

# Teaching and learning resources for music braille



Collated by the DAISY Music Braille Project during 2022

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## Introduction

The DAISY Music Braille Project has been undertaking a range of strategic interventions to secure the production and use of music braille (see [www.daisy.org/music-braille](http://www.daisy.org/music-braille)).

One of our ambitions was to make it easier for blind and sighted people to locate suitable resources for learning and teaching music braille, depending on their personal situation. We asked the international music braille sector to provide information and links for the resources they regularly use, and this document shares these resources. We hope this helps you in your search for suitable materials.

We have grouped the resources by different kinds of users and their current need – blind or sighted – introductory or advanced, so you should be able to just read the section which most applies to you. English resources are listed first, followed by those in other languages.

We appreciate that these are overlapping user categories and therefore materials are repeated in as many categories as they are relevant, but we hope that the separation of resources into these user groups makes it easier for you to find the most useful resources for your particular purpose.

It is important to note that a blind musician should be familiar with literary braille before starting to learn music braille. This document only covers resources for learning music braille.

Note on the structure of the document: Each section starts by listing English resources, followed by other languages. Each resource starts with a title, followed by a description, and links to all available formats (URLs are given in full for ease of updating). Resources may appear in more than one section if they are relevant to more than one user group.

## Feedback

If you have any feedback, or suggestions for edits, or additional resources for inclusion please email the relevant information to [musicbraille@daisy.org](mailto:musicbraille@daisy.org). Thank you.

## Section 1: Braille readers

### **B1: I'm a braille reader wanting to learn the basics of music braille**

e.g. at school, university, leisure, employment, older adult

#### **English**

##### **Learn Literary Braille before you start with music braille (RNIB)**

Description: it is generally advised that people should be familiar with literary braille before they start to learn music braille. RNIB has some introductory pages about learning literary braille.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/education-and-learning/braille-tactile-codes/learning-braille/>

##### **Podcasts “Journey through Braille Music” (UKAAF)**

Description: Six short podcasts taking you from the basics of music braille through single instrument, vocal, keyboard, and more advanced musical issues.

- <https://www.ukaaf.org/sectors/#music>

### **Podcasts: Braille Music: Let's Tackle the Basics! (BrailleCast)**

Description: Three sequential podcasts giving more in-depth tuition of music braille and how it's created.

- <https://www.braillecast.com/podcast/x022/>
- <https://www.braillecast.com/podcast/x025/>
- <https://www.braillecast.com/podcast/x028/>

### **Getting started with Braille music page (RNIB)**

Description: This page contains various information about the basics of braille music, buying or borrowing braille music tutor books, courses, theory books and scores, as well as software tools for converting print music in braille.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/practical-help/reading/braille-and-moon-tactile-codes/braille-music>

### **Podcast: An Introduction to Music Braille (Braillecast)**

Description: This session was a practical introduction to braille music, covering basic music notation and where to access braille music.

- <https://www.braillecast.com/podcast/x007/>

### **Focus on Braille Music, by Lisette Wesseling**

Description: "This book is intended for use by any braille reading person, of whatever age. If a child enjoys and is motivated to read braille, knows most contractions, and can discriminate dot numbers he can use this book. I have tried to keep the language simple and free of jargon, so that even the youngest child can read and understand it. The best motivator for any child is to understand how something can benefit them. If a child can see that, by learning braille music, he can teach his class new tunes, be the band leader, write his own compositions down etc., he will want to learn." Ideal for sighted teachers working together with blind students. Available In Print and Braille.

- <https://www.techno-vision.co.uk/products/music-products/focus-on-braille-music/>

### **A Guide to Braille Music Notation, by Edward Watson**

Description: Updated in 2009, this guide uses mainly keyboard examples and is suitable for obtaining a general knowledge of the code to A-level standard. There are plenty of examples but no exercises. Available in print and braille from RNIB.

- Print edition: <https://shop.rnib.org.uk/a-guide-to-braille-music-notation-print-edition-88145>
- Braille edition: <https://shop.rnib.org.uk/a-guide-to-braille-music-notation-braille-edition-88146>

### **How to Read Braille Music, 2nd Ed, by Bettye Krolick (NBP)**

Description: Published by Opus Technologies, this book explains the music braille symbols most frequently found in elementary through intermediate-level music. It's written at a fifth grade reading level, so it's suitable for both children and adults. Use this book if you are working with students who want to play in the band, or if you have more serious, higher-level blind musicians who need a strong understanding of the braille music code. Available in braille and print from National Braille Press.

- <https://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/MUSIC.html>

### **Braille musicography – an approach to music writing for the use of blind people” (Technical document B 4-2) (Comisión Braille Española)**

Description: An introduction to music braille, aimed at amateur blind musicians and at sighted musicians who want to learn the basics of the code.

