

RULE XIII — LOWER SIGNS

Sign	Contraction	Punctuation
⠠	ea	, comma
⠠	be bb	; semicolon
⠠	con cc	: colon
⠠	dis dd	. period
⠠	en enough	
⠠	to ff	! exclamation point
⠠	were gg	() opening and closing parentheses
⠠	his	“ ” ? opening double quotation mark; question mark
⠠	in	
⠠	into	
⠠	was by	” " closing double quotation mark
⠠	com	- hyphen

39. "Be," "Enough," "Were," "His," "In," and "Was:" The lower signs which represent the words "be," "enough," "were," "his," "in," and "was" may be preceded by the capital and/or italic sign, but must not be in contact with any other letter, contraction, word, or punctuation sign. Ex:

It may be. ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

Was it as you thought it was?

⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

Enough's enough. ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

The would-be actor. ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

So you were. ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

"Was he a good-enough player?"

⠠⠠
 ⠠⠠

These were *his* books. ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

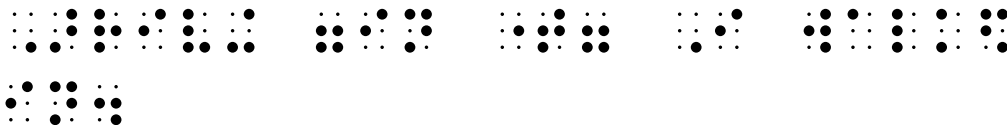
So you were—were you? ⠠⠠

"Were they *his*?" ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

My mother-in-law is my only in-law.

⠠⠠
 ⠠⠠

Arriving (in time) I walked in.

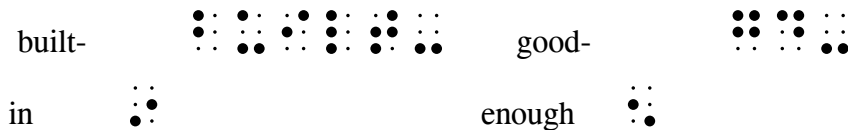


shut-in shut-ins

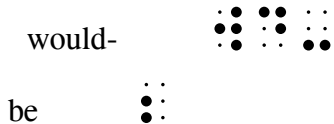


However, these signs should be used where they are no longer in contact with the hyphen.
Ex:

built- good-
 in enough

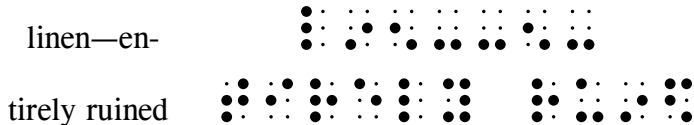


would-
 be

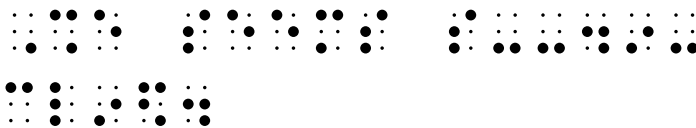


40. Lower Sign Rule: Any number of lower signs should follow one another without a space if one of them is in contact with a sign containing dot 1 or dot 4. Although the italic sign contains a dot 4, it is not to be considered an upper sign. **Ex:**

linen—en-
 tirely ruined



She seems so—disinclined.



RULE XIII. 40.a.

a. Two or more unspaced lower signs must not follow one another when they are not in contact with an upper sign containing a dot 1 or a dot 4. Ex:

Was that his? ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

in- ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ "dis- ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠
duce ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ play" ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

con- ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠
duct ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

b. When two or more lower-sign contractions follow one another without being in contact with an upper sign, the final lower-sign contraction must not be used. Ex:

comin' ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

to con- ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ to disen- ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠
cur ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ gage ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

He is to be a man.
⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

41. "To," "Into," and "By:"

a. Braille the lower signs "to," "into," and "by" unspaced from the word, abbreviation, letter, or number which follows, or the braille equivalent for a print symbol which follows.

b. The lower sign may begin the next braille line where there is not room on the braille line for the lower sign and either at least the first syllable of the following word, or the abbreviation, and/or the braille equivalent for a print symbol and the letter or number joined to it, which follows.

