

Division 13 --- SIGNS

It is essential that suitable signs are erected at prominent and conspicuous positions inside and outside a building to indicate clearly the exact locations of facilities that are available for use by persons with a disability. To design an effective signage system, the needs of different types of users in a building and the complexity of the building layout must be considered.

MANDATORY SECTION

Performance Objectives

Signs shall give clear directions, information and instructions for the users of the building.

Obligatory Design Requirements

Signs shall be erected to indicate clearly the exact locations of facilities available for use by persons with a disability.

64. The International Symbol of Accessibility

The international symbol of accessibility shall be the wheelchair figure in white on a blue background and is to be provided at conspicuous location as shown in Figure 28 for the purposes of identifying/advertising /signifying:

- (a) accessible entrance to the building;
- (b) accessible exit from the building;
- (c) reserved car parking facilities for persons with a disability;
- (d) the location of toilets for persons with a disability;
- (e) usable vertical circulation facilities;
- (f) usable cloakroom facilities; and
- (g) the availability of special services of information / service counter and telephone in the building.

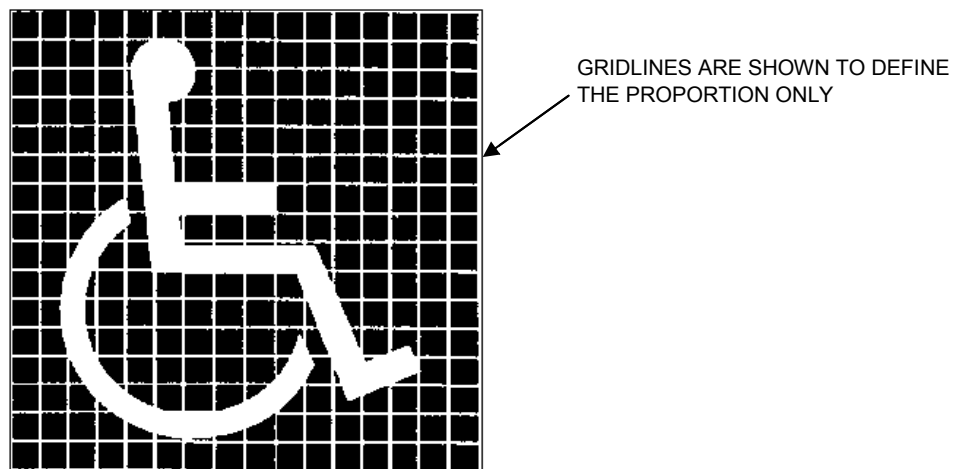
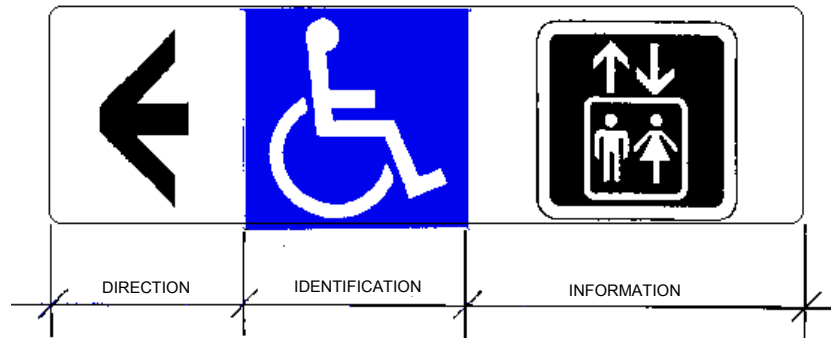


