



ADA SIGNAGE



ADA SIGN REGULATIONS

Who must comply with ADA sign regulations?

Virtually all facilities, other than religious organizations must comply with ADA sign regulations, including state and local governments and private businesses.

Do the ADA standards specify what rooms must have ADA signage?

Yes, the ADA specifies the scope of required signage in Section 216.2.

Can a business be sued for failure to comply with the ADA?

Yes, a suit for failure to comply with the ADA requirements can be brought by a private party or by the government.

Are there different types of ADA signage?

Yes, there are basically two types, the "tactile" signs which have raised lettering with Braille and the "visual" signs which have letter size requirements and contrast requirements.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS OF ADA SIGNS

Tactile Signs: Section 703.2 and 703.4

Raised Characters: 1/32 inch
Characters: all upper case
Style: Sans Serif
Height: 5/8" to 2"
Stroke Thickness: Max 15% of height
Line Spacing: 135% to 170% of height

Braille Dots: Domed
Dot Height: 0.6mm to 0.9mm
Position of Braille: Below text
Installation Height: 48" to lowest character
Install Location: Latch side of door

Visual Signs: Section 703.5

Finish: Non glare
Contrast: Characters and background shall contrast
Character: May be upper or lower case or both
Style: Conventional types but not italic or script
Height: Characters from 5/8" to 3" depending upon height above ground

SCOPING REQUIREMENTS

Permanent Rooms: Section 216.2

Interior signs that provide names for rooms or spaces where the sign is unlikely to change must be "tactile" signs. Examples include signs for restrooms, room numbers, floor numbers, room names, and exit doors.

Directional and Information Signs: Section 216.5

Signs that provide direction to or information about interior spaces must comply with the "visual" sign requirements.

Exceptions: Section 216.1

Building directories, menus, seat and row designations in assembly areas, occupant names, building addresses and company logos are not required to comply.