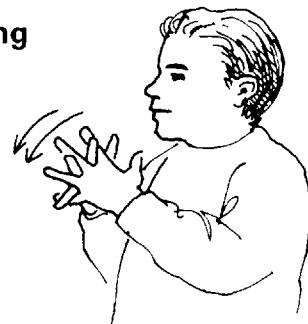
**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms angled in, fingers  
meshed

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle hands clockwise

**wrestling**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers meshed

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bend wrists down slightly twice



## 5 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**football**

**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands toward each other, interlocking fingers twice

**pregnant,  
conceive**

**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers forward  
**Location:** in front of abdomen  
**Movement:** bring hands together, ending with fingers interlocking

**Germany,  
German**

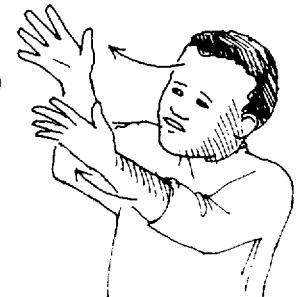
**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand at base of left thumb  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** wiggle fingers  
**Note:** See page 122 for the preferred sign.

**moose**

**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** thumbs on temples  
**Movement:** move hands out and up

**deer,  
antlers,  
elk**

**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** palms out  
**Location:** thumbs near temples  
**Movement:** tap thumbs on temples twice

**father  
(honorific)**

**Handshape:** 5 : 5  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right thumb at temple; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** arc hands up to the right

## 2-Hand SIGNS 5



**mother  
(honorific)**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right

**Location:** right thumb on chin; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** arc hands up to the right

**vomit, detest,  
loathe**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right

**Location:** right thumb on lip; left hand below right hand

**Movement:** sharply thrust hands out and down to the right

**Nonmanual signal:** tongue sticks out; head tilts away from offender

**dress (v.), wear (SM);  
clothes, dress (n.),  
garment, gown (DM)**

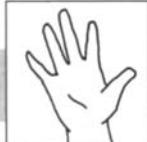


**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** thumbs on chest

**Movement:** brush thumbs down chest



## 5 • 2-Hand SIGNS

### **retired, idle**

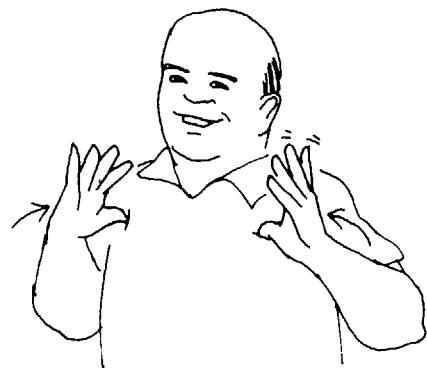
**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips up

**Location:** in front of shoulders

**Movement:** rest thumbs on shoulders while wiggling fingers

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans back; lips pursed



### **retired, idle (SM); holiday, leisure, retirement, vacation (DM)**

**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms facing, fingers up

**Location:** in front of shoulders

**Movement:** bring hands back so thumbs hit chest

**Nonmanual signal:** smile



### **Russia, Russian**



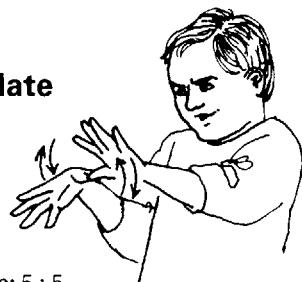
**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** thumbs at sides of waist

**Movement:** tap thumbs on waist twice

### **flatter, manipulate**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** palms out, thumbs touching

**Location:** neutral space

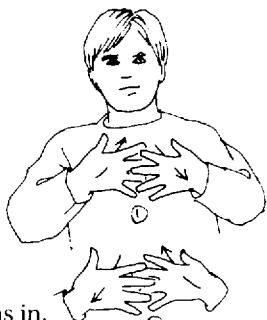
**Movement:** bend wrists alternately down and up

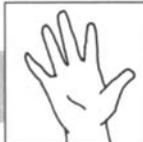
**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts; "devious" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS • 5

**traffic****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** brush fingers against each other as hands move alternately forward and back**crowded****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms

facing and touching, fingers up

**Location:** in front of face**Movement:** press hands together and rub palms back and forth**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders raised; "disgusted" expression**gray, grey****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms in, right hand closer to body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** pass fingers through each other as hands alternately move forward and back**senior****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left thumb; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bounce right palm on left thumb twice**blood****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand**Location:** right index finger on lips; left hand in neutral space**Movement:** wiggle right fingers while moving right hand down back of left fingers**film, motion picture, movie****Handshape:** 5 : 5**Orientation:** right palm out, heel on heel of left hand; left palm in**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right hand back and forth on left palm several times



## 5 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**blurry,  
obscure,  
unclear,  
vague**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