Give it to 'im. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

What she got into, was trouble. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

"To *err* is human, to ... divine." ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

"TO BE OR NOT TO BE" opens a famous speech. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

It was referred to by his sister. ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

Do right by him. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

\$15 added to X came to \$45. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

They came to (verbal) blows. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

42. "Ea" and the Double-Letter Signs: The lower-sign contractions for "ea" and the double-letter signs "bb," "cc," "dd," "ff," and "gg" must be used only when these letters occur between letters and/or contractions within a word. They must never begin or end a word. **Ex:**

mean ⠠⠍⠑⠠⠠⠠⠠ realize ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ eat ⠠⠠⠠⠠

sea ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ seas ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

rubbed ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ tobacco ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

add ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ cuff ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ eggs ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

a. They should not be used when in contact with a hyphen or an apostrophe. **Ex:**

sea-island ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ sou'east ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

ebb-tide ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ sheriff's ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

rea- ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ "add- ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

son ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ed" ⠠⠠⠠⠠

b. These contractions must not be used where the letters are separated by a primary syllable division. (See §34.b.(2).) **Ex:**

preamble ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ agreeable ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

readjust ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ dumbbell ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

headdress ⠠⠏⠠⠗⠠⠑⠏⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 permeable ⠠⠑⠠⠗⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 subbasement ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 wiseacre ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑

Exception: The signs for "bb," "cc," "dd," "ff," and "gg" may overlap syllable divisions which occur between a prefix and the root of a word, since to use them would not obscure recognition. **Ex:**

accept ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 address ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 affect ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 aggressive ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑

c. Use any alternative one-cell contraction in preference to "ea" and the double-letter signs except where a contraction ending in "e" would break the "eau" trigraph, as in: tableau, Fontainebleau, Clemenceau, Bertheau, etc. **Ex:**

"ar" in near ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑ heart ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑ bear ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 "ble" in bubble ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑ dabble ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 "ch" in saccharine ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 bacchanal ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 "ed" in peddle ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑ wedding ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑
 "of" in office ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑ proffer ⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑

"for" in effort ⠠⠋⠠⠗⠠⠋⠠⠑⠠⠗⠠⠋ afford ⠠⠠⠋⠠⠠⠋⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

d. However, where the same space is saved, use any lower one-cell contraction in preference to a two-cell contraction. **Preferences:**

"dd" in Haddon Hall ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
 haddock ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

"en" in opponent ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
 adherent ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

43. "Be," "Con," and "Dis:" The lower part-word contractions "be," "con," and "dis" may be used only as syllables at the beginning of a word or at the beginning of a line in a divided word, except that they may be used after a hyphen in a hyphenated compound word. These contractions may be used in names for the first syllable following Mac or Mc when such a syllable is capitalized. As part-word contractions, they must not stand alone as syllables at the beginning of a line in a divided word. They may not be used when in contact with a hyphen in a divided or in a syllabified word. **Ex:**

believe ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ dish ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
 un- ⠠⠠⠠⠠ dis- ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
 becoming ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ pleasure ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
 ba- ⠠⠠⠠⠠ may- ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
 con ⠠⠠⠠⠠ be ⠠⠠⠠
 concept ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ indistinct ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
 disconnect ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ Congress ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

McConnell ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

self-control ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

dis-con-cert (syllabifying) ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

a. The contractions for "be," "con," and "dis," when used in a complete word, should be used in the abbreviation of the word. They must not be used if they comprise the entire abbreviation, nor may "con" be used as a whole word. **Ex:**

conj. (conjunction) ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

con. (concerto) ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

cont. (continued) ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

pro and con ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

dist. (district) ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

b. The contractions "be," "con," and "dis" must never be used before the apostrophe, but they may follow it. **Ex:**

O'Connor ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ be'ave ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

dis'armony ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

