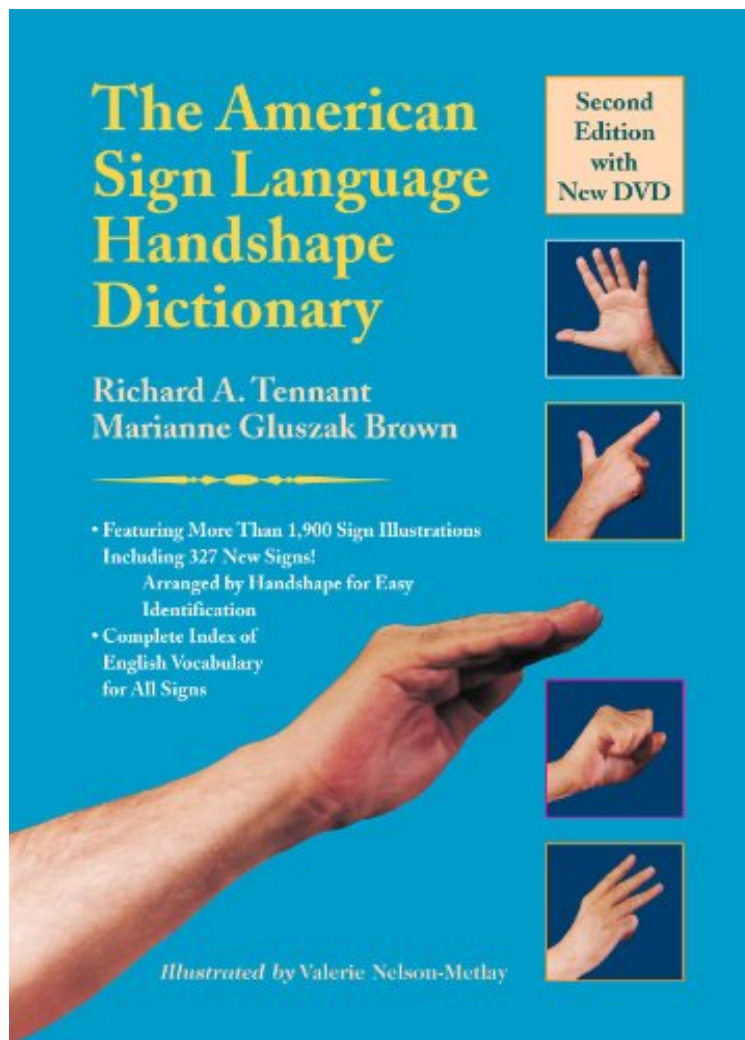


The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary

Richard A. Tennant, Marianne Gluszak Brown
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Richard A. Tennant, Marianne Gluszak Brown : The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The best ASL dictionary I've found! By Joie E. This is by far my favorite ASL dictionary. Most ASL dictionaries have an alphabetical list of English words with a corresponding picture or drawing of the sign itself. But what if you SEE a sign again and again and ask yourself, "What IS that sign?" How do you look THAT up? Enter The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary. You can look up signs by the shape of the hands; in essence, looking it up in ASL to find the English word. (Don't worry - there is also an index in the back so you can look up English words, directing you to the right page to find the sign.) The comprehensive

introduction explains so much. For example, it will teach you about the parameters, or basic components of a sign: the handshape, the palm orientation, the location, the movement, and the nonmanual signals (what you do with your body and facial expressions). It also explains the grammatical features of ASL. Take a look - you're going to love this dictionary, too!

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. WISH I FOUND IT SOONER! Parent to a mute child who signs as his primary communication

By drgnbtrfly My little boy is four. He hears but is mute. We have been signing with him for about two years and it is his primary means of communication. Now that he comes home from school though he comes home from school, he learns new signs and comes home signing. Since we are still learning the language with him...it was frustrating. Until we got this book. My son has some orthopedic difficulty with his hands so the hand shape look up has helped. His signing is not perfect. However, no child is when they are learning sign just as when they are learning to speak. For example we may try looking up say the F shape first then the D. When we get the positive signal from my son he is so excited we understand him!

