

Library-Iowa Department for the Blind
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Weekly Dose

Rules for groupsigns “be, con, dis”

- Use the lower groupsign for "be", "con" or "dis" when the letters it represents form the first syllable of a word.
- Use the lower groupsign for "be", "con" or "dis" only at the beginning of a word and only when followed by a letter, a contraction, a modified letter or a ligatured letter.

Example: concave/convex ⠠⠉⠗⠊⠑⠇⠞⠑⠒⠁⠑⠏⠎⠑⠗⠅⠑

Hint: Did you notice, the groupsign con is NOT used in the word convex because it is no longer at the beginning.

- Do not use the lower group sign for "be", "con", or "dis", when the letters it represents are followed by a capitals indicator or a capitals terminator.

Examples:

conCUR 

DISlike

- Use the lower groupsign for "be", "con" or "dis" in an abbreviation when it is used in the unabbreviated form of the word and when it is followed by at least one other letter.

Note: If the unabbreviated form is not known and cannot be determined from the text or by reference to a standard dictionary, it is ok to use the lower group sign.

Examples:

Conn. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

cont ⠠⠠⠠

Source: Rules of Unified English Braille 2013