

Teaching Students with Visual Impairments^(/)

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ENVIRONMENTAL PRINT COMPARISONS

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I use this environmental print comparison regularly to help team members understand the comparison between the acuity a student is able to visually access and how it relates to font sizes. Keep in mind that it is important to use the lowest font size a student is able to easily, accurately, and fluidly read for longer passages. Although a student may have a threshold for a smaller font, if they cannot read it with accuracy and fluency, it will not be an efficient font size for sustained reading.

Near Vision Snellen Test Chart

The following is a list of environmental print that correlates to the acuity on a Near Vision Snellen Test Chart.



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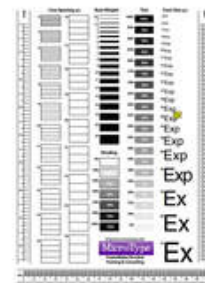
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Jaeger	M	Acuity	Print Size Comparison	Example
Value	.4	20/20	3 pt font	medicine bottle labels
J1	.5	20/25	4 pt font	mail order catalogs
J2	.6	20/30	5 pt font	small print Bible; footnotes
J3	.8	20/40	6 pt font	want ads; telephone directory
J5	1.0	20/50	8 pt font	small column newsprint
J7	1.2	20/60	10 pt font	paperback books; newsprint
J10	1.3	20/65	12 pt font	Grade 4-7 children's books
-	1.6	20/80	14 pt font	Grade 1-3 children's books
-	2.0	20/100	16 pt font	computer display type
-	2.15	20/108	18 pt font	Pre-K/K Children's books
J12	2.5	20/125	20 pt font	Books for ages 7-8
J14	3.0	20/150	24 pt font	Large Print Books
J15	4.0	20/200	33 pt font	Sub-headlines; children's books
J16	8.0	20/400	66 pt font	Newspaper headlines

Information in the above chart was taken from the "Near Vision Test Chart" by the Low Vision Clinic, N.C. Memorial Hospital Dept. of Ophthalmology, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, NC.



([https://www.des](https://www.design-literatur.de/blog/category/typografie/page/2/)

literatur.de/blog/category/typografie
Recently, Carson Cochran, program manager at GIMC, shared a typometer pdf that was printed on clear acetate with me. By printing it on clear acetate, you can place the typometer over print to determine the font size. You can find a number of these available on Pinterest. Here is the site (<https://www.design-literatur.de/blog/category/typografie/page/2/>) I found with the chart I have used. Scroll down the page to locate the "Typometer kostenlos!" What a great tool!



A typesetter's ruler, like this C-Thru Flexible

Typesetter's Ruler (<https://www.artquid.com/art-materials/c-thru-flexible-typesetter-s-ruler-m55421.html>), is made of clear plastic and has leading, type size, point rule, pica, point and inch scales. It will include font samples and rules of different sizes and

Functional Distance Acuity Approximations

The following is a list of Functional Distance Acuity Approximations at a distance of 20 feet.

Gross Sizes (Observable overall size of an item)	Snellen Equivalent	Minimum Sizes (separation, detail sizes)	Snellen Equivalent
3/8"	20/20	1/16"	20/20
7/16"	20/25	.	.
1/2"	20/30	1/8"	20/30
3/4"	20/40	3/16"	20/40
1"	20/60	1/4"	20/60
1 1/2"	20/80	5/16"	20/80
1 3/4"	20/100	7/16"	20/100
2"	20/120	1/2"	20/120
2 7/16"	20/140	9/16"	20/140
2 3/4"	20/160	11/16"	20/160
3 1/4"	20/180	.	.
3 1/2"	20/200	13/16"	20/200
4 1/4"	20/225	.	.
5 1/4"	20/300	5/16"	20/300
6 3/4"	20/350	1"	20/350
7 1/8"	20/400	1 3/16"	20/400

more. Place it over your printed piece and match up the text in your sample with those printed on the ruler in order to get an estimate of the font size and line spacing and size of any rules in the design. You can purchase a typographic ruler like this one or print your own from images posted online.

FREE VI Program Templates



Become a member for FREE to access the Printable

VI Program Templates to support your district's vision program. Includes VI Program resources, FVE/LMA templates and NEW Sample FVE Reports ebook. Simply click on Log In/Register in the navigation bar at the top of the page and follow the directions to register and create your password.

Post a Job (/)



Due to the (/)nationwide shortage

10 1/2"	20/600	1 1/2"	20/600
12"	20/700	1 5/8"	20/700

e of vision professionals, it can be challenging to locate personnel. Announce a job vacancy on the Job Exchange of Teaching Students with Visual Impairments, an online listing of jobs specific to the visual impairment field.

Approximate Functional Vision Acuity

An approximation of functional visual acuity can be determined for students that are non-verbal or otherwise unable to perform for standard acuity assessment by comparing the size of the object the student can identify to the distance from the student. Although this can't be used as an exact measurement, it can provide you with an idea of the student's acuity.

Distance from the student:

Size of Object	2 feet	4 feet	6 feet	8 feet	20 feet
1/4"	20/200	20/100	20/67	20/50	20/20
1/2"	20/400	20/200	20/133	20/100	20/40
3/4"	20/600	20/300	20/200	20/150	20/60
1"	20/800	20/400	20/267	20/200	20/80

Topor, I. (2004). *Approximate functional visual acuity for different sizes of objects and distances*. Chapel Hill, NC: Early Intervention Training Center for Infants and Toddlers With Visual Impairments, FPG Child Development Institute, UNC-CH. Visual Conditions Module 06/06/04 S4 Handout H



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