The only problem I really see from this book is that its not big enough. For now at my sons age and language level I think it is perfect. However when things become more complicated in his language I can see a need for something more intense. It is my hope that by that stage my son will have mastered other methods of communication such as typing a word into his dynavox to tell me what the sign means. I hope that this is the case for other parents and interpreters also. I now buy this book as a gift for parents who were not previously signers who find their children either can't speak or are deaf. I think it is that necessary.

I only wish I had found it sooner!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Either this big dictionary or the smaller work book with fewer words but still enough to get a good grasp are my favorites

By Helgal have 3 sign books and this is version is the easiest one to understand. Either this big dictionary or the smaller work book with fewer words but still enough to get a good grasp are my favorites..

Featuring More than 1,900 Sign Illustrations Including 327 New Signs Plus DVD Showing How to Form Signs Arranged by Handshape for Easy Identification Complete Index of English Vocabulary for All Signs An Introduction to Deaf Culture and ASL Structure

The first reference source that allows users to access ASL signs without previous knowledge of their English equivalents (far superior to those in most other English-ASL glossaries). Likely to become indispensable on many educators and students bookshelves.

CHOICE Now, the bestselling resource The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary has been completely revised with more than 320 new signs and a new DVD. This unique reference can help users locate a sign whose meaning they have forgotten, or help them find the meaning of a new sign they have just seen for the first time. It organizes more than 1,900 ASL signs by 40 basic handshapes and includes detailed descriptions on how to form these signs to represent the different English words that they might mean. ASL students can begin to track down a sign by determining whether it is formed with one hand or two. Further distinctions of handshape, palm orientation, location, movement, and other nonmanual body signals help them pinpoint their search while also refining their grasp of ASL syntax and grammar. A complete English word index provides the option of referring to an alphabetical listing of English terms to locate an equivalent sign or choice of signs.

The new DVD shows how each sign is formed from beginning to end. Users can watch a sign at various speeds to learn precisely how to master it themselves. Together, the new edition of The American Sign Language Handshape Dictionary and its accompanying DVD presents students, sign language teachers, and deaf and hearing people alike with the perfect combination for enhancing communication skills in both ASL and English.

From Library Journal This reference complements other American Sign Language (ASL) dictionaries by organizing signs by handshape rather than alphabetically by English word order. In so doing, it acts best as a recognition tool for the ASL learner, leading the user quickly to specific signs without having first to refer to an English-equivalent word. Multiple meanings of a single sign also allow deaf people to increase their English vocabulary. Like other ASL dictionaries, introductory material includes a brief synopsis of the history of sign language, the meaning and importance of the five parameters of a sign (handshape, orientation, location, movement, and nonmanual signals), grammatical rules, sign language variations (dialects), and finger-spelling principles. Tennant, a former mathematics instructor, and Gluzak Brown, a certified ASL interpreter, have provided a unique organization in their dictionary. But readers should note that a handshape is not a sign itself but rather a characteristic of a particular sign. Each individual sign presented in this dictionary is illustrated, paired with English-equivalent meaning(s), and described in terms of the five parameters, making it useful as a teaching reference as well as a recognition tool. A worthwhile complement to a public or academic library collection.

Andy Wickens, Univ. of Washington, Seattle Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. "The second edition is a handy reference. An accompanying DVD provides word lists with each sign demonstrated by models representing different ages and ethnicities. Recommended, lower-level undergraduates through graduate students, general readers, and professionals." (Choice)

About the Author Richard Tennant, a former mathematics teacher who has studied American Sign Language extensively, resides in Acra, NY. Marianne Gluzak Brown is an American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) professionally certified interpreter and a child of deaf parents (coda) who works in Palisades, NY.