

## Fingerspelling Practice and Rules

Practice these vowels without looking at the hand or working out which finger to use. Let it flow naturally.

A	U	E	I	O
E	O	U	A	I
I	A	O	E	U
U	E	I	O	A
O	I	A	U	E

Do NOT switch from right hand to left hand or vice versa. Examples to watch for are 'C' 'P' 'D'

Make sure that 'L' and 'T' are clearly distinguishable. The same to be said for 'N' 'V', and 'P' 'D'.

Give NO thoughts to how the letter should look i.e. the way it is written. Within BSL there are many exceptions because of the natural function of the language which will only be understood and appreciated at the advance stage. It is better to get out of bad habits now before it becomes difficult to rectify them.

### **Practice:**

When fingerspelling a word never quote the word letter by letter. Always lip the word fully either at the same time as fingerspelling or say the word after fingerspelling. Try saying your name and fingerspell at the same time, and then try other learners' names from the class or your family names.

Good clear fingerspelling makes fluency and reading of fingerspelling much easier.