

ADA signage compliance tips.

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Signs that require Braille and tactile lettering.

Signs designating permanent rooms and spaces that are not likely to change over time must comply with these standards. Braille and tactile lettering are required so they can be located and accessed by people who are functionally blind. Examples include restrooms, room names and numbers, and floor numbers.

- Minimum 1/32" raised tactile characters
- Must use all uppercase, sans serif text
- Uppercase letter "I" must measure between 5/8" - 2"
- Must meet font requirements (see below)
- Must contain Contracted Braille (formerly Grade 2 Braille) with domed or rounded shape Braille dots positioned under the corresponding text
- Braille must be separated by at least 3/8" from any tactile character and at least 3/8" from raised border or decorative graphic
- If pictograms are used, they must be in a field measuring 6" high and accompanied by tactile and Braille lettering below the field
- Text cannot be incorporated into pictograms
- Characters and backgrounds must have a non-glare finish
- Characters must contrast with their background (either light color characters on a dark color background, or dark color characters on a light color background)



Font requirements. The ADAAG indicates specific requirements for the stroke width and body width of the font you use on signs using tactile lettering. The stroke width of the uppercase letter "I" cannot be less than 15% of the height of the character. And the body width of the uppercase letter "O" is to be between 55% and 110% of the height of the uppercase letter "I".

Mounting requirements. The ADAAG indicates specific requirements for the mounting height of signs that require tactile lettering. The minimum height a sign is to be mounted, measured from the floor to the baseline of the lowest tactile character, is 48". The maximum height a sign is to be mounted, measured from the floor to the baseline of the highest tactile character, is 60".

Clear space requirements. Signs with tactile lettering are to be located in a position with a minimum 18" x 18" clear floor space (measured from the center of the tactile lettering on the sign). This clear floor space is to be beyond the arc of any door swing.

Signs that have dimensional requirements. Directional and informational signs used in functional spaces and overhead signs do not require Braille and tactile lettering, but must have proper character proportion and height, finish and contrast.

- May use upper and lowercase, or a combination of both
- Font may be serif, simple serif or sanserif, but must not be italic, oblique, script or highly decorative
- Do not condense or extend typefaces
- The size of the lettering is dependent on the distance the sign reader is expected to be from the sign
- Must meet font requirements (previous)
- Characters and backgrounds must have a non-glare finish
- Characters must contrast with their background (either light color characters on a dark color background, or dark color characters on a light color background)

Signs with no requirements.

Signs used for building directories, menus, seat and row designations in assembly areas, building names and address, and company names or logos are not required to comply with the guidelines.

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If you have technical questions about Duets substrates, need swatch chips, samples or require assistance, our entire team at Gemini and our partners are ready to assist you. Go to DuetsByGemini.com or call 800.548.3356



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Information herein is intended as a summary of the ADA law as it pertains to signage, and is solely intended as a reference for our customers. Gemini Incorporated and its partners assume no liability for errors resulting from the use of, or the interpretation of, this material. Some local and state building code requirements may be more stringent than the federal law.

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Substrates for superior ADA signage.

A better sign starts with better materials.

ADA wayfinding signage is a vital component to any architectural sign-making business. Your customers rely on you not only produce appealing signage that enhances the interior space of a building, but also complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

DuetsTactiles™ by Gemini offers a wide selection of high-performance substrates designed specifically for ADA wayfinding appliqué signage.

Color contrast made simple.

The ADAAG provides guidance on surfaces that need to contrast visually with their surroundings to assist the disabled, including those who are visually impaired. Requirements for ADA wayfinding state that signs must be non-glare and characters must contrast with their background.

The chart on the inside of this guide compares all of the possible color combinations that can be achieved with DuetsTactiles substrates and appliqué. Choose the color schemes that are compatible with building décor, and the color combination that provides a significant degree of contrast between characters and background, giving consideration to lighting and environmental factors.