Figure 28 – Proportional Layout for International Symbol of Accessibility

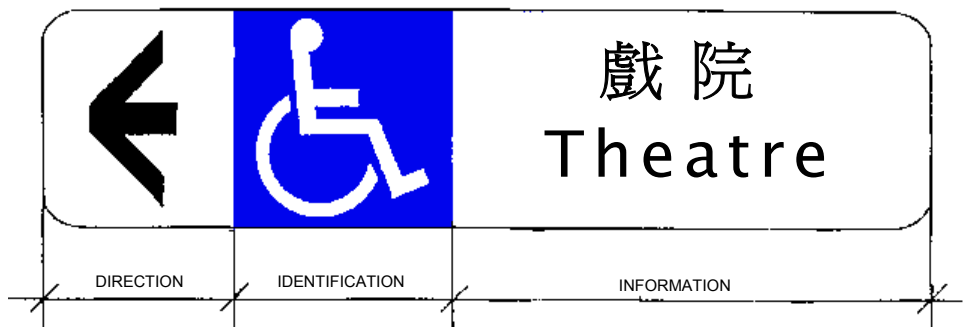
Obligatory Design Requirements (Cont'd)

65. Directional Signs

Directional arrows and visual information shall be provided at conspicuous location in conjunction with the international symbol for accessibility to guide persons with a disability to the exact locations of the accessible facilities. (see Figure 29)



(A) EXAMPLE OF A SIGN IDENTIFYING A FACILITY AND INDICATING ITS DIRECTION USING A STANDARD SYMBOL [LIFT]



(B) EXAMPLE OF A SIGN IDENTIFYING A FACILITY AND INDICATING ITS DIRECTION USING A WORD

Figure 29 – Directional Signs

66. Size

The height of signs shall be not less than the following :

- 60 mm for doors
- 110 mm for corridors
- 200 mm for external use

Obligatory Design Requirements (Cont'd)

67. Sign for Persons with Hearing Impairment

International symbol of access for hearing loss as shown in Figure 30 shall be provided if there is an assistive listening system provided for persons with hearing impairment.

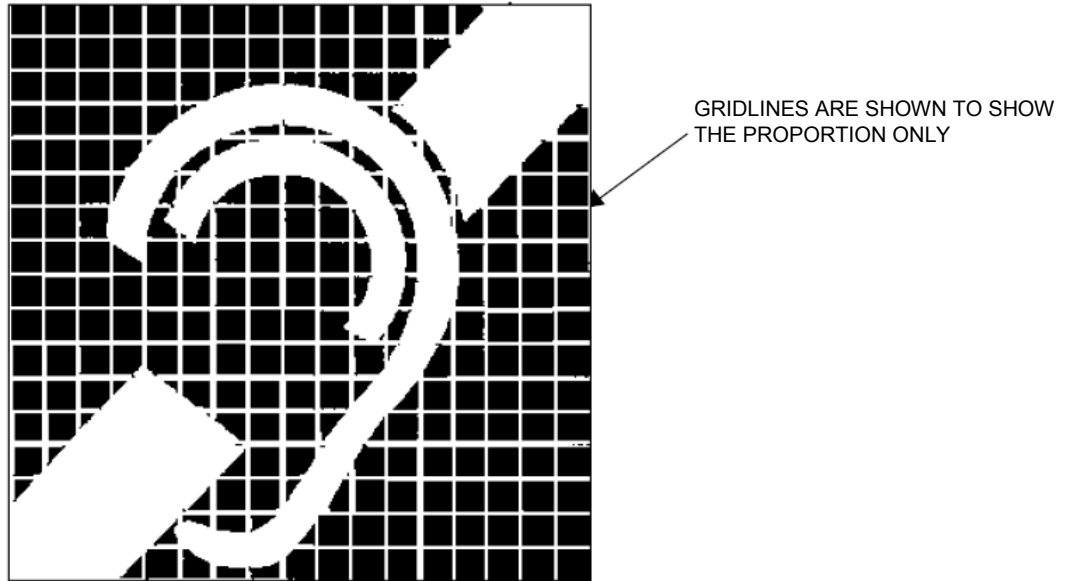
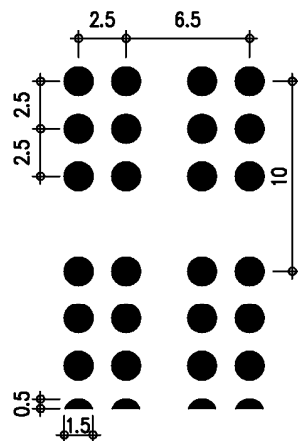