- Download PDF (in English) at: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/b-4-2-braille-musicography-an-approach-to-music.pdf/download>

### **Gardner's Trust Braille Music Literacy Awards (RNIB)**

Description: Administered by RNIB, this is an annual competition designed to encourage the use of braille music (now open to all ages).

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/education-and-learning/braille-and-moon-tactile-codes/braille-music/gardners-trust-braille-music-literacy-awards/>

### **Music Materials, including Braille Music Course Materials from Hadley Institute (NLS)**

Description: Braille Music Basic and Braille Music Reading courses, hosted by NLS. The content is under the last heading of the Music Material page on NLS website. These four courses developed by the Hadley Institute are intended for adults who wish to learn braille music for themselves, to support braille music learners, and possibly pursue further training in teaching braille music or transcribing print music into braille. The courses are available in downloadable braille in BRF or in large print (LPM) in PDF from links below. The braille and audio course materials are also available to download from the Music Collection on BARD in BRM or DBM. (Note: Audio files need Bard account which is available only for US citizens.)

- <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/music-materials/>

### **An Introduction to Music for the Blind Student, by Richard Taesch (Dancing Dots)**

Description: This is A Course in Braille Music Reading written By Richard Taesch, solely published by Dancing Dots. It contains both print and braille materials, enabling both sighted and blind people to learn essential braille music notation in detail.

- <https://www.dancingdots.com/proDescription/publications.htm>

### **Music Literacy Training (Dancing Dots)**

Description: This is Dancing Dots' service for either online or face-to-face training of braille music notation, scanning, editing and converting print music into braille, and even sequencing and mixing music using accessible technologies.

- <https://www.dancingdots.com/main/training.htm>

### **ICEB Music committee page (International Council on English Braille)**

Description: This page contains various information, including braille music notation applied in UEB environment, music transcription technology used in ICEB member countries, and some teaching and learning resources held in these countries.

- <https://iceb.org/music.html#learn>

### **New International Manual of Braille Music Notation (NIM)**

Description: This comprehensive reference book is a fundamental material for learning braille music signs and rules.

- Download Braille version: [https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/sy\\_engl.zip](https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/sy_engl.zip)
- Searchable on-line version Music Braille Table of Signs: <http://www.brl.org/music/manual/>

### **Music Braille Code 2015, published by Braille Authority of North America**

Description: This is the most recent manual of braille music notation, mainly focussing on format used in North America, with an introduction to formats in other countries. It has extended signs and more detailed rules compared to the New International Manual. Available in braille and print.

- <http://www.brailleauthority.org/music/music.html>
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## **Chinese**

### **Braille Music Course**

Description: A 4-part audio course narrated by Chen Chilin, a blind teacher in Guangzhou School For The Blind, based on part of Haipeng Hu's Chinese translation of the New International Manual. The course is under the title 盲文音乐符号 (Braille music notation).

- <https://www.brailleorch.org/resources/>
-



## Dutch

### 10 Kinderliedjes (Dedicon)

Description: In this booklet 10 Dutch children songs are presented in music braille. An explanation is provided for teachers.

- <https://goedekennis.dedicon.nl/sites/default/files/2020-01/10-kinderliedjes-tekst-en-braille-voor-ziende-begeleiders-181030.pdf>

### Basisboek Braille Bladmuziek (Dedicon)

Description: This is a revised translation of How to Read Braille Music: An Introduction, Second Edition, 1998 by Bettye Krolick

- [https://goedekennis.dedicon.nl/sites/default/files/2019-09/Krolick\\_Basisboek%20braille%20bladmuziek\\_sept2019.pdf](https://goedekennis.dedicon.nl/sites/default/files/2019-09/Krolick_Basisboek%20braille%20bladmuziek_sept2019.pdf)
- 

## German

### Musik-Punkte, by Martin Huwyler

Description: An easy and very useful introduction to learn how to read and write music notes in braille. M. Huwyler has a long experience teaching music in a school for visual impaired pupils. Available in German Grade 1 and print editions.

- Catalogue search: <https://online.sbs.ch/iguana/www.main.cls>

### Neues Lehrbuch der Brailnotenchrift, by Ulrich Mayer-Uhma

Description: The use of Braille Music Notes from beginners to expert users. U. Mayer-Uhma has been for many years chairman of the Subcommittee on Braille Music Notation in the World Blind Union. He introduces to the use of braille music notation coming up in complex pieces and reporting also some way of representation used in old transcriptions. In two versions: German grade 1 and German grade 2.

