



Peg Slate



Instruction Booklet



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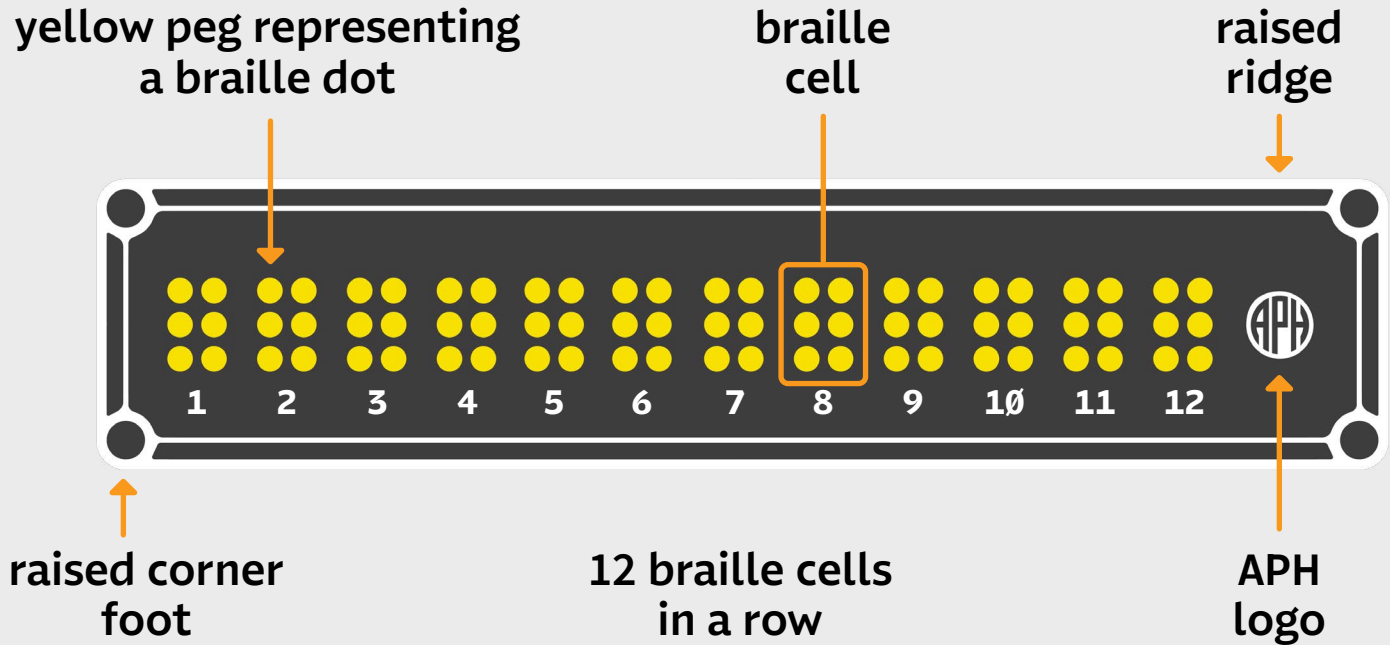
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Introducing the Peg Slate

The Peg Slate is an interactive tool to introduce braille writing on a standard braille slate. It can also serve as a convenient notetaking device as well as a tool for practicing reading braille words and contractions, spelling words, reinforcing tracking/scanning, recognizing dot patterns, writing braille numbers, and playing braille word games. Although ideal for students and adults who are braille readers, the Peg Slate can also be used and enjoyed by sighted teachers and peers who are learning braille.

The Peg Slate measures 9.25 in. × 1.75 in. × 1 in. (24.50 cm × 4.45 cm × 2.54 cm) and features a single row of 12 enlarged braille cells consisting of movable yellow pegs. Each peg represents a single braille dot within a braille cell. The size of the pegs allows each peg to be pushed down individually using one's fingertip. A raised ridge along one edge of the Peg Slate assists with orientation during use.

