



Mi'kmaw Braille Code



2022 Presented by
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This code is based on (and inspired by) the Navajo Braille Code, developed by Carol Begay Green in New Mexico, and adopted by the Navajo Nation as well as BANA (Braille Authority of North America).

This code is meant to ensure that all blind readers of Mi'kmaw have a standardized, consistent Braille code available to them, as well as being available to transcribers across North America.

It is my hope that more Indigenous codes will be created in the near future.

In consultation with:

Dr. Bernie Francis (Linguist, co-creator of the Francis-Smith print orthography)

Dr. Robert Englebretson (Consultant: Navajo Braille Code/Associate Professor and Chair, Rice University Dept. of Linguistics, Houston TX).

Carol Begay Green (MA, CTVI, New Mexico)

Justin M. H. Salisbury (MA, NOMC, NCRTB, NCUEB)

Links

Braille Codes for Native American and First Nations Languages
by Justin M. H. Salisbury and Carol Begay Green

Journal of Blindness Innovation and Research, Vol 9, No 1 (2019)
<https://nfb.org/images/nfb/publications/jbir/jbir19/jbir090104.html>

Navajo Braille Code
by Carol Begay Green

Paths to Literacy
<https://www.pathstoliteracy.org/resources/navajo-braille-code>

An apostrophe (⠗) will be used for the lengthened vowel print symbol ('), and the i-circumflex (⠗⠏) will be used for the schwa (i), as this symbol is already represented in Foreign Language Braille, and is occasionally found written this way.

All Mi'kmaw words will be done in uncontracted (Grade 1) Braille. Typeforms, punctuation, numbers, ect. will all use Unified English Braille symbols.

When the lengthened vowel symbol appears within a fully capitalized word, it should not cancel capitalization as an apostrophe would in English Braille (UEB 8.4.2).

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NON-ALPHABETIC PRINT SYMBOLS

Print Symbol	Braille Symbol	Dots
' (lengthened vowel)	⠗	3

SHORT VOWELS

Print Letter	Braille Symbol	Dots
a	⠁	1
e	⠅	15
i	⠃	34
o	⠏	135
u	⠥	136
ɨ	⠗⠏	146

LONG VOWELS

Print Letter	Braille Symbol	Dots
a'	⠗⠁	1, 3
e'	⠗⠅	15, 3
i'	⠗⠃	34, 3
o'	⠗⠏	135, 3
u'	⠗⠥	136, 3

CONSONANTS

Print Letter	Braille Symbol	Dots
j	⠗⠁	245
k	⠗⠅	13
l	⠗⠃	123
m	⠗⠏	134
n	⠗⠏	1345
p	⠗⠏	1234
q	⠗⠏	12345
s	⠗⠏	234
t	⠗⠏	2345
kw	⠗⠗⠗	13, 2456
aq	⠗⠗⠗	1, 12345

Sometimes Used	Braille Symbol	Dots
á	⠗⠁	12356
é	⠗⠅	2346
í	⠗⠃	34
ó	⠗⠏	346
ú	⠗⠥	23456