Figure 30 – Proportional Layout for International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss

Obligatory Design Requirements (Cont'd)

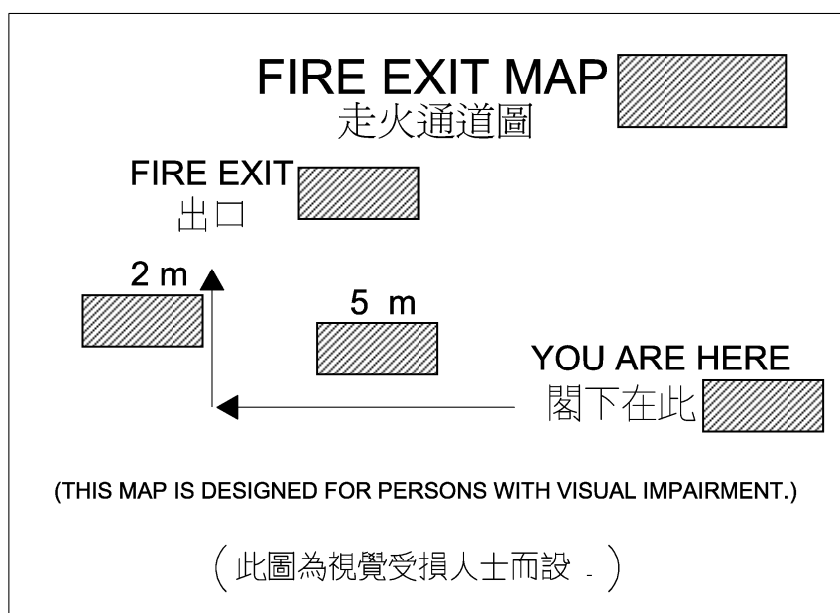
68. Braille and Tactile Sign

- (1)&(2) Braille and tactile sign shall be installed on adjacent wall or door of public toilet to indicate whether the toilet is for male, female or unisex. The sign shall be placed at 900 mm to 1500 mm above the finished floor level. Specification of Braille cells is shown in Figure 31.
- (3) If there is no door, the sign shall be provided on the wall in front of the toilets.
- (4)&(5) A Braille and tactile fire exit map as shown in Figure 32 shall be provided directly above the call button of the accessible lift in the lobby of the accessible lift in a building if a fire exit map for the use of the public is provided. The map shall be placed at 800 mm to 1200 mm above the finished floor level.



Dot Spacing :	2.5 mm	Character Spacing :	6.5 mm
Dot Height :	0.5 mm	Line Spacing :	10.0 mm
Dot base diameter :	1.5 mm		

Figure 31 – Specification of Braille Cells



Note: The 2m and 5m as shown on the Map are hypothetical figures only. They shall be subject to actual site condition.

