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**ABSTRACT**

This reference circular lists sources of braille books available for loan, purchase, rental, or free (give-away) distribution. Divided into four sections, it includes general sources of braille books, sources of specialized braille materials, the major braille presses, and resources for further information about braille books and magazines. Addresses, prices, and other information in the circular have been taken from catalogs and other literature submitted by producers and distributors in response to a survey conducted by the Reference Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped of the Library of Congress. Magazines are not included; a complete listing of magazines can be found in the reference circular, Magazines in Special Media: Subscription Sources. Prices in this circular should be verified with each source before ordering, since they are subject to change. An index as well as listings of other reference circulars and bibliographies published by the Reference Section are included. (THC)

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# Sources of Braille Reading Materials

*National Library Service  
for the Blind and  
Physically Handicapped*

*The Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C. 20542*



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## INTRODUCTION

This reference circular lists sources of braille books available for loan, purchase, rental, or free (give-away) distribution. The circular is divided into four sections and includes general sources of braille books, sources of specialized braille materials, the major braille presses, and resources for further information about braille books and magazines. Information in the circular has been taken from catalogs and other literature submitted by producers and distributors in response to a survey conducted by the Reference Section. Magazines are not included; a complete listing of magazines can be found in the reference circular, Magazines in Special Media: Subscription Sources. As additional information is received, it will be included in future editions of this circular. Prices should be verified with each source before ordering, since they are subject to change.

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## Sources of Braille Books

### **American Bible Society**

1865 Broadway  
New York, NY 10023  
(212) 581-7400

English and Spanish braille Scriptures; Bible concordances in English. Printed catalog available.

Price: \$14.00/vol.

### **American Lutheran Church**

Ephphatha Services  
P.O. Box 15167  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 330-3537

Bible study. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan to readers worldwide

### **American Printing House for the Blind**

1839 Frankfort Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40206  
(502) 895-2405

Elementary and high school textbooks, computer manuals, dictionaries, braille teaching manuals in grades 1, 1-1/2, 2, and 3 braille, foreign language instruction, cookbooks, music, and some general interest titles for children and adults. Printed catalog available.

Price: Varying prices

### **Associated Services for the Blind**

Braille Division  
919 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
(215) 627-0600

Computer manuals; Campbell Soup Cookbook.

Price: \$0.23/page for computer manuals; cookbook free

**Bower Hill Brailist Foundation**

70 Moffett Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
(412) 341-8164

Fiction and general nonfiction. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States and Canada  
(will also accept Brailion exchange)

**Braille Association of Kansas, Inc.**

P.O. Box 17032  
Wichita, KS 67217  
(316) 522-6921

Primarily textbooks; some fiction and general nonfiction.

Price: \$0.09/page with binding  
\$0.08/page unbound

**Braille Circulating Library, Inc.**

2700 Stuart Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23220  
(804) 359-3743

Fiction and general nonfiction, much with religious orientation.  
Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan to readers worldwide

**Braille, Inc.**

157 Locust Street  
Falmouth, MA 02540  
(617) 540-0800

Fiction and general nonfiction; short stories; "Braille Tales"  
series.

Price: \$30.00/vol. purchase or  
\$3.00 rental/vol. plus \$15.00 annual membership fee and  
\$30.00/one-time maintenance fee

**Braille Institute of America, Inc.**  
741 North Vermont Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90029  
(213) 663-1111

Textbooks; fiction and general nonfiction, including cookbooks;  
Expectations, a children's anthology.

Price: \$0.09/page plus \$0.75/vol. for binding  
Expectations free to children worldwide

**Christian Record Braille Foundation, Inc.**  
4444 South 52nd Street  
Lincoln, NE 68516  
(402) 488-0981

Fiction and general nonfiction, with religious orientation.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States and Canada

**Cocoa Beach Lions Transcribers for the Blind**  
P.O. Box 1077  
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931  
(350) 784-1077

Textbooks; fiction and general nonfiction. Printed catalog  
available for \$1.00.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States

**Gospel Association for the Blind, Inc.**  
Free Circulating Library  
P.O. Box 100  
Delray Beach, FL 33447  
(305) 499-8900

Bible study, inspirational reading for children and adults, and  
Scriptural materials. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan to readers worldwide

**Guild for the Blind**  
180 North Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 236-8569

Self-help books; children's literature.