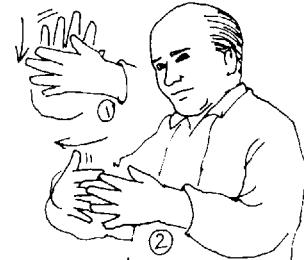
**Orientation:** right palm out, palm on left palm; left palm in

**Location:** in front of face

**Movement:** rub right palm back and forth on left palm

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders raised; tongue protruding

**schedule**



**Handshape:** 5 : 5

**Orientation:** right palm out, hand above left palm; left palm in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush right fingertips down left palm, then flip right hand over and brush across left fingers

**study**



**Handshape:** 5 : Open B

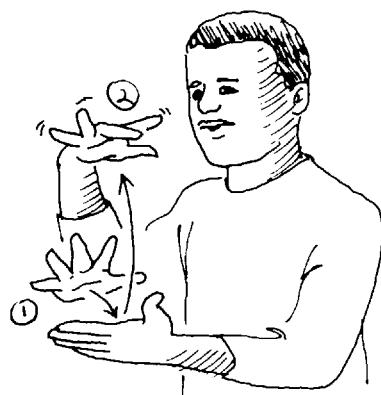
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** wiggle right fingers

**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut; "earnest" expression

**glory, glorious**



**Handshape:** 5 : Open B

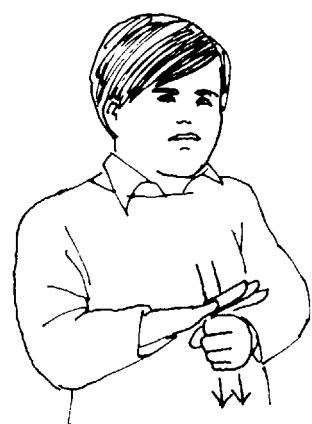
**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** wiggle right fingers as hand moves up

**Nonmanual signal:** smile

## 2-Hand SIGNS 5

**country  
(passive)****Handshape:** 5 : passive**Orientation:** palms in, right hand in front of left elbow, left arm across body**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** rub right palm counterclockwise on left elbow**tree (SM);  
forest  
(passive) (DM)****Handshape:** 5 : passive**Orientation:** right palm left, elbow on back of left hand; left palm down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** shake right hand back and forth**enough, adequate, abundant,  
ample, plenty, sufficient****Handshape:** 5 : S**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on top of left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** slide right palm forward and off left hand**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; cheeks puffed**pressure, oppress, stress****Handshape:** 5 : S**Orientation:** right palm down, on top of left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** press right hand down on left hand twice**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; head lowers; "stressed" expression**Note:** See page 198 for the verb form.



## 5 2-Hand SIGNS

**mainstream  
(negative  
meaning)**



**Handshape:** 5 : 1

**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring hands together, then forward, ending with right hand covering left index finger

**helicopter**



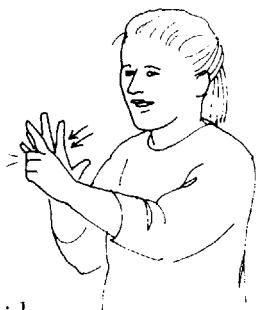
**Handshape:** 5 : 3

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand on left thumb; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** shake right hand slightly as hands move forward

**popular,  
flock to**



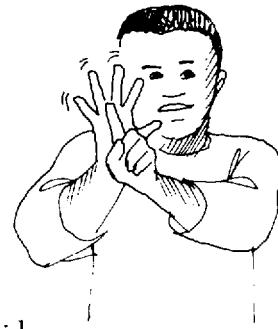
**Handshape:** 5 : 1

**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm right, index finger up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** hit right palm against left index finger twice

**candle**



**Handshape:** 5 : 1

**Orientation:** right palm out; left palm right, index finger on heel of right hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** flicker right fingers

**dissolve, decay,  
fade, melt, rot**



**Handshape:** 5 > A : 5 > A

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush thumbs across fingertips as hands separate, ending with hands closed

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



**pants, jeans, slacks,  
trousers**

**Handshape:** 5 > Bent B : 5 > Bent B  
**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips down  
**Location:** in front of thighs  
**Movement:** bend fingers as hands brush up thighs twice

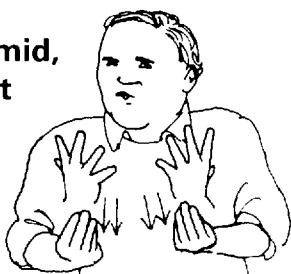


**belong, annex,  
attach, enlist,  
enroll, join, unite**

**Handshape:** 5 > F : 5 > F  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand closer to body; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hands together, linking thumbs and index fingers

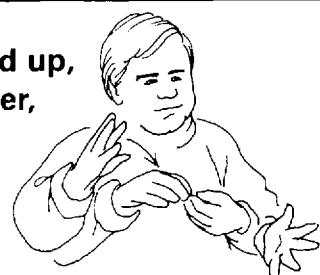


**damp, humid,  
moist, wet**



**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands down, closing thumb to fingers, twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** "disgusted" expression