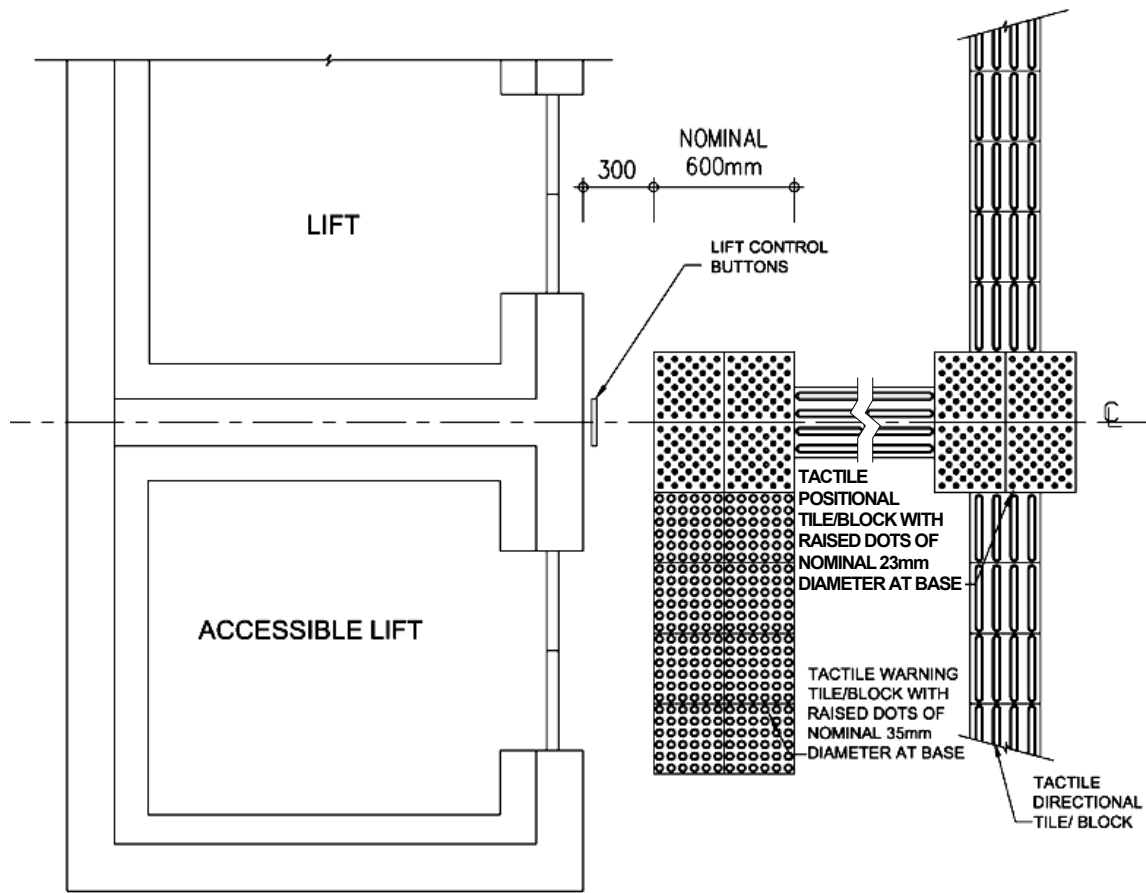
 Braille information

Figure 32 – Braille and Tactile Fire Exit Map

Division 14 --- Special Obligatory Design Requirements to Assist Persons with Visual/Hearing Impairment to Various Uses of Buildings in Table 2

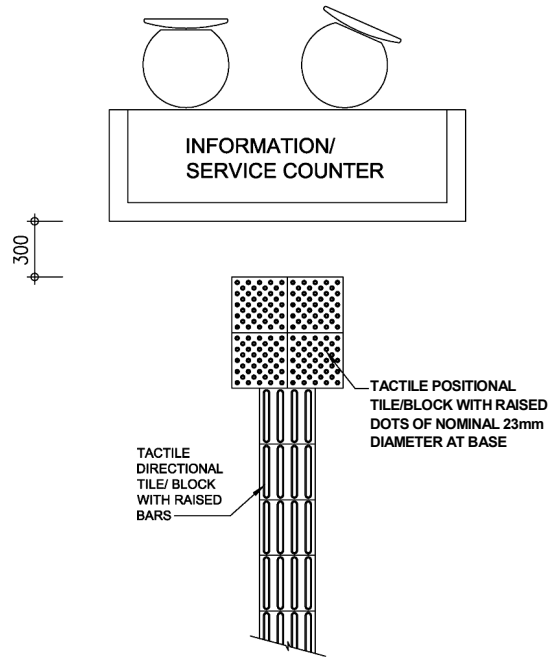
69. Special Design Requirements to assist persons with visual or hearing impairment

- (1) This paragraph applies to any part of a building used for the purposes as specified in Table 2 in Chapter 2.
- (2) If a floor plan for the use of the public is provided, Braille and tactile floor plan showing the main entrance, public toilet and major common facilities shall be provided in a place in that building which is conspicuous to persons with visual impairment.
- (3) Tactile guide path shall be installed from a point of access at the lot boundary to the main entrance of the building and from the main entrance to lift zone, the nearest accessible toilet, public information/service counter, Braille and tactile floor plan and staircase as illustrated in Figures 33, 34 and 35 respectively.
- (4) If visual display board (such as LED) is provided, it shall be able to display the essence of the information broadcasted by the public address system in the building. Examples include display boards to inform travellers of the arrival and destination of the MTR trains.



