

ASL ALPHABET HANDSHAPE COMPARISON

A visual reference for distinguishing similar American Sign Language signs.

Illustration [A]

A

Thumb tucked to side

Illustration [S]

S

Thumb across fingers

Illustration [T]

T

Thumb inside index

Illustration [M]

M

Three fingers over thumb

Illustration [N]

N

Two fingers over thumb

Illustration [E]

E

All fingers curled tight

Illustration [G]

G

Horizontal pinch

Illustration [H]

H

Two fingers horizontal

Common Confusions

- **M vs N:** Count the knuckles over the thumb.
- **A vs S vs T:** Pay attention to the thumb placement relative to the fist.
- **G vs L:** G is horizontal; L is vertical like the letter.

Hand Orientation

- **Palm Orientation:** Most letters face out; G and H face inward/sideways.
- **Movement:** Only J and Z require active movement of the hand.
- **Down-Facing:** P and Q are downward versions of K and G.