- Catalogue search: <https://online.sbs.ch/iguana/www.main.cls>

## Neues internationales Handbuch der Brailnotenchrift

Description: The German translation of the New International Manual of Braille Music Notation compiled by Bettye Krolick. In 2 versions:

- Download German grade 1, Vollschrift [https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/sy\\_voll.zip](https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/sy_voll.zip)
  - Download German grade 2, Kurzschrift [https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/sy\\_kurz.zip](https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/sy_kurz.zip)
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## Norwegian

### Visual Musical Notes (Statped)

Description: Tactile and visual booklet that can be used by both the sighted and the visually impaired. compares musical notes and braille music. The book is digital, but can also be ordered in braille.

- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/visuelle-noter/>

### Intrata, innføring i punktskriftnoter, del 1 (Introduction to braille notes, part 1) (Statped)

Description: The book has two editions - a Braille edition and a printed edition in regular script. These editions are identical, but the area of use is slightly different. You can also order print and braille editions from Statped, or download the print version from the page. The examples and explanations are mainly intended for music teachers who want to learn Braille sheet music, but can also be used in sheet music training for Braille users. The book is not suitable for self-study for someone who does not know notes beforehand. It is necessary to be taught by a music teacher who can check that the exercises are played correctly and who can provide general training in sheet music.

- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/intrata-innforing-i-punktskriftnoter-del-1/>

### **Intrata, innføring i punktskriftnoter, del 2 (Introduction to braille notes, part 2) (Statped)**

Description: Intrata part 2 is a continuation of Intrata part 1, and provides a further introduction to Braille notes. Part 2 provides training in braille notes for different groups of instruments. provides training in braille sheet music for various instrument groups, such as keyboard instruments - piano, organ and accordion, wind instruments such as one and two solo instruments together with piano, and also sheet music for guitar. The downloadable booklet also contains sheet music for choirs, notation of ornamentation and an overview of signs. The booklet is intended for music teachers who will teach braille sheet music, but can also be used by braille users who will learn sheet music.

- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/intrata-innforing-i-punktskriftnoter-del-2/>
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## **Spanish**

### **La musicografía braille: un acercamiento a la escritura musical para uso de las personas ciegas (Documento técnico B 4-2) Comisión Braille**

#### **Española**

Description: an introduction to music braille, aimed at amateur blind musicians and at sighted musicians who want to learn the basics of the code.

- Download PDF in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/b-4-2-la-musicogra-usical-v1.pdf/download>
- Download Braille file in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/b-4-2-la-musicografia-braille-un-acercamiento-a-la.bra/download>

## Nuevo Manual Internacional de Musicografía Braille

Description: Spanish Translation of the New International Manual, Bettye Krolick (Comisión Braille Española)

- Download PDF in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/nuevo-manual-internacional-de-musicografia-braille/download>
  - Download Spanish braille in four volumes:
    - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-1/download>
    - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-2/download>
    - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-3/download>
    - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-4/download>
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## **B2: I'm a braille reader wanting to learn a particular instrument with music braille**

e.g. I want mainstream music tutor books transcribed into braille (note: they're print books for sighted instrumentalists, so not necessarily taught in the order suitable for a music braille reader).

### **English**

#### **Braille music page, RNIB**

Description: This page contains various information about learning braille music, buying or borrowing braille music tutor books, theory books and scores, as well as software tools for converting print music in braille.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/practical-help/reading/braille-and-moon-tactile-codes/braille-music>

#### **UEB Braille Music for Beginners, by Joan Partridge**

Description: A piano tutor for beginner pianists which teaches the piano and the braille music code in parallel, taking the student to about Grade 2 standard. Available in print and braille.

- Print: <https://shop.rnib.org.uk/ueb-braille-music-for-beginners-print-notes-839>
- Braille: <https://shop.rnib.org.uk/ueb-braille-music-for-beginners-for-the-piano-braille-notes-838>

#### **Feel The Beat (APH)**

Description: The lessons in this curriculum teach Music Braille Code, and focus on reading, playing, and memorizing measures through the use of a soprano recorder.

- <https://www.aph.org/product/feel-the-beat-2/>

### **Gardner's Trust Braille Music Literacy Awards (RNIB)**

Description: Administered by RNIB, this is an annual competition designed to encourage the use of braille music (now open to all ages) for all instruments.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/education-and-learning/braille-and-moon-tactile-codes/braille-music/gardners-trust-braille-music-literacy-awards/>

### **Examination tests: including ABRSM, Edexcel, AQA (Golden Chord)**

Description: Braille copies of theory and instrumental music exams for various examination bodies.

