

Dos and Don'ts: making emergency signs accessible

It is important that signs conveying COVID-19 and other emergency information are accessible.



Include or consider:

- ✓ Accessibility symbols to identify communication assistive devices
- ✓ Using high colour contrast with the background. For example, black text on a white background or vice versa.
- ✓ Braille and ensure it conveys the same information as the print
- ✓ Using sans-serif typeface
- ✓ Supplementing text with pictograms
- ✓ Placing on walls
- ✓ Using glare-free surfaces

Avoid:

- ✗ Red on a black background
- ✗ Use of italics, stylized print, underlining, block of capitals
- ✗ Use of sandwich boards or signs that protrude from the wall
- ✗ Suspending signs from ceilings
- ✗ Shadow areas and glare

If a sign is electronic, ensure the content has a good colour contrast (minimum of 4:1)

Alternatives to signage

Not everyone is able to see indicators on the floor. Where necessary, offer to guide the person while respecting public health guidelines.

For more information, check our guide [Accessible communication during COVID-19 and other emergencies: A guideline for federal organizations.](#)