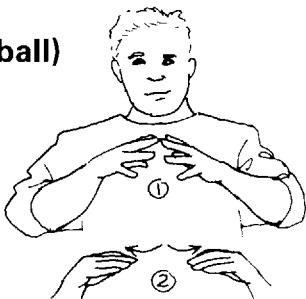
**total, add up,  
altogether,  
sum**



**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** right palm angled down, above left hand; left palm angled up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hands together in an exaggerated motion, closing thumbs to fingers as fingertips touch



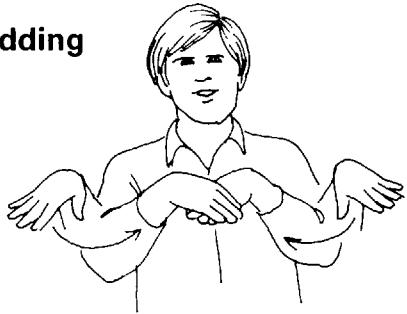
## 5 2-Hand SIGNS

**football (ball)**

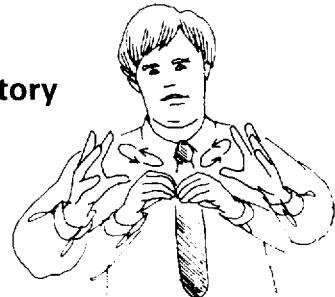
**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands and close thumbs to fingers

**meeting,  
conference,  
gathering**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms angled out  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bring hands together twice, closing thumbs to fingers as fingertips touch

**wedding**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** twist hands up and clasp hands

**story,  
tell a story**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle hands twice in toward center, closing thumbs to fingers as fingertips brush past each other

**accept**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : 5 > Flattened O  
**Orientation:** palms down  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands in to chest, closing thumbs to fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; "contented" expression



### fascinate

**Handshape:** 5 > S : 5 > S

**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right

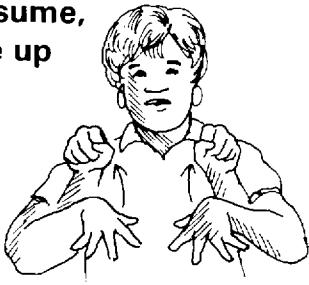
**Location:** right index finger on nose; left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** move hands down and close hands, ending with right hand on top of left hand

**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; eyes widen; tongue protruding



### adopt, assume, host, take up



**Handshape:** 5 > S : 5 > S

**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bend wrists up and close hands

### acquire, get, obtain, procure, receive



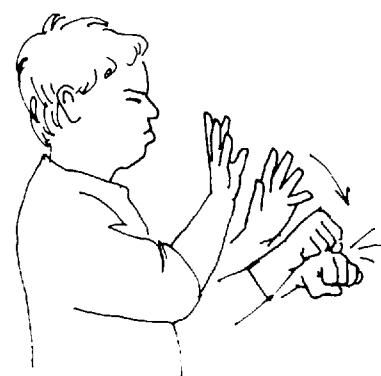
**Handshape:** 5 > S : 5 > S

**Orientation:** right palm left, hand above left hand; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** pull hands in, closing hands and ending with right hand on top of left hand

### arrest, capture, grab, seize



**Handshape:** 5 > S : 5 > S

**Orientation:** palms out, right hand above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slowly move hands down as hands close, ending with right hand on top of left hand

**Nonmanual signal:** "stern" expression



## 5 2-Hand SIGNS

**healthy, brave, bravery,  
courage, well**

**Handshape:** 5 > S : 5 > S

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** shoulders

**Movement:** bring hands forward slowly, closing hands

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders thrust back;  
posture erect; lips pursed



**freeze, frost, frozen, ice**

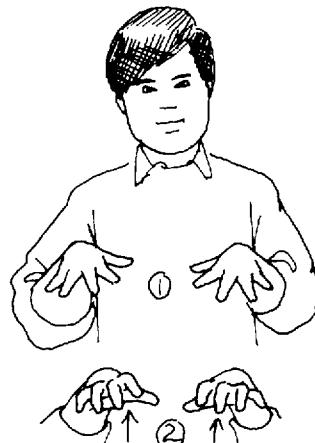
**Handshape:** 5 > Bent 5 : 5 > Bent 5

**Orientation:** palms down, fingers forward

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** pull hands back sharply while bending fingers

**Nonmanual signal:** body stiffens



**pretend,  
deceive,  
fool**



**Handshape:** 5 > A : 1

**Orientation:** palms out

**Location:** right index finger on tip of nose;  
left hand in neutral space

**Movement:** move right hand down,  
changing to A handshape before  
knuckles hit left index finger

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed

**learn  
(student,  
pupil)**



**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips  
on left palm; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** pull right hand up to head  
while closing thumb to fingers