Price: \$2.50-\$12.00/title

**Horizons for the Blind**  
7001 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60626  
(312) 973-7600

Fiction and general nonfiction.

Price: Free loan plus \$10.00/year membership fee

**Jewish Braille Institute of America, Inc.**  
110 East 30th Street  
New York, NY 10016  
(212) 889-2525

Judaica and books of Jewish interest. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan to readers worldwide

**Johanna Bureau for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Inc.**  
30 West Washington Street  
Chicago, IL 60602  
(312) 332-6076

Textbooks; fiction and general nonfiction for adults and children. Printed catalog available.

Price: \$0.11/page including binding

**Lutheran Braille Workers, Inc.**  
11735 Peach Tree Circle  
Yucaipa, CA 92399  
(714) 790-2901

Religious tracts, pamphlets, and Bible stories in English; portions of the Scriptures in English and in over 30 other languages. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free distribution to readers worldwide

**Lutheran Library for the Blind**  
1333 South Kirkwood Road  
St. Louis, MO 63122  
(314) 965-9000

Fiction and general nonfiction; religious materials.

Price: Free loan to readers worldwide

**Massachusetts Association for the Blind**  
200 Ivy Street  
Brookline, MA 02146  
(617) 738-5110

Children's literature; fiction and general nonfiction for adults, including cookbooks.

Price: \$2.75-35.00/title

**National Braille Association, Inc. (NBA)**  
Braille Book Bank  
1290 University Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14607  
(716) 473-0900

College textbooks; general interest nonfiction; dictionaries; foreign language instruction; technical tables; music. Printed catalogs available for \$1.50-7.50 each.

Price: \$0.12/page for individuals  
\$0.35/page for agencies, schools, and libraries

**National Braille Press**  
88 St. Stephen Street  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 266-6160

Cookbooks; computer manuals; needlecrafts.

Price: \$5.00-\$12.50/title

**National Library Service for the Blind  
and Physically Handicapped (NLS)**

Library of Congress  
Washington, DC 20542  
(202) 287-5100

A variety of fiction and nonfiction titles for adults and children, including foreign language literature, music, cookbooks, and Scriptures. Printed catalogs available.

Price: Free loan to eligible residents of the United States and American citizens living abroad. Available through a cooperating network of state and local libraries. Also available on interlibrary loan to foreign libraries and agencies.

**New York Association for the Blind**

Braille Transcribing Service  
111 East 59th Street  
New York, NY 10022  
(212) 355-2200

Textbooks (elementary school language arts, high school English and social studies). Printed catalog available.

Price: \$.15/page, additional charge for binding  
(will also accept Braille exchange)

**Plough Publishing House**

Braille Lending Library  
Hutterian Society of Brothers  
Deer Springs Community  
Norfolk, CT 06058  
(203) 542-5545

Religious materials; inspirational reading. Limited collection.

Price: Free loan

**Special Curriculum of the Church of Latter-Day Saints**

50 East North Temple Street  
Floor 24  
Salt Lake City, UT 84150  
(801) 531-2475

Book of Mormon, religious manuals, hymnals. Printed catalog available.

Price: \$2.00/vol.

**Theosophical Book Association for the Blind**

Krotona 54  
Ojai, CA 93023  
(805) 646-2121

General interest and religious books. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan; some items available to readers worldwide

**Volunteer Braillists, Inc.**

5930 Old Sauk Road  
Madison, WI 53705  
(608) 231-1966

Fiction and general nonfiction, including cookbooks, childcare, knitting books, and children's literature. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States.  
Also available for purchase at \$.05-\$.10/page  
plus binding

**Woodside Terrace Kiwanis**

Braille Project  
850 Longview Road  
Hillsborough, CA 94010  
(415) 344-0803

Fiction and general nonfiction, including cookbooks. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States and Canada.  
Also available for purchase at \$0.08/page and \$0.70/vol.  
for binding

**Xavier Society for the Blind**

154 East 23rd Street  
New York, NY 10010  
(212) 473-7800

Textbooks for Catholic school students; fiction and nonfiction with religious orientation. Printed catalog available.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States and Canada

Sources of Specialized Braille Materials

Jumbo Braille

Books with braille dots two and one-half times the size of standard grade 2 braille.