	Clear/Matte	Bright White	Frost	White	Warm White	Yellow	Gold	Orange	Medieval Copper	Pilestone
1/32-A*	—	L-010-303-A	L-010-583-A	L-010-113-A	L-010-563-A	L-010-143-A	L-010-123-A	L-010-623-A	L-010-423-A	L-010-533-A
1/32	L-010-033	L-010-303	L-010-583	L-010-113	L-010-563	L-010-143	L-010-123	L-010-623	L-010-423	L-010-533
1/16	L-010-036	L-010-306	L-010-586	L-010-116	L-010-566	L-010-146	L-010-126	L-010-626	L-010-426	L-010-536
1/8	L-010-038	L-010-308	L-010-588	L-010-118	L-010-568	L-010-148	L-010-128	L-010-628	L-010-428	L-010-538
CMYK	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	3-0-0-1	0-0-0-2	0-1-4-0	0-11-100-0	0-29-73-25	0-60-100-0	0-58-83-40	0-87-80-42
RGB	255-255-255	255-255-255	240-247-251	248-248-248	255-251-242	255-219-0	198-149-73	245-130-32	162-88-38	155-42-34
PMS	Trans. White	Trans. White	7541	Cool Gray 1	Warm Gray 1	108	4645	165	1615	484
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NOTE: Colors portrayed and/or color formulas expressed herein are for reference only. Duets materials are tightly controlled for color consistency during manufacturing, but the colors in printed, electronic or online representations may vary from actual material colors. We recommend requesting a free color chip or referring to the Duets color swatch chip binder to validate material colors.

		APPLIQUE SUBSTRATE																																													
		Black	Graphite	Denim Blue	Chocolate Brown	Majestic Blue	Cobalt Blue	Charcoal Grey	Chestnut	Burgundy	Merlot	Evergreen	Frosted Plum	Blue	Medieval Copper	Aged Bronze	Red	Pipestone	Intense Teal	Lagoon	Pink	Slate Blue	Spring Green	Spruce	Taupe	Orange	Mint	River Clay	Periwinkle	Light Blue	Gold	Puty	Latte	Desert Sand	Khaki	Silver	Oyster Shell	Yellow	Light Grey	Bone	French Vanilla	Almond	Bisque	Warm White	White	Frost	Bright White
BACKGROUND SUBSTRATE	Clear/Matte*																																														
	Bright White																																														
	Frost																																														
	White																																														
	Warm White																																														
	Bisque																																														
	Almond					</																																									

* Color contrast of Clear/Matte background substrate dependent on mounting surface: not available for appliqué

ADA & APPLIQUÉ SUBSTRATE

- Laser or Rotary
- Impact Modified Acrylic
- Outdoor/Indoor
- Matte (non-glare) Finish

APPLICATIONS

- ADA & Appliqué
- Wayfinding
- Architectural Signage
- Exhibit Display
- Retail Display
- Interior Branding

CHARACTERISTICS

- UV stable outdoor/indoor
- Adhesive back option
- Heat bendable
- Shears, scores, drills*
- Saws
- Bondable
- Hot stamp, silk screen
- Vector cut

*1/8" not recommended for shearing or scoring

SPECIFICATIONS

Material	Impact Modified Acrylic
Finish	Matte (non-glare)
Thickness: <i>1-ply</i>	1/32" (0.8mm) 1/16" (1.6mm) 1/8" (3.2mm)
Compatible	Laser or Rotary
Sheet Size: <i>Full Half Quarter</i>	24" x 49" (610mm x 1244mm)* 24" x 24" (610mm x 610mm)* 12" x 24" (305mm x 610mm)*

*Sizes are approximate

RECOMMENDED LASER SETTINGS FOR VECTOR CUTTING

Thickness:	35 Watt System		50 Watt System	
	Power	Speed	Power	Speed
1/32" (0.8mm)	30	20	22	20
1/16" (1.6mm)	100	7	100	16
1/8" (3.2mm)	100	10	100	20

Actual substrate colors may vary from what is shown;
request free sample swatches of actual materials at
DuetsByGemini.com/samples

DuetsTactiles™ color combinations portrayed are for contrast simulation and informational purposes only. No color recommendations are implied and color combinations are not guaranteed to be ADA compliant. Sign color, contrast and visibility can be significantly affected by lighting and environmental conditions at the installation site.