- <https://www.golden-chord.com/medium1003/examination-tests.html?sid=f5b375622058c104e8fd5dfd0dab684b>

### **Creative Ensembles for Beginning Musicians, by Stephanie Pieck**

Description: a collection of 25 trios for readers of music at the beginning level. The book follows the progression of concepts as presented in Richard Taesch's *An Introduction to Music for the Blind Student, Part I*. These trios can be played on keyboard, sung, or performed on a student's primary instrument.

- <https://www.dancingdots.com/proDescription/trios1.htm>

### **An Introduction to the Piano for the Blind Student: A Course in Braille Music Reading, Book 1, by Richard Taesch**

Description: A piano companion course and supplement to An Introduction to Music for the Blind Student Part I. Guides the teacher/tutor and student in gradual mastery of the typical problems encountered in teaching and learning of braille piano music. This series is designed specifically for the piano student who has been exposed to the Part I course, or who has fundamental knowledge of the braille music code in general.

- <https://dancingdots.com/proDescription/intromusicpiano.htm>

### **Jazz & Contemporary Chord Symbol Reading for the Blind Pianist, by Richard Taesch**

Description: This book follows the progression of concepts as presented in Richard Taesch's *An Introduction to Music for the Blind Student, Part I*. Traditional pianistic approaches to chord work for jazz and pop ensembles were not adequate to handle the challenge of braille chord symbol reading while performing in live situations.

- <https://dancingdots.com/proDescription/jazzchords.htm>
- 

## **German**

### **Klavier lernen Punkt für Punkt, by Martin Rembeck**

“Learn the piano point by point” to learn how to read and write notes for piano. This book has two goals: to learn to play piano using the braille music notation. At the same time and in a progressive way, it will be possible to learn to play piano and to learn the use of the braille music notation.

- Printed version: [https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/Flyer\\_Klavier\\_lernen.pdf](https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/Flyer_Klavier_lernen.pdf)
  - Catalogue search: <https://online.sbs.ch/iguana/www.main.cls>
-

## **B3: I'm a braille reader who needs to learn music theory**

e.g. I'm taking exams and need to study for the theory parts.

### **English**

#### **Braille music page, RNIB**

Description: This page contains various information about learning braille music, buying or borrowing braille music tutor books, theory books and scores, as well as software tools for converting print music in braille.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/practical-help/reading/braille-and-moon-tactile-codes/braille-music>

#### **Examination tests: including ABRSM, Edexcel, AQA (Golden Chord)**

Description: Braille copies of theory and instrumental music exams for various examination bodies.

- <https://www.golden-chord.com/medium1003/examination-tests.html?sid=f5b375622058c104e8fd5dfd0dab684b>

#### **'Master your Theory' series, by Dulcie Holland**

Description: A theory tuition book, which is text-heavy, ideal for blind learners, instead of being very visually focussed with lots of print images for explanation. Available from music shops.

- <https://tonetownmusic.com/products/e18227>



## Section 2: Sighted people

### S1: I'm a sighted person wanting an introduction to music braille and how a blind person uses it

e.g. classroom assistant, teacher, choir director, parent

#### English

##### Video: What is braille music notation and how does it work? (ClassicFM)

Description: A video from ClassicFM, giving an introduction to music braille for sighted people.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WhQgXNLPVLc>

##### Video: Feel the Beat of Braille Music (APH)

Description: Learn the basics of braille music: what it looks like, where to find it and create it, and why and how to teach it to your students. A basic knowledge of how to read print music may be helpful.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5NCn3XJHtNQ>

### **Podcasts “Journey through Braille Music” (UKAAF)**

Description: Six short podcasts taking you from the basics of music braille through single instrument, vocal, keyboard, and more advanced musical issues.

- <https://www.ukaaf.org/sectors/#music>

### **Podcast: An Introduction to Music Braille (BrailleCast)**

Description: This session was a practical introduction to braille music, covering basic music notation and where to access braille music.

- <https://www.braillecaster.com/podcast/x007/>

### **Podcasts: Braille Music: Let’s Tackle the Basics! (BrailleCast)**

Description: Three sequential podcasts giving more in-depth tuition of music braille and how it’s created.

- <https://www.braillecaster.com/podcast/x022/>
- <https://www.braillecaster.com/podcast/x025/>
- <https://www.braillecaster.com/podcast/x028/>

### **Who's Afraid of Braille Music? By Taesch and McCann: A short introduction and resource handbook for parents and students**

Description: This short booklet describes what braille music is and eliminates the worry of the complexity of braille music before learning it.

- Download PDF: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/WhosAfraid.pdf>
- Download eBRF: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/32949m01.brf>
- Braille and hard-copy print: <https://dancingdots.com/proDescription/whosafraid.htm>

### **Music - UK Association for Accessible Formats**

Description: This page is an introduction to the music sector of UKAAF, providing some useful resources, including a video about braille music.

