












MANUAL



A T T T T T T T T T

FINGERSPELLING STRATEGIES




UP

- B 
- D 
- F 
- I 
- K 
- L 
- R 
- U 
- W 
- V 
- X 



DOWN

- P 
- Q 

HORIZONTAL

- G 
- H 
- Y 




MOVEMENT

- J 
- Z 

CENTER

- A 
- C 
- E 
- S 
- I 

FLAT

- M 
- N 
- O 

CLUES

1. SHAPE OF LETTER
2. SIZE OF WORD
3. SYLLABLES
4. CONTEXT

CONTEXT

1. REHEARSED INFORMATION
2. NOVEL INFORMATION
3. FINITE SETS
4. INFINITE SETS

SUGGESTIONS

For Signing:

- ✓ Try signing everything you say for an hour-a morning-a day
- ✓ Work on vocabulary, especially signs that are similar - in front of a mirror
- ✓ First build vocabulary, and your speed and fluency will follow
- ✓ Work on phrasing: {I went} {to the store}
- ✓ Try opening up your signs more and making them larger and freer
- ✓ Verify sightlines before you sign; can everyone see you?
- ✓ Add your endings where the sign stops
- ✓ Look up words on a daily basis as they come up or carry an index card and pencil in your pocket to write them all down
- ✓ Be especially careful to include articles and conjunctions
- ✓ Watch out for affixes that aren't separate syllables - they are easy to skip
- ✓ Practice reading friends and colleagues who sign without voice
- ✓
- ✓

For Fingerspelling:

- ✓ Don't mouth or think about each letter when you are spelling words (the word "dog", not the letters D-O-G.) Think about the sound (phonetics) when signing or receiving fingerspelling.
- ✓ Say the word aloud AS you spell it, not before or after. Breaking words into syllables helps here
- ✓ When reading, relax and use your ability to "fill in" what you miss
- ✓ Practice groups of words in front of a mirror - don't bounce! Support elbow or wrist with other hand to prevent bouncing.
- ✓ Fingerspell road signs, billboards, and license plates while you're *stopped* at traffic lights.
- ✓ Take time to correctly form each letter - speed comes later.
- ✓ Don't fingerspell half the word and sign the ending. Do either two signs or fingerspell the entire word; it is hard for the reader to shift gears mid-word
- ✓
- ✓

For Expression:

- ✓ Practice emotional statements in front of a mirror. Are you conveying your meaning?
- ✓ Review and use the visual features of signed languages; be aware of where they fit into daily conversation
- ✓ Practice signing children's stories incorporating the visual features of signed language and expression
- ✓ Add some mime or acting to make yourself more interesting to watch - become the character
- ✓
- ✓

Technical Factors:

- ✓ Wearing solid colors is a big help
- ✓ Bright lipstick, long or brightly colored nails, and jewelry can be very distracting
- ✓ Be careful of swaying back and forth as you sign
- ✓ Establish and maintain eye contact
- ✓
- ✓