**Nonmanual signal:** lips taut; "earnest"  
expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS 5



**disappear, absent, gone, vanish**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : C  
**Orientation:** palms in, right wrist inside left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right hand down and below left palm, closing thumb to fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** "surprised" expression



**include, everything, incorporate, involve, whole**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : C  
**Orientation:** right palm angled out, fingertips up, hand above left hand; left palm in  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** circle right hand clockwise, closing thumb to fingers as fingers tuck into left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks forward slightly



**additionally, amendment, furthermore, in addition to**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : Flattened O  
**Orientation:** right palm down, hand below left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** swing right hand up, closing thumb to fingers as fingertips meet

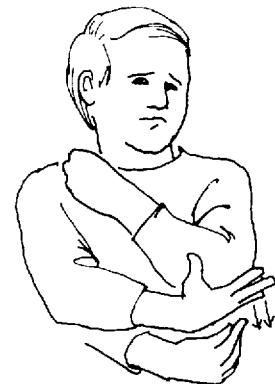




## 5 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**poor**

**Handshape:** 5 > Flattened O : passive  
**Orientation:** right palm up, hand below left elbow;  
 left palm in  
**Location:** right hand at left elbow; left hand in  
 neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right fingers down and off left  
 elbow twice, closing thumb to fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head  
 lowered; "pained" expression

**ball, sphere**

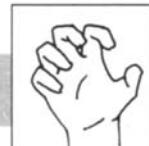
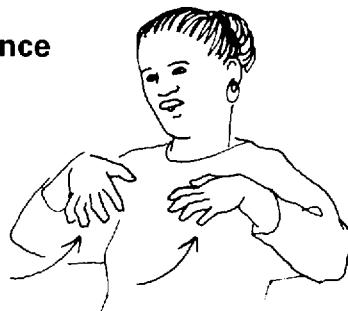
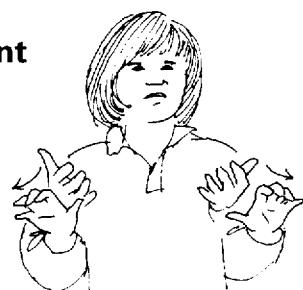
**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands together until  
 fingertips bounce off each other

**much, a lot**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5  
**Orientation:** palms facing, fingertips touching  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands in an  
 exaggerated motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** body and head jerk slightly



## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT 5

**rain****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** above shoulders**Movement:** double bounce hands down**audience****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands back and up toward body**radio,  
audiology  
(audiologist)****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right**Location:** ears**Movement:** twist wrists forward and back twice**Note:** See page 143 for a one-hand variation of this sign.**don't want****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** sharply flip hands over, ending with palms down**Nonmanual signal:** head shakes "no"**roommate****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms in, fingers facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring hands together and interlock fingers twice**want,  
desire****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move arms back and forth slightly**Nonmanual signal:** "desirous" expression



## BENT 5 ➤ 2-Hand SIGNS

### spider

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5

**Orientation:** palms down, right hand on left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** wiggle fingers while moving hands slowly forward

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered



### shock, at a loss, dumbfounded

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5

**Orientation:** palms out

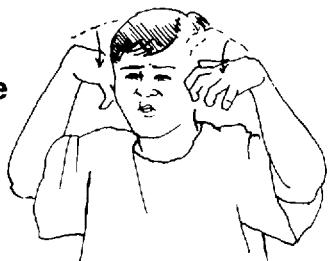
**Location:** right hand on right temple; left hand at left shoulder

**Movement:** move hands out and down slowly, ending with palms down

**Nonmanual signal:** mouth open; "shocked" expression



### sweat, perspire



**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5

**Orientation:** palms out, fingers up

**Location:** knuckles on forehead

**Movement:** bend wrists down and off forehead, ending with palms down

**Nonmanual signal:** "uncomfortable" expression

### fat, obese



**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5

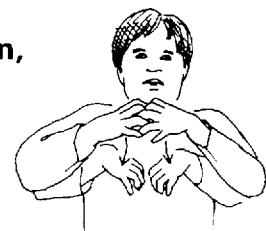
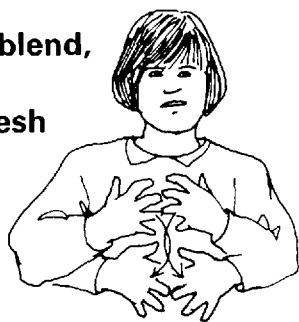
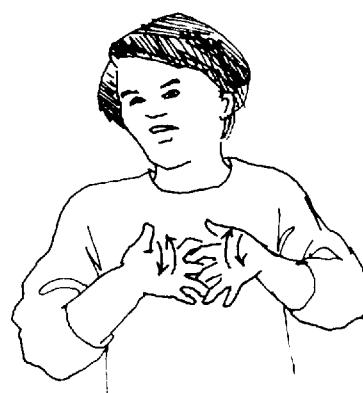
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right