- <https://www.ukaaf.org/service/music/>

### **Braille musicography – an approach to music writing for the use of blind people” (Technical document B 4-2) (ONCE)**

Description: An introduction to music braille, aimed at amateur blind musicians and at sighted musicians who want to learn the basics of the code.

- Download PDF (in English) at: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/b-4-2-braille-musicography-an-approach-to-music.pdf/download>

### **Braille Music Tutor page, RNIB**

Description: This is a specific page containing all braille music notation and transcription tutorial materials in RNIB, including tutor books for both sighted and blind people.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/education-and-learning/braille-tactile-codes/braille-music/braille-music-tutor-books-and-reference-materials/>

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## **Dutch**

### **Wie is er bang voor braille bladmuziek?, by Taesch and McCann**

Description: This is a revised Dutch translation of 'Who is Afraid of Braille Music? By Richard Taesch & William McCann

- [Wie is er bang voor braille bladmuziek sept2019.pdf \(dedicon.nl\)](#)

## German

### Musik-Punkte, by Martin Huwyler

An easy and very useful introduction to learn how to read and write music notes in braille. M. Huwyler has a long experience teaching music in a school for visual impaired pupils.

Printed edition for sighted people. All music example presented in the braille version and in the usual inkprint. There are references between the braille and ink print pages in both versions, to allow sighted and not sighted people to work together.

- Catalogue search: <https://online.sbs.ch/iguana/www.main.cls>
- 

## Norwegian

### Videos: Introduction to music braille (Statped)

Description: teaching videos for braille music. The first and second ones are to inform people what braille music is and how you use it. The two others go into note values and octave rules:

- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/punktnoter---hva-er-det/>
- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/punktnotekriterier/>
- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/neverdier-i-punktnoter/>
- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/oktavtegn/>

### **Intrata, innføring i punktskriftnoter, del 1 (Introduction to braille notation, part 1) (Statped)**

Description: The book has two editions - a Braille edition and a printed edition in regular script. These editions are identical, but the area of use is slightly different. You can also order print and braille editions from Statped, or download the print version from the page. The examples and explanations are mainly intended for music teachers who want to learn Braille sheet music, but can also be used in sheet music training for Braille users. The book is not suitable for self-study for someone who does not know notes beforehand. It is necessary to be taught by a music teacher who can check that the exercises are played correctly and who can provide general training in sheet music.

- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/intrata-innforing-i-punktskriftnoter-del-1/>

### **Intrata, innføring i punktskriftnoter, del 2 (Introduction to braille notation, part 2) (Statped)**

Description: This booklet is published in two identical editions, a tactile edition for Braille users and a visual edition for the sighted. Intrata part 2 is a continuation of Intrata part 1, and provides a further introduction to Braille notes. Part 2 provides training in braille notes for different groups of instruments. provides training in braille sheet music for various instrument groups, such as keyboard instruments - piano, organ and accordion, wind instruments such as one and two solo instruments together with piano, and also sheet music for guitar. The downloadable booklet also contains sheet music for choirs, notation of ornamentation and an overview of signs. The booklet is intended for music teachers who will teach braille sheet music, but can also be used by braille users who will learn sheet music.

- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/intrata-innforing-i-punktskriftnoter-del-2/>
-

## Spanish

### **La musicografía braille: un acercamiento a la escritura musical para uso de las personas ciegas”**

Description: an introduction to musical braille signography, aimed at non-professional blind musicians and non-blind musicians who want to know the basics of this code

- PDF in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos-tecnicos-b-4-musicografia-braille>
- Download Braille file in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/b-4-2-la-musicografia-braille-un-acercamiento-a-la.bra/download>

### **Nuevo Manual Internacional de Musicografía Braille (Comisión Braille Española)**

Description: Spanish Translation of the New International Manual, Bettye Krolick (Spanish)

- Download PDF: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/nuevo-manual-internacional-de-musicografia-braille/download>
- Download Spanish braille in four volumes:
  - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-1/download>
  - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-2/download>
  - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-3/download>
  - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-4/download>

## **S2: I'm a sighted person wanting to learn music braille in depth so I can teach it**

e.g. classroom assistant, music teacher, parent

### **English**

#### **RNIB Certificate in Contracted Unified English Braille (UEB)**

Description: This distance-learning course is aimed at any sighted learner who supports individuals using braille, such as parents, teachers, teaching assistants and support workers. It is also open to anyone who has a specific interest in braille. The course teaches students the basics of understanding and communicating in contracted Unified English Braille (UEB).