Parts of the Peg Slate

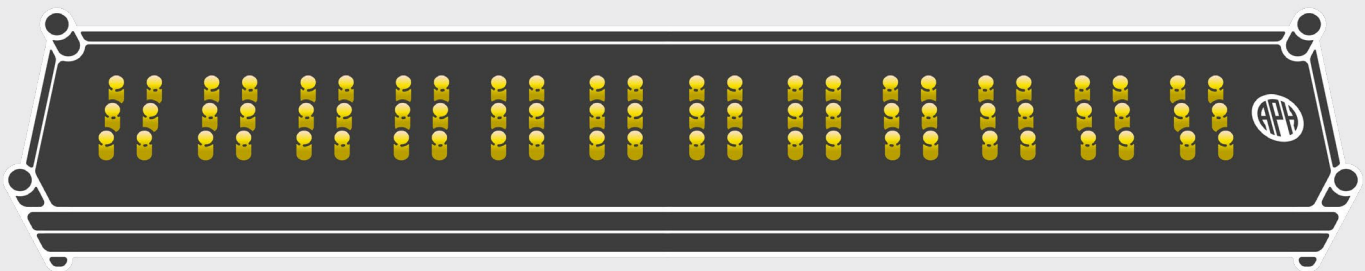


WARNING:

CHOKING HAZARD - Small parts. Not intended for children ages 5 and under without adult supervision.

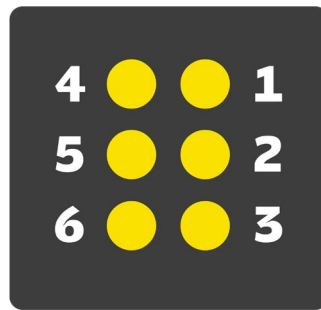
Braille Writing on the Peg Slate

To begin braille writing, push all the pegs fully to one side of the slate so that they appear at an even height across the entire length of the Peg Slate. The raised ridge of the slate should always be positioned at the top, farthest from the user. The side of the Peg Slate with all the pegs raised becomes the “writing side.”

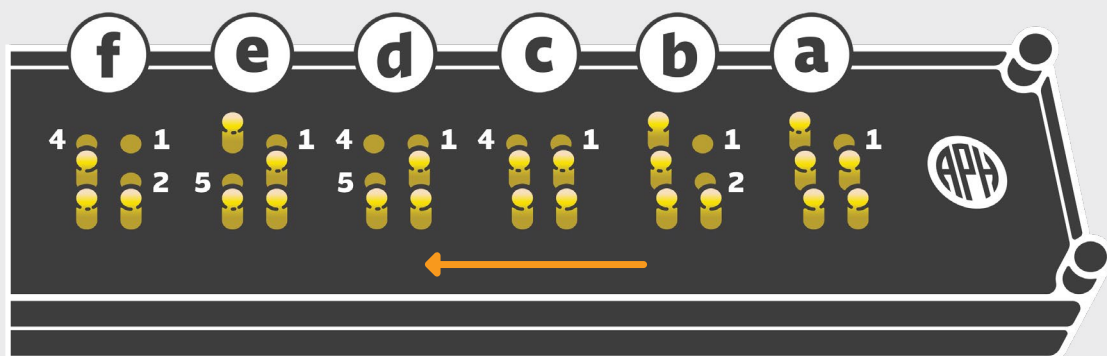


All pegs raised before “writing”.

In the same way that you form dots on a braille slate, push the pegs down moving from right to left on the writing side to form braille letters, words, contractions, or numbers on the opposite side of the slate (the “reading side”). On the writing side of the Peg Slate (as on a braille slate), dot positions 1, 2, and 3 align vertically, top to bottom, on the right side of the braille cell, and dot positions 4, 5, and 6 align vertically, top to bottom, on the left side of the braille cell. Although there is not a right or wrong “writing side” of the Peg Slate, the user might like to utilize the embossed APH logo that appears on one side of the slate as a reminder of the starting location for writing braille right to left.



Dot positions within a braille cell
when **writing** right to left on a
Peg Slate or braille slate

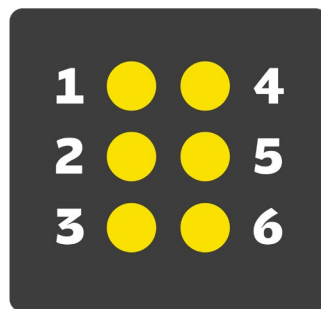


Write right to left as on a braille slate.