**Location:** cheeks

**Movement:** move hands out to side with exaggerated motion

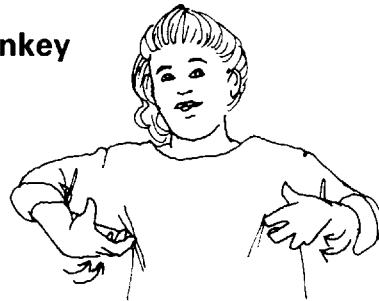
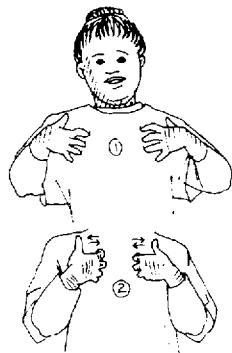
**Nonmanual signal:** cheeks puffed; "cha" mouth utterance

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT 5

**salad****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms up, fingers angled toward each other**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands up and toward each other twice**breakdown,  
cave in,  
collapse****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms down, fingertips interlocked**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** collapse wrists down, ending with fingers down**Nonmanual signal:** head lowered; "sad" expression**combine, blend,  
integrate,  
merge, mesh****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms in, fingers angled up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists toward each other and down, ending with fingers meshed**fit, match****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms in, left hand closer to body, fingers toward each other**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bring hands together and interlock fingers**factory, engine,  
machine, motor****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms in, fingertips interlocked**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend wrists down and up twice**Nonmanual signal:** pursed lips



## BENT 5 ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**bear, grizzly****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms in, arms crossed**Location:** body**Movement:** brush fingertips down chest twice**monkey****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** armpits**Movement:** brush fingertips lightly up and off body twice**animal****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** fingertips on chest**Movement:** bend fingers several times**laugh  
(hysterically)****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** move hands alternately forward and back several times**Nonmanual signal:** laugh; body jerks**type,  
typewriter****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** palms down**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** wiggle fingers while moving hands alternately up and down**storm,  
clouds****Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left palm; left palm up**Location:** in front of head**Movement:** spiral hands to the right

## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT 5



**mix, complicated,  
confused, mingle,  
puzzled, scramble**

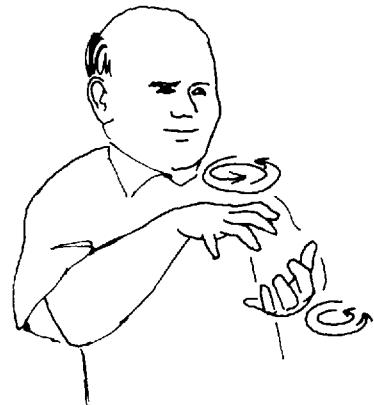
**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left palm;  
left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle hands around each other

**Nonmanual signal:** "confused" expression



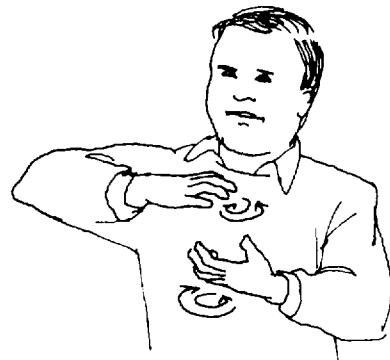
**washing machine,  
wash (clothes)**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Bent 5

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand  
above left palm; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** twist hands in opposite  
directions



**crude, rough, rude**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on  
left palm; left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right hand sharply down and  
off left fingertips

**Nonmanual signal:** "pained" expression





## BENT 5 ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

### **boil, cook**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm up, hand below left hand;  
left palm down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** wiggle right fingers while  
moving hand in small circles

**Nonmanual signal:** "mm" mouth utterance



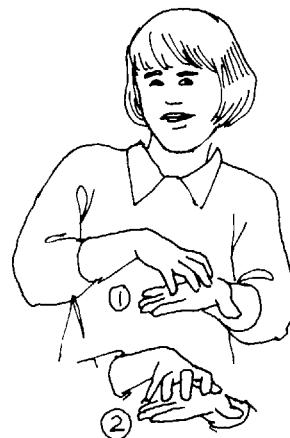
### **cookie**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm;  
left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bounce right hand up, twist to the right, and  
land on left palm, then repeat twisting hand to the left



### **weak, feeble, frail**

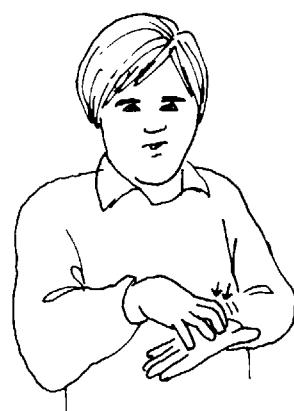
**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm;  
left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slowly bend right fingers until knuckles  
touch left palm twice