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/education-and-learning/braille-and-moon-tactile-codes/learning-braille/braille-courses-for-adults/rnib-certificate-in-contracted-unified-english-braille-ueb/>

#### **RNIB Braille Music Certificate**

Description: The RNIB Braille Music Certificate is a braille course that is aimed at sighted learners such as parents, teachers and teaching assistants who support individuals using braille music and have completed the RNIB Certificate in Contracted Braille (UEB). A secure knowledge of print stave notation (suggested ABRSM Grade 5 level) is necessary for this course. The course covers most signs required up to GCSE level.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/education-and-learning/braille-and-moon-tactile-codes/rnib-braille-music-certificate/>

### **RNIB Braille Music Course**

Description: A course of ten lessons with exercises for sighted people who have knowledge of literary braille and an understanding of stave notation. It is specifically aimed at classroom assistants, music teachers and instrumental teachers supporting blind pupils.

The course is designed to cover the notation currently required by students studying general music in schools up to and including AS standard (Highers in Scotland). In doing this, it will also be suitable for supporting instrumental teachers working with melody instruments to about Grade 5 standard. It does not cover notation used by keyboard and pianists where suitable tutors are available.

- Download Questions: <https://www.rnib.org.uk/documents/495/musiccoursew.doc>
- Download Answers: <https://www.rnib.org.uk/documents/496/musiccourseanswersw.doc>

### **Braille musicography – an approach to music writing for the use of blind people” (Technical document B 4-2) (Comisión Braille Española)**

Description: An introduction to music braille, aimed at amateur blind musicians and at sighted musicians who want to learn the basics of the code.

- Download PDF in English at: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/b-4-2-braille-musicography-an-approach-to-music.pdf/download>

### **An Introduction to Music for the Blind Student, Parts I and II, by Richard Taesch**

Description: A flexible course which equips the mainstream educator (sighted or blind) with no prior experience with braille to teach and learn music Braille.

- <https://www.dancingdots.com/prodesc/currdet.htm>

### **An Introduction to Music for the Blind Student, Part III for teachers, by Richard Taesch**

Description: A course containing both print and braille materials, enabling both sighted and blind people to learn essential braille music notation in detail.

- <https://www.dancingdots.com/prodesc/currdetp3.htm>



### **Braille Music Training Courses (Hadley Institute, and NLS)**

Description: The content is under the last header of the Music Material page on NLS website. (From NLS page) These four courses developed by the Hadley Institute are intended for adults who wish to learn braille music for themselves, to support braille music learners, and possibly pursue further training in teaching braille music or transcribing print music into braille. The courses are available in downloadable braille in BRF or in large print (LPM) in PDF from links below. The braille and audio course materials are also available to download from the Music Collection on BARD in BRM or DBM. (Note: Audio files need Bard account which is available only for US citizens.)

- <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/music-materials/>

### **RNIB Braille Music Tutor page (RNIB)**

Description: This is a specific page containing all braille music notation and transcription tutorial materials in RNIB, including tutor books for both sighted and blind people.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/braille-and-moon-%E2%80%93-tactile-codes-braille-music/tutor-books-braille>

### **RNIB Getting started with Braille music page (RNIB)**

Description: This page gives the basics of braille music, info about buying or borrowing braille music tutor books, courses, theory books and scores, as well as software tools for converting print music in braille.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/education-and-learning/braille-tactile-codes/braille-music/>

### **Music Literacy Training (Dancing Dots)**

Description: This is Dancing Dots' service for either online or face-to-face training of braille music notation, scanning, editing and converting print music into braille, and even sequencing and mixing music using accessible technologies.

- <https://www.dancingdots.com/main/training.htm>

### **An Introduction to the Piano for the Blind Student: A Course in Braille Music Reading, Book 1, by Richard Taesch**

Description: A piano companion course and supplement to An Introduction to Music for the Blind Student Part I. Guides the teacher/tutor and student in gradual mastery of the typical problems encountered in teaching and learning of braille piano music. This series is designed specifically for the piano student who has been exposed to the Part I course, or who has fundamental knowledge of the braille music code in general.

- <https://dancingdots.com/proDescription/intromusicpiano.htm>

### **New International Manual of Braille Music Notation (NIM)**

Description: This reference book is a fundamental material for learning braille music signs and rules.

- PDF version: <https://www.ukaaf.org/new-international-manual-of-braille-music-notation-pdf/>
- Searchable on-line version: <http://www.brl.org/music/manual/>

### **Music Braille Code 2015, published by Braille Authority of North America**

Description: This is the most recent manual of braille music notation, mainly focussing on format used in North America, with an introduction to formats in other countries. It has extended signs and more detailed rules compared to New International Manual. Available in print and braille.

- <http://www.brailleauthority.org/music/music.html>

### **Introduction to Braille Music Transcription 3rd Ed and related courses (National Federation For The Blind)**

Description: This comprehensive guide is a companion of Music Braille Code 2015, and contains lots of detailed guidance and exercises for the transcriber to learn, along with information about transcription courses for US transcribers.

