

BRaille AUTHORITY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

# **WELSH BRAILLE CODE**

© Braille Authority of the United Kingdom 1995, 2006  
Registered Charity No. 1001157

Printed by Royal National Institute of the Blind, Peterborough, 2006.  
Registered Charity No. 226227

# WELSH BRAILLE CODE

Welsh braille uses the same general rules with regard to composition signs, punctuation signs, etc., as those stated in *British Braille*. However, the alphabet, and the system of contractions used for grade 2 are specific to Welsh, and these are covered in this document. In addition there are special signs for accents, and the line sign.

## ALPHABET

a	⠁	ng	⠎⠒	ph	⠏⠒
b	⠃	h	⠒	r	⠑
c	⠉	i	⠇	rh	⠑⠒
ch	⠒⠉	l	⠇	s	⠑
d	⠉	ll	⠇⠇	t	⠞
dd	⠉⠉	m	⠓	th	⠞⠒
e	⠑	n	⠎	u	⠥
f	⠑	o	⠛	w	⠞
ff	⠑⠑	p	⠏	y	⠞
g	⠒				

In addition, the remaining letters from the English alphabet may be used where necessary:

j	⠊	q	⠒	x	⠞
k	⠇	v	⠞	z	⠞

## CONTRACTIONS

### Wordsigns

#### Alphabetic Wordsigns:

Sign	Meaning	English Meaning	Sign	Meaning	English Meaning
⠠	a	and	⠠⠠	llawer	many
⠠⠠	beth	what	⠠	mae	is
⠠	cael	to have	⠠	nid	not
⠠	chwarae	to play	⠠	o	from; of
⠠	dyma	here is	⠠	pobl	people
⠠⠠	ddoe	yesterday	⠠	roedd	was
⠠	fel	like; as	⠠⠠	rhai	some
⠠⠠	ffordd	road; way; manner	⠠	sydd	is; are
⠠	gyda	with	⠠	trwy	through
⠠	hoffi	to like	⠠	unig	lonely; sole; alone
⠠	i	to; for	⠠	wedi	after
⠠	lawr	down	⠠	y	the

#### Dots 4-5-6 Wordsigns:

These wordsigns may also be used as parts of words.

Sign	Meaning	English Meaning	Sign	Meaning	English Meaning
⠠⠠⠠	cyrraedd	to reach; to arrive	⠠⠠⠠	meddwl	to think
⠠⠠⠠	gweithio	to work	⠠⠠⠠	sylweddoli	to realize
⠠⠠⠠	hefyd	also	⠠⠠⠠	wedyn	afterwards

## Dot 5 Wordsigns:

These wordsigns may also be used as parts of words.

Sign	Meaning	English Meaning	Sign	Meaning	English Meaning
⠠⠠⠠	chwerthin	to laugh	⠠⠠⠠⠠	plentyn	child
⠠⠠⠠	dydd	day	⠠⠠⠠⠠	rydw	I am
⠠⠠⠠	eistedd	to sit	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	rhaid	necessity; must
⠠⠠⠠	fyny	up	⠠⠠⠠⠠	siarad	to speak; to talk
⠠⠠⠠	heddiw	today	⠠⠠⠠⠠	tywydd	weather
⠠⠠⠠	mynd	to go	⠠⠠⠠⠠	uchel	high
⠠⠠⠠	newydd	new	⠠⠠⠠⠠	wrth	to; by
⠠⠠⠠	oedd	was	⠠⠠⠠⠠	ysgol	school; ladder

(Note that ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ is always to be read as 'rhaid' and not 'rydwh'.)

Wordsigns cannot be used if the words are mutated. For example, P is used for the word 'pobl', but not for the mutated form 'bobl' which must be written out.

## Groupsigns

### Simple Upper Groupsigns:

These may generally be used wherever the letters they represent occur. However, ed may not be contracted in the sequence 'edd', nor of in the sequence 'off'.

⠠	<u>ar</u>	⠠	<u>er</u>	⠠	<u>ow</u>
⠠	<u>ed</u>	⠠	<u>in</u>	⠠	<u>st</u>
⠠	<u>en</u>	⠠	<u>of</u>		

## Composite Groupsigns:

These may only be used at the end of words, and never as whole words.

Dots 4-6 Groupsigns:

⠠⠠⠠	<u>iaid</u>	ending for common nouns, e.g. anifeiliaid – animals
⠠⠠⠠	<u>ion</u>	e.g. dynion – men
⠠⠠⠠	<u>waith</u>	e.g. unwaith – once

Dots 5-6 Groupsigns:

⠠⠠⠠⠠	<u>rwydd</u>	ending of abstract nouns, e.g. gwallgof rwydd – madness
⠠⠠⠠	<u>yddes</u>	ending denoting a person or an agent, e.g. ysgrifenyddes – secretary
⠠⠠⠠	<u>iaeth</u>	ending of abstract nouns, e.g. daearyddiaeth – geography

## Shortforms

Shortforms may in most circumstances be used as parts of words, provided the original meanings of the words they represent are retained.

Shortform	Meaning	English Meaning
angh	anghofio	to forget
<u>ar</u>	ar	on
<u>arb</u>	arbennig	special
bdd	byddai	would be; he/she would be
bl	blwyddyn	year
brl	braille	braille
<u>dchr</u>	dechrau	beginning
<u>dch</u>	diolch	thank (you)
dw	diwedd	end
<u>dwth</u>	diwethaf	last
efll	efallai	maybe
eis	eisiau	want

ffr	ffrind	friend
gnd	gwneud	to make
grff	gorffen	finish
gw	gwelwch	you see; you can see
gwb	gwybod	to know
hn	hynny	that
llr	llythyr	letter
mdd	meddai	said
<u>nth</u>	neithiwr	last night
o'r gl	o'r gloch	o'clock
ohw	oherwydd	because
<u>pend</u>	penderfynu	to decide
pl	plant	children
prh	prynhawn	afternoon
<u>pthu</u>	pethau	things
rhw	rhyw	some; sex
rhw b	rhywbeth	something
rhw br	rhywbryd	sometime
rhw f	rhywfodd	somehow
rhw ft	rhywfaint	some amount
rhw l	rhywle	somewhere
rhw u	rhywun	someone
<u>st</u>	stori	story
uw b	uwchben	above
<u>wthu</u>	weithiau	sometimes
ysg	ysgrifennu	to write

## ACCENTS

∩	^	circumflex	e.g. caniatâd – permission
∩	¨	diaeresis	e.g. copïo – to copy
∩	`	grave	e.g. pìn – pin
∩	´	acute	e.g. carafán – caravan

A letter with an accent may not be contained within a contraction, but other contractions in the word may be used.

## LINE SIGN

The line sign in Welsh braille is ⠠⠠⠠. It obeys the same rules as the line sign used in English, as stated in *British Braille*.