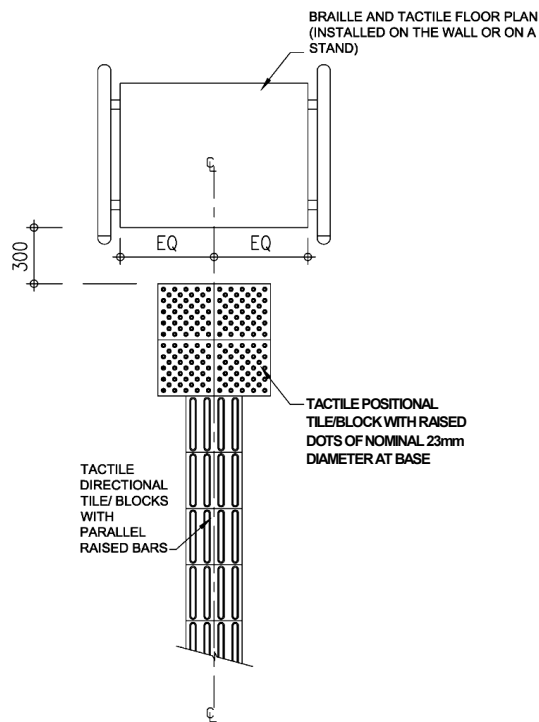
*ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN mm

Figure 33 – Tactile Guide Path to Lift Zone



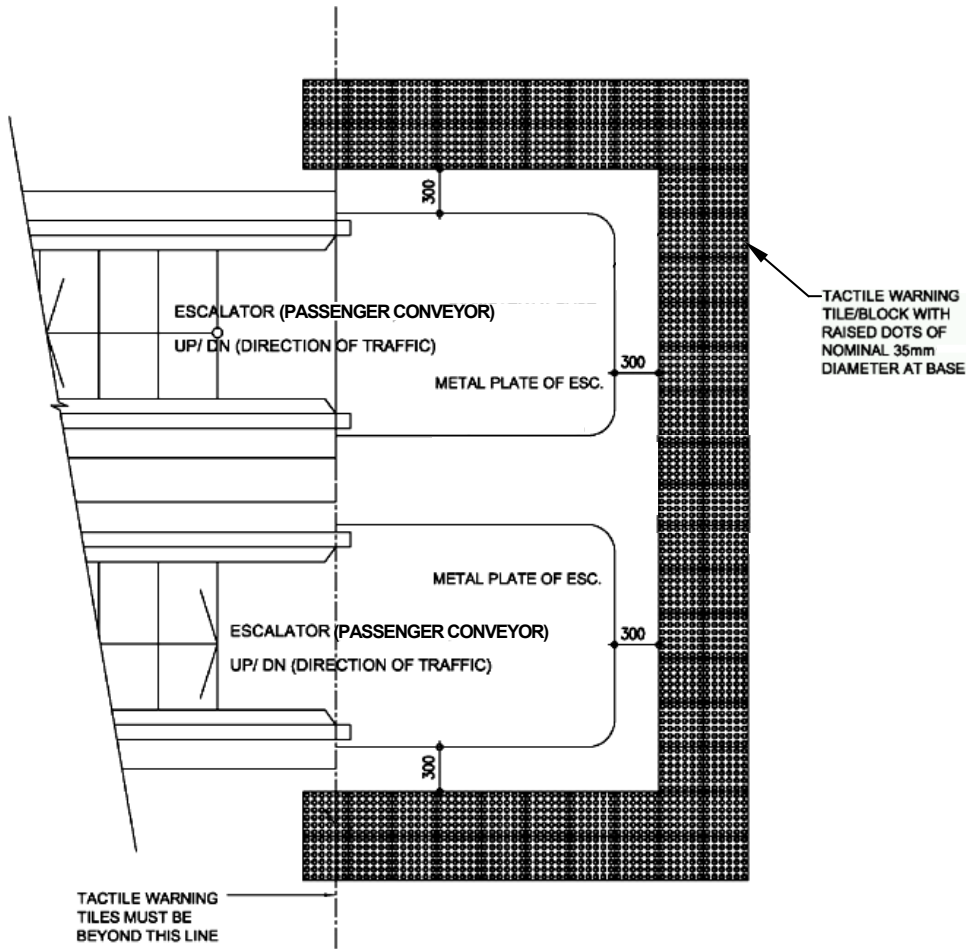
*ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN mm