**Beach Cities Braille Guild**  
P.O. Box 712  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648  
(714) 536-9666

Short stories and short articles. Limited collection.

Price: Free distribution to residents of the United States

**National Braille Press**  
88 St. Stephen Street  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 266-6160

Jumbo braille manual designed to familiarize blind persons with the braille system.

Price: \$18.50

**National Library Service for the Blind  
and Physically Handicapped (NLS)**  
Library of Congress  
Washington, DC 20542

Six jumbo braille titles available through a network of cooperating state and local libraries.

Price: Free loan to eligible residents of the United States and American citizens living abroad.

PRINT/BRAILLE

PRINT/BRAILLE combines the complete print book with accompanying braille text embossed on either clear acetate interleaves, as in NLS titles, or directly on the printed page.

**American Brotherhood for the Blind**  
18440 Oxnard Street  
Tarzana, CA 91356  
(818) 343-2022

Twin-Vision books for children.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States and Canada  
Free distribution to libraries and schools

**Christian Record Braille Foundation**  
4444 South 52nd Street  
Lincoln, NB 68516  
(402) 488-0981

Full-Vision books for children.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States and Canada

**National Braille Press**  
88 St. Stephens Street  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 266-6160

Children's PRINT/BRAILLE Book-of-the-Month Club. Flyers listing monthly selections available.

\$3.95-11.00/title or \$100.00/12 monthly selections

**National Library Service for the Blind  
and Physically Handicapped (NLS)**  
Library of Congress  
Washington, DC 20542

Over 200 PRINT/BRAILLE titles available through a network of cooperating state and local libraries.

Price: Free loan to eligible residents of the United States and American citizens living abroad. Also available on interlibrary loan to foreign libraries and agencies.

Tactile Books for Children

**Science Products, Inc.**

Box A  
Southeastern, PA 19399  
(800) 822-7400

A scratch and sniff series, without braille; a tactile shapes series; a touch and feel series.

Price: \$4.95-12.95

VersaBraille Books

Books for use on a VersaBraille machine, a paperless braille device.

**Mount Diablo Transcribers**

2116 Youngs Court  
Walnut Grove, CA 94596  
(415) 937-5173

Classics such as Tom Sawyer, The Incredible Journey, The Red Pony, and The Pearl. Limited collector.

Price: Free loan to residents of the United States

**National Braille Press**

88 St. Stephen Street  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 266-6160

A word speller and a daily planner.

Price: \$10.00-\$30.00

**San Diego Unified School District**

3401 Clairemont Drive  
San Diego, CA 92117  
(619) 274-5313

Twenty-four general interest titles at the elementary and secondary school level.

Price: Provide a blank Maxell UD XL-1, C-60 cassette in exchange for each title. Available to readers worldwide.

Sources for Producing Press Braille Books

The following braille presses have the capability to produce from 50 to 1,000 copies of a braille book at a time. Since they are volume producers of braille books, they do not accommodate individual requests for transcriptions unless items are needed in quantity.

**American Printing House for the Blind**  
1839 Frankfort Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40206  
(502) 895-2405

**Clovernook Home and School for the Blind**  
7000 Hamilton Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45231  
(513) 522-3860

**National Braille Press**  
88 Saint Stephens Street  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 266-6160

**Triformation Braille Service**  
3142 SE Jay Street  
Stuart, FL 33497  
(305) 286-8366

Resources for Further Information

**Braille Revival League**  
216 West Miller Street  
Springfield, IL 62702

An organization established to promote braille production and the teaching and use of braille.

Central Catalog

Instructional Materials Reference Center for Visually Handicapped Children  
American Printing House for the Blind  
1839 Frankfort Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40206  
(502) 895-2405

A catalog listing braille, large-type, and recorded textbooks prepared by volunteers or from other sources throughout the United States. For a textbook search, the author, complete title, publisher, copyright date, grade level, and media must be provided. School districts and agencies serving visually handicapped children may purchase a copy of the Central Catalog for \$25.00.

International Directory of Libraries and Production Facilities for the Blind. Washington: Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, 1984. 109p.

Produced in cooperation with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Section on Libraries for the Blind. Includes facilities for braille production and distribution in fifty-nine countries. Free while supply lasts.

Library Resources for the Blind and Physically Handicapped: A Directory with Statistics on Readership, Circulation, Budget, Staff, and Collections. Washington: Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Annual.