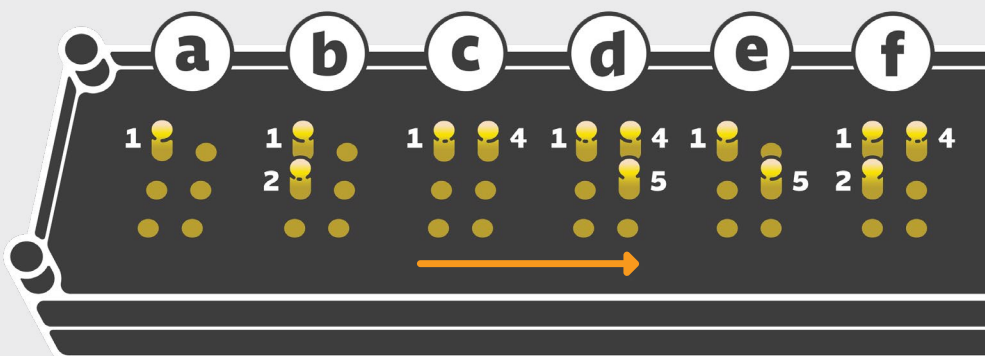
Use the embossed APH logo as
beginning side for writing right to left.

Braille Reading on the Peg Slate

To read the braille that has been written, turn the Peg Slate over from right to left, as you would turn a page in a book. When turned correctly, the raised ridge of the Peg Slate will still be oriented at the top, farthest from the user. Read from left to right on the reading side of the Peg Slate in the same direction as you would read a page with embossed braille text. On the reading side of the Peg Slate, dot positions 1, 2, and 3 appear vertically, top to bottom, on the left side of the braille cell, and dot positions 4, 5, and 6 align vertically, top to bottom, on the right side of the braille cell.

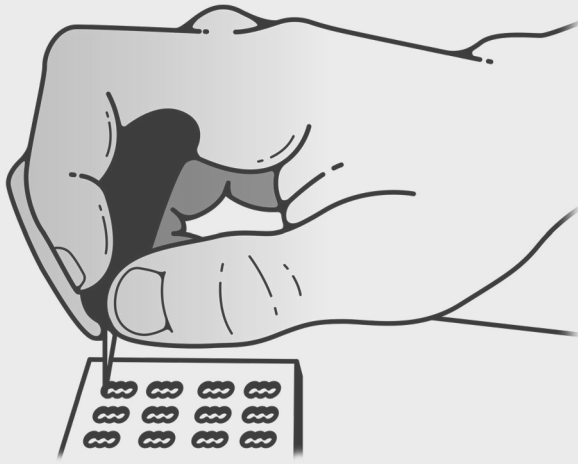


Dot positions within a braille cell
when **reading** braille left to right on
a Peg Slate or page of braille text



Read left to right as on a braille page.

The Peg Slate is intended for initial instruction prior to the use of a standard braille slate to orient the student to the braille dot positions when writing mirrored braille. Be sure to use the Peg Slate in combination with a standard braille slate and stylus so that the student can work between the enlarged braille cells on the Peg Slate and the standard-size braille on a sheet of braille paper. The use and handling of a braille slate stylus will be an added skill and task for the student to learn.



A person uses
a braille slate
and stylus.

Apart from being an instructional tool for emerging braille readers learning braille slate writing, the Peg Slate can also serve as a convenient tool for adult braille readers to jot down a short reminder or note (e.g., a telephone number, an important date). Teachers, parents, and older students who are learning braille for the first time might use the Peg Slate as an interactive tool for practicing the braille code.

For extra stability during braille writing and reading tasks, position the Peg Slate on a nonskid surface.

If more lines of braille are desired, it is possible to link two Peg Slates together along the long edge of each slate using commercially available hook-and-loop strips or tabs.

Note: The Peg Slate is an updated version of the original Peg Slate first designed and produced by the American Printing House for the Blind in 1994.

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