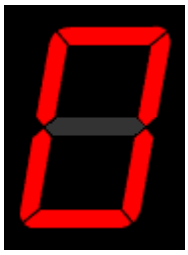
Hexadecimal encodings for displaying the digits 0 to F[12][13]

Digit	Display	gfedcba	abcdefg	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
0		0x3F	0x7E	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	off
1		0x06	0x30	off	**on**	**on**	off	off	off	off
2		0x5B	0x6D	**on**	**on**	off	**on**	**on**	off	**on**
3		0x4F	0x79	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	off	off	**on**
4		0x66	0x33	off	**on**	**on**	off	off	**on**	**on**
5		0x6D	0x5B	**on**	off	**on**	**on**	off	**on**	**on**
6		0x7D	0x5F	**on**	off	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**
7		0x07	0x70	**on**	**on**	**on**	off	off	off	off
8		0x7F	0x7F	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**
9		0x6F	0x7B	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	off	**on**	**on**
A		0x77	0x77	**on**	**on**	**on**	off	**on**	**on**	**on**
b		0x7C	0x1F	off	off	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**
C		0x39	0x4E	**on**	off	off	**on**	**on**	**on**	off
d		0x5E	0x3D	off	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**	off	**on**
E		0x79	0x4F	**on**	off	off	**on**	**on**	**on**	**on**
F		0x71	0x47	**on**	off	off	off	**on**	**on**	**on**



LED-based 7 segment display which cycles through the common glyphs of the ten decimal numerals and the six hexadecimal "letter digits" (A, b, C, d, E, F)[12][13][14][15]

However, this modern scheme wasn't always followed in the past, and various other schemes could be found as well:

- The Texas Instruments seven-segment display decoder chips 7446/7447/7448/7449 and 74246/74247/74248/74249 and the Siemens FLH551-7448/555-8448 chips used truncated versions of "2", "3", "4", "5" and "6" for digits A–E. Digit F (1111 binary) was blank.[3][16][17]
- Soviet programmable calculators like the Б3-34 instead used the symbols "−", "L", "C", "Г", "E", and " " (space) to display hexadecimal numbers above nine, allowing the error message ЕГГ0Г to be displayed.
- Not all 7-segment decoders were suitable to display digits above nine at all. For comparison, the National Semiconductor MM74C912 displayed "o" for A and B, "−" for C, D and E, and blank for F. The CD4511 even just displayed blanks.

In addition, seven-segment displays can be used to show various other letters of the Latin, Cyrillic and Greek alphabets including punctuation, but few representations are unambiguous and intuitive at the same time.[18] Short messages giving status information (e.g. "no dISC" on a CD player) are also commonly represented on 7-segment displays. In the case of such messages it is not necessary for every letter to be unambiguous, merely for the words as a whole to be readable.

Similar displays with fourteen or sixteen segments are available allowing less-ambiguous representations of the alphabet.

Using a restricted range of letters that look like (upside-down) digits, seven-segment displays are commonly used by school children to form words and phrases using a technique known as "calculator spelling".

See also

- Nine-segment display
- Fourteen-segment display
- Sixteen-segment display