Includes information on braille collections in the NLS network of cooperating state and local libraries and from other sources. Provides statistics on braille readership and circulation in the United States. Free subscription.

**Magazines in Special Media: Subscription Sources.** Compiled by Merrilyn Gibson. Washington: Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, 1985.

A reference circular that provides information about the availability of braille magazines. Free on request. Available in braille and in print.

**Naperville Area Transcribing for the Blind (NATB)**

670 North Eagle Street  
Naperville, IL 60540  
(312) 420-1863

Acts as a central registry for general-interest materials produced in braille by volunteers. Transcribers are encouraged to send their listings of general-interest materials to NATB. Persons interested in borrowing materials should send bibliographic data (author, title, publisher, copyright date) to NATB, along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Searches are not made while a patron is on the telephone.

**National Association to Promote  
the Use of Braille (NAPUB)**

3618 Dayton Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40207

Works with individuals and organizations to encourage increased production, teaching, and use of braille.

**National Braille Association, Inc. (NBA)**

1290 University Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14607  
(716) 473-0900

Maintains a Braille Textbook Assignment Service which channels requests for college textbooks and other technical materials to available certified braillists experienced in textbook format transcription, foreign-language braille, and Nemeth code. Provides a disc-output-service that allows individuals to have books transcribed onto disc using an Apple computer and either the ED-IT or Braille-Edit software. NBA then paper-embosses the material from the disc at \$0.06 per page. Also maintains the Reader-Transcriber Registry of certified braillists who provide braille readers with personal items helpful in work, leisure, and daily living. The Registry does not accept textbooks.

**United Bible Societies**  
**Braille Coordinators**  
P.O. Box 810340  
7000 Stuttgart 80  
WEST GERMANY

Publishes a listing of worldwide sources of braille Scriptures in various languages.

**Volunteers Who Produce Books: Braille, Tape, Large Type.** Washington: Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, 1984.

A geographic listing of volunteers who will produce reading materials not otherwise available, in braille, large-type, or recorded formats. A subject index facilitates access by foreign language, subject, or format. Free. Available in print and in braille.

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Compiled by  
Linda Redmond  
July 1985

Additional copies of this reference circular or any of the reference circulars listed below are available free on request from:

Reference Section  
National Library Service for the Blind  
and Physically Handicapped  
Library of Congress  
Washington, DC 20542

REFERENCE CIRCULARS

- Becoming a Volunteer: Resources for Individuals, Libraries, and Organizations, 1981
- Bibles and Other Scriptures in Special Media, 1983
- Braille Instruction and Writing Equipment, 1982
- Building a Library Collection on Blindness and Physical Handicaps: Basic Materials and Resources, 1985
- From School to Working Life: Resources and Services, 1985
- Guide to Spoken-Word Recordings: Educational, Professional, and Self-Development Materials, 1983
- Guide to Spoken-Word Recordings: Foreign Language Literature and Instruction, 1982
- Guide to Spoken-Word Recordings: General Nonfiction, 1983
- Guide to Spoken-Word Recordings: Literature, 1982
- Information for Handicapped Travelers, 1982
- Magazines in Special Media: Subscription Sources, 1985
- National Organizations Concerned with Visually and Physically Handicapped Persons, 1983
- Parents Guide to the Development of Pre-School Handicapped Children: Resources and Services, 1984
- Reading Materials in Large Type, 1983
- Reading, Writing, and Other Communication Aids for Visually and Physically Handicapped Persons, 1981
- Reference Books in Special Media, 1982
- Sports, Games, and Outdoor Recreation for Handicapped Persons, 1983
- Sources of Audiovisual Materials about Handicapping Conditions, 1985

## BIBLIOGRAPHIES

A series of bibliographies is also published by the Reference Section. The following titles are available free on request:

Accessibility: Designing Buildings for the Needs of Handicapped Persons, 1983

Attitudes toward Handicapped People, Past and Present, 1984

Braille: History and Recent Developments, 1982

Gardening for Handicapped and Elderly Persons, 1981

Library and Information Services to Handicapped Persons, 1983

Mobility and Mobility Aids for Visually Handicapped Individuals, 1984

Reading Machines for the Blind: Devices for Converting Print to Braille or Speech, 1985

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