- <https://nfb.org/programs-services/braille-certification/music-braille-transcribing>

## Chinese

### Braille Music Course

Description: A 4-part audio course narrated by Chen Chilin, a blind teacher in Guangzhou School For The Blind, based on part of Haipeng Hu's Chinese translation of the New International Manual. The course is under the title 盲文音乐符号 (Braille music notation).

- <https://www.brailleorch.org/resources/>
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## Dutch

### 10 kinderliedjes (Dedicon)

Description: In this booklet 10 Dutch children songs are presented in music braille. An explanation is provided for teachers.

- <https://goedekennis.dedicon.nl/sites/default/files/2020-01/10-kinderliedjes-tekst-en-braille-voor-ziende-begeleiders-181030.pdf>
- 

## German

### Klavier lernen Punkt für Punkt, by Martin Rembeck

Description: "Learn the piano point by point" to learn how to read and write notes for piano.

This book has two goals: to learn to play piano using the braille music notation. At the same time and in a progressive way, it will be possible to learn to play piano and to learn the use of the braille music notation. Printed edition for sighted people. All music example presented in the braille version and in the usual inkprint. There are references between the braille and ink print pages in both versions, to allow sighted and not sighted people to work together.

- Print: [https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/Flyer\\_Klavier\\_lernen.pdf](https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/Flyer_Klavier_lernen.pdf)
- Catalogue search: <https://online.sbs.ch/iguana/www.main.cls>

### **Neues Lehrbuch der Brailnotenchrift, by Ulrich Mayer-Uhma**

Description: The use of Braille Music Notes from beginners to expert users. U. Mayer-Uhma has been for many years chairman of the Subcommittee on Braille Music Notation in the World Blind Union. He introduces to the use of braille music notation coming up to complex pieces and reporting also some way of representation used in old transcriptions.

Printed edition for sighted people. All music example presented in the braille version and in the usual inkprint. There are references between the braille and ink print pages in all versions, to allow sighted and not sighted people to work together.

- Print: [https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/Flyer\\_Braillenotenschrift.pdf](https://www.sbs.ch/fileadmin//documents/musik/Flyer_Braillenotenschrift.pdf)
- Catalogue search: <https://online.sbs.ch/iguana/www.main.cls>

### **Neues internationales Handbuch der Brailnotenchrift**

Description: The German translation of the New International Manual of Braille music notation compiled by Bettye Krolick.

- Catalogue search: <https://online.sbs.ch/iguana/www.main.cls>
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## **Norwegian**

### **Visual Musical Notes (Statped)**

Description: Tactile and visual booklet that can be used by both the sighted and the visually impaired. compares musical notes and braille music. The book is digital, but can also be ordered in braille.

- <https://www.statped.no/laringsressurser/syn/visuelle-noter/>
-

## Spanish

### **Nuevo Manual Internacional de Musicografía Braille (Comisión Braille Española)**

Description: Spanish Translation of the New International Manual, Bettye Krolick (Spanish)

- Download PDF: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/nuevo-manual-internacional-de-musicografia-braille/download>
- Download Spanish braille in four volumes:
  - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-1/download>
  - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-2/download>
  - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-3/download>
  - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-4/download>

### **La musicografía braille: un acercamiento a la escritura musical para uso de las personas ciegas” (Comisión Braille Española)**

Description: an introduction to musical braille signography, aimed at non-professional blind musicians and non-blind musicians who want to know the basics of this code

- PDF in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos-tecnicos-b-4-musicografia-braille>
- Download Braille file In Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/b-4-2-la-musicografia-braille-un-acercamiento-a-la.bra/download>

### **Orientaciones didácticas para la transcripción de obras musicales (Documento técnico B 4-1) (Comisión Braille Española)**

Description: provides guidance on how to transcribe music scores for students who are starting to learn music. It's a simplified guide for these students, who are also beginning to master their use of braille.

- Download PDF in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/B4-1.-NUEVO-MANUAL-INTERNACIONAL-DE-MUSICOGRAFIA-V1.pdf/download>

### **Manual simplificado de musicografía braille: versión para usuarios no ciegos (ONCE)**

Description: a simplified version of Bettye Krolick's manual aimed at helping sighted teachers with their blind students and also at transcribers learning how to produce their first braille scores.