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head  
lowered; "pained" expression



## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT 5

**grapes**

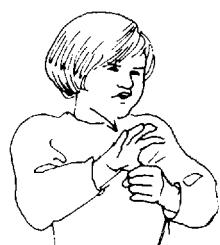
**Handshape:** Bent 5 : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms down, right fingertips on left wrist  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bounce right fingertips down left hand to fingertips

**beg, entreat, plea**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : C  
**Orientation:** palms up, back of right hand in left palm  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** bend right fingers as hand slides down left palm twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered; "pained" expression

**darn, drat**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : O  
**Orientation:** right palm down, thumb down; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand down sharply, inserting thumb inside left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks; "angry" expression

**popular**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 : 1  
**Orientation:** right palm out, hand closer to body; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** smack right hand against left index finger twice





## BENT 5 ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

**soft**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > Flattened O : Bent 5 > Flattened O

**Orientation:** palms up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** gently close hands while moving them down slightly twice

**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed



**self-control,  
suppress feelings**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S : Bent 5 > S

**Orientation:** palms up, right hand above left hand

**Location:** chest

**Movement:** move hands down in deliberate motion, closing hands

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders rounded; head lowered; "pained" expression

**Note:** See page 145 for a one-hand variation of this sign.



**drawer,  
open drawer**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S : Bent 5 > S

**Orientation:** palms up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** pull hands back while closing hands



## 2-Hand SIGNS • BENT 5

**trust,  
confidence**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S : Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** palms up, right hand slightly above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** move hands slightly down and out while closing hands  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips tight

**cruel, mean**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S : Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right  
**Location:** right index finger on tip of nose; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** bring right hand down and left hand up, closing hands, then brush hands past each other  
**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression

**destroy, damage,  
demolish,  
devastate**

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S : Bent 5 > S  
**Orientation:** right palm down, right hand above left palm; left palm up  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** separate hands then bring back to center while closing hands, then sharply brush hands past each other  
**Nonmanual signal:** body jerks; "angry" expression





## BENT 5 ➔ 2-Hand SIGNS

### greedy, miser, selfish, stingy

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > A : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, fingertips on left palm;  
left palm up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** close right hand sharply

**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders raised; "disgusted"  
expression



### pear

**Handshape:** Bent 5 > Flattened O : Flattened O

**Orientation:** right palm left, fingers  
covering left fingers; left palm right

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slide right fingers down and off left  
fingers twice



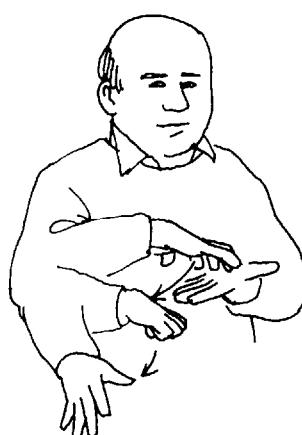
### remove, abolish, discard, subtract, take away

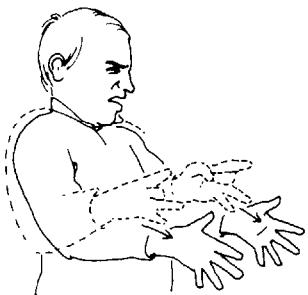
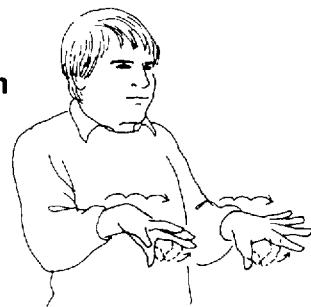
**Handshape:** Bent 5 > S > 5 : Open B

**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left palm;  
left hand up

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** brush back of right fingers down left  
palm and close hand, then throw hand down,  
opening fingers

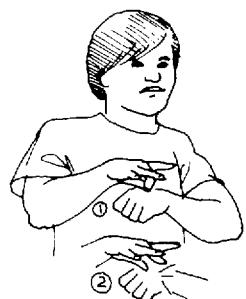


**win****Handshape:** Bent 5 > S : S**Orientation:** right palm left, above and to the right of left hand; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** swoop right hand to the left, closing hand and brushing across left hand**Nonmanual signal:** smile**awful, disgusting, dreadful,  
horrible, terrible****Handshape:** 8 > 5 : 8 > 5**Orientation:** right palm left; left palm right**Location:** temples**Movement:** flick middle fingers out as hands move forward**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders and head thrust back; "upset" expression**hate,  
despise,  
detest****Handshape:** 8 > 5 : 8 > 5**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** sharply flick middle fingers out**Nonmanual signal:** shoulders and head tilt away; "hateful" expression**Australia,  
Australian****Handshape:** 8 > Open 8 : 8 > Open 8**Orientation:** palms down, fingers forward**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bounce hands forward and flick open middle fingers