Figure 34 – Tactile Guide Path to Information / Service Counter



*ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN mm

Figure 35 – Tactile Guide Path to Tactile / Braille Directory Map / Floor Plan



*ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN mm

Figure 36 – Tactile Warning Strip to Escalator or Passenger Conveyor

BEST PRACTICE SECTION

A. Design Considerations

- (a) Signs should be clear and easy to read and understand in order to assist persons with intellectual, cognitive and sensory disabilities.
- (b) International symbols are to be used for purpose of standardization and apprehension by all persons with a disability residing in Hong Kong or visiting from overseas. Examples of standard public information symbols are shown in Figure 37.
- (c) Prominent signs with high color and luminous contrasts as well as special shapes are recommended to be used for the elderly.
- (d) Safety for persons with visual impairment should be considered. Information such as distance to the destination, name of building etc. should be conveyed to the persons with visual impairment. The suggested provisions are voice message, Braille and signs with high luminous contrast.
- (e) To account for persons with visual impairment, larger fonts, more prominent and well-defined shapes of signs are recommended.
- (f) For categories of buildings as required in Table 2 in Chapter 2, tactile guide paths should be provided for persons with visual impairment from the main entrance to lift zone, public information/service counter, Braille and tactile floor plan, and staircase/escalator provided with audible signals. Braille and tactile floor plan showing the locations of major common facilities should be provided in a location in that building which is conspicuous to persons with visual impairment.





	Facilities for blind or partially sighted people
	World Federation of the Deaf sign to indicate facilities for deaf people
	Equipment to enhance microphone sound for people whose hearing aid is fitted with a "T" switch
	Equipment to enhance microphone sound through an infrared receiver

Figure 37 — Examples of Public Information Symbols

B. Recommended Design Requirements

Location

- (a) Sign should be erected to indicate clearly the locations of accessible routes through the building.

Luminous Contrast

- (b) Luminous contrast of not less than 70% should be provided to differentiate the international symbol of accessibility from the background, either light-on-dark or dark-on-light. The commonly employed colours are white for the wheelchair figure and blue for the background.

Recommended Design Requirements (Cont'd)

Lettering and Colour

- (c) Lettering should be plain and legible, e.g. Helvetica (medium) using lower case letters except for initial capitals.
- (d) Corners of sign should be rounded.
- (e) Chinese characters should be legible e.g. "Haak Tai" style.
- (f) Sign should be in raised characters.
- (g) The system of sign used should be clear and consistent.

Braille and Tactile Sign / Audible Sign

- (h) Braille and tactile building name and address (i.e., street name with number) or a device which when activated will provide the same information in audible form should be provided on both sides of the building entrance at a height of between 900 mm and 1500 mm above the finished floor level.
- (i) If public address system is provided to convey information to the public in a building, then a means of conveying the same or equivalent information to persons with hearing impairment should also be provided.
- (j) If a floor plan for the use of the public is provided, Braille and tactile floor plan with audible device indicating the main entrance, public toilet and major common facilities should be provided in a place in that building which is conspicuous to persons with visual impairment.

Visual Sign

- (k) Visual display board (such as LED) should be provided in public waiting areas other than those required in Table 2 in Chapter 2 and where there is an announcer installed to regularly convey information to the people inside. The visual display board should be able to display the essence of the information so announced.