- Download PDF in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/nuevo-manual-simplificado-de-musicografia-braille/download>

### **Solfabra: a didactic teaching resource for learning music braille and inkprint music from ONCE**

Description: ONCE produced this hard-copy interactive teaching pack and distributed it into schools/centres in Spain. It has potential to be translated and produced in other countries. Solfabra is an educational material from ONCE for learning music in braille. This material was awarded in the 2007 Educational Research Award on School Experiences. It is a didactic resource whose main objective is to give an approach to the written music to blind/sighted students, teachers and people related to. In this way, the symbology used in braille and inkprint are matching together: the music vertically in inkprint is matched with the braille line, doing that accessible to all. Following a classical methodology of music teaching, learning is easy for that first musical knowledge (height of sound, knowledge of musical figures, pentagram ...), especially focused on students who work already in Braille, favoring educational inclusion and motivation. The material consists of a blackboard with a pentagram in relief, where notes and other musical symbols are easily pasted and peeled off (keys, silences, brackets, etc.) It is accompanied by a didactic guide in Spanish.

- Contact: [admcc@once.es](mailto:admcc@once.es)

## **S3: I'm a sighted person wanting to learn how to transcribe scores into music braille**

e.g. sighted musician, classroom assistant, transcriber, teacher

### **English**

#### **RNIB Braille Music Tutor page, RNIB**

Description: This is a specific page containing all braille music notation and transcription tutorial materials in RNIB, including courses, and tutor books for both sighted and blind people.

- <https://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss/education-and-learning/braille-tactile-codes/braille-music/braille-music-tutor-books-and-reference-materials/>

#### **RNIB Braille Music Training Manual, by Jane Ware**

Description: RNIB's training manual for braille music (in print).

- <https://shop.rnib.org.uk/braille-music-training-manual-in-print-88161>

#### **RNIB Braille Music Layout Manual, by Jane Ware**

Description: RNIB's guide to braille music layout (in print).

- <https://shop.rnib.org.uk/braille-music-layout-manual-in-print-88160>

### **New International Manual of Braille Music Notation (NIM)**

Description: This reference book is a fundamental material for learning braille music signs and rules.

- Searchable on-line version: <http://www.brl.org/music/manual/>
- PDF version: <https://www.ukaaf.org/new-international-manual-of-braille-music-notation-pdf/>

### **Music Braille Code 2015, published by Braille Authority of North America**

Description: This is the most recent manual of braille music notation, mainly focussing on format used in North America, with an introduction to formats in other countries. It has extended signs and more detailed rules compared to New International Manual. Available in print and braille.

- <http://www.brailleauthority.org/music/music.html>

### **Introduction Of Braille Music Transcription 3rd Ed and related courses, National Federation For The Blind**

Description: This comprehensive guide is a companion of Music Braille Code 2015, and contains lots of detailed guidance and exercises for the transcriber to learn.

- <https://nfb.org/programs-services/braille-certification/music-braille-transcribing>

### **Training resources and manuals, NLS**

Description: Music braille reference guides, transcribers guides, and online courses from Hadley School for the Blind.

- <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/music-materials/>



## Music Literacy Training, Dancing Dots

Description: This is Dancing Dots' service for either online or face-to-face training of braille music notation, scanning, editing and converting print music into braille, and even sequencing and mixing music using accessible technologies.

- <https://www.dancingdots.com/main/training.htm>
- 

## German

### Neues internationales Handbuch der Brailnotenchrift (SBS)

Description: The German translation of the New International Manual of Braille music notation compiled by Bettye Krolick. Printed edition for sighted people. All music example presented in the braille version and in the usual inkprint.

- Catalogue search: <https://online.sbs.ch/iguana/www.main.cls>
- 

## Italian

### **NUOVO MANUALE INTERNAZIONALE DI NOTAZIONE MUSICALE BRAILLE (Italian Library for the Blind)**

Description: Italian translation of the New International Manual by Bettye Krolick

- [https://www.bibliotecaciechi.it/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ManualeNotazioneMusicale\\_0.pdf](https://www.bibliotecaciechi.it/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ManualeNotazioneMusicale_0.pdf)
-

## Spanish

### Manual simplificado de musicografía braille: versión para usuarios no ciegos (ONCE)

Description: a simplified version of Bettye Krolick's manual aimed at helping sighted teachers with their blind students and also at transcribers learning how to produce their first braille scores.

- Download PDF in Spanish: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/nuevo-manual-simplificado-de-musicografia-braille/download>

### Nuevo Manual Internacional de Musicografía Braille (Comisión Braille Española)

Description: Spanish Translation of the New International Manual, Bettye Krolick (Spanish)

- Download PDF: <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/nuevo-manual-internacional-de-musicografia-braille/download>
  - Download Spanish braille in four volumes:
    - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-1/download>
    - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-2/download>
    - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-3/download>
    - <https://www.once.es/servicios-sociales/braille/documentos-tecnicos/documentos-tecnicos-relacionados-con-el-braille/documentos/volumen-4/download>
-