## 8 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**melon,  
pumpkin,  
watermelon**



**Handshape:** 8 > Open 8 : S

**Orientation:** palms down, hands crossed,  
right thumb slightly above left hand

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** flick right middle finger open  
and thump back of left hand

**computer**



**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8

**Orientation:** palms out

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** circle hands toward each other

**contact  
(a person)**



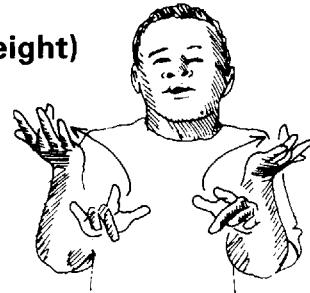
**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8

**Orientation:** palms facing

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** bring middle fingers together  
and tap twice

**light (weight)**



**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8

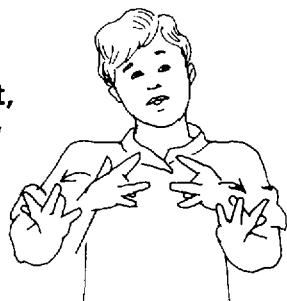
**Orientation:** palms down

**Location:** neutral space

**Movement:** slowly swing hands around,  
ending with palms up

**Nonmanual signal:** body and shoulders lift

**what's up,  
affair, event,  
what's new**



**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** middle fingers on chest

**Movement:** flick wrists up and out off chest

**Nonmanual signal:** head tilts back; eyes widen; "mm" mouth utterance

**disappointed,  
depressed,  
discouraged**



**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8

**Orientation:** palms in

**Location:** middle fingers on chest

**Movement:** slide middle fingers down chest

**Nonmanual signal:** head lowered; "sad" expression

## 2-Hand SIGNS • OPEN 8

**sick, ill**

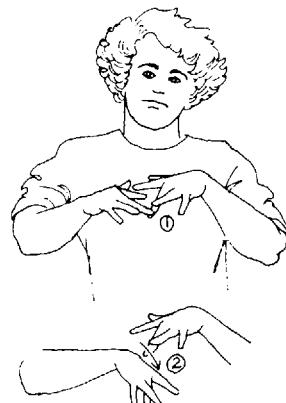
**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** right hand in front of head; left hand in front of stomach  
**Movement:** bring hands in sharply toward body  
**Nonmanual signal:** "sickly" expression

**disease, illness**

**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** right hand in front of head; left hand in front of chest  
**Movement:** move hands in small circles  
**Nonmanual signal:** lips pursed; "sad" expression

**tend, inclined**

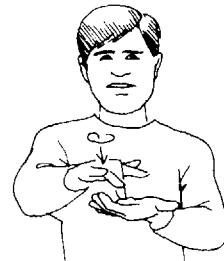
**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** middle fingers on left side of chest  
**Movement:** move hands forward with an exaggerated motion  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; "pah" mouth utterance

**cut class, absent, miss class**

**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8  
**Orientation:** palms down, right middle finger above left middle finger  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right middle finger past left middle finger  
**Note:** See page 329 for a variation of this sign.



## OPEN 8 • 2-Hand SIGNS

**excited****Handshape:** Open 8 : Open 8**Orientation:** palms in**Location:** in front of chest**Movement:** brush middle fingers alternately up and off chest**Nonmanual signal:** eyes widen; "excited" expression**shiny, bright,  
glisten****Handshape:** Open 8 : Open B**Orientation:** palms down, hands crossed, right middle finger on left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** shake right hand as it moves up**Nonmanual signal:** eyes widen**touch,  
been there****Handshape:** Open 8 : Open B**Orientation:** palms down, right middle finger above left hand**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bounce right middle finger off back of left hand**take  
advantage,  
rip off****Handshape:** Open 8 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, middle finger above left palm; left palm angled up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** sharply brush right middle finger off left palm, ending with middle finger bent**Nonmanual signal:** "angry" expression**medicine****Handshape:** Open 8 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, middle finger on left palm; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** bend right hand side to side**center,  
middle,  
intermediate****Handshape:** Open 8 : Open B**Orientation:** right palm down, hand above left hand; left palm up**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** circle right hand above left hand, then drop right middle finger down in the center of left palm

## 2-Hand SIGNS ➡ OPEN 8



**technology  
(technician)**



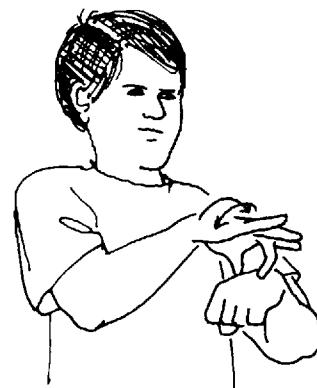
**Handshape:** Open 8 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm in, hand below left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** tap right middle finger on edge of left hand twice

**early**



**Handshape:** Open 8 : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands crossed, right middle finger above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right middle finger across back of left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** right shoulder raised

**earth**



**Handshape:** Open 8 : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, hands crossed, right middle finger and thumb grip left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** rock right hand side to side

**bare, bald, blank,  
empty, naked, nude,  
vacant, void**



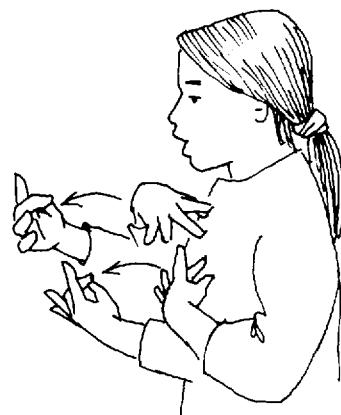
**Handshape:** Open 8 : S  
**Orientation:** palms down, knuckles forward, right middle finger above left hand  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** slide right middle finger down back of left hand  
**Nonmanual signal:** raise right shoulder



## OPEN 8 • 2-Hand SIGNS

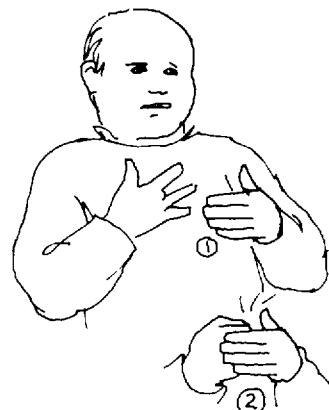
### interesting

**Handshape:** Open 8 > 8 : Open 8 > 8  
**Orientation:** palms in, right hand above left hand  
**Location:** middle fingers and thumbs on chest  
**Movement:** move hands forward with an exaggerated motion, closing thumbs and middle fingers  
**Nonmanual signal:** body leans forward; eyes widen; mouth open



### heart attack

**Handshape:** Open 8 > S : Open B  
**Orientation:** palms in  
**Location:** right middle finger on left side of chest; left hand in neutral space  
**Movement:** move right hand out, closing hand, and smack hand into left palm  
**Nonmanual signal:** body rigid when fist hits

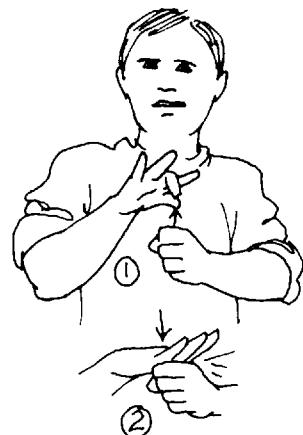
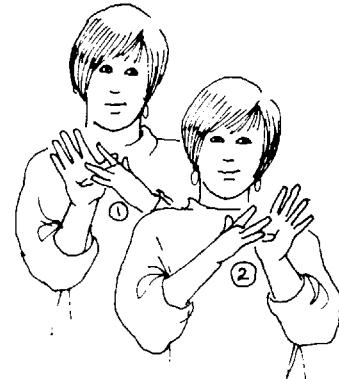
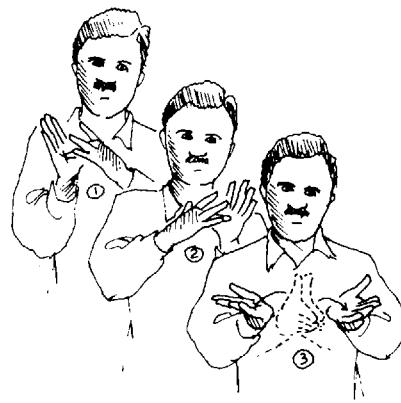


### grease, fat, gravy, greasy, oil

**Handshape:** Open 8 > 8 : Open B  
**Orientation:** right palm up, thumb and middle finger gripping edge of left hand; left palm right  
**Location:** neutral space  
**Movement:** brush right thumb and middle finger down and off edge of left hand twice  
**Nonmanual signal:** "disgusted" expression



## 2-Hand SIGNS OPEN 8

**soda pop****Handshape:** Open 8 > 5 : S**Orientation:** right palm down, middle finger inside left index finger; left palm right**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** lift right hand up, opening hand, then smack down on top of left hand**Jesus****Handshape:** Open 8 > 5 : 5 > Open 8**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right middle finger on left palm, then tap left middle finger on right palm**Bible (Christian)  
(compound: Jesus + book)****Handshape:** Open 8 > 5 > Open B : Open 8 > 5 > Open B**Orientation:** palms facing**Location:** neutral space**Movement:** tap right middle finger on left palm, then tap left middle finger on right palm; change to Open B handshape, palms facing and touching, and open hands out

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*Each gloss is followed by the initial handshape(s) of its corresponding sign and then by the page number where it appears. When the same gloss appears two or more times, the glosses are listed in the morphologic order of their handshapes; when the handshapes are the same, one-hand signs are listed before two-hand signs. Glosses that need an agent marker are indicated in italics.*

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