

Number Signing Rules

Kinds of Numbers:

Ordinal Numbers: Show order or placement. Ordinal numbers (1-9) are signed by twisting the hand of the number inward. These also mean dollar amounts. For example, FIRST also means ONE-DOLLAR and so on.

Examples of Ordinal Numbers: First, Second, Third.....

Cardinal Numbers: Counting Numbers. Rules below.

Example: One, Two, Three, Four.....

How to fingerspell Numbers:

Movement: Just like in fingerspelling, the arm does not move unless a number is repeated (example: 22,44,66) in which case it is slightly moved outward to the dominant side.

Number Exceptions/Evolutions: There are a few numbers which have become their own sign. They can follow the rules of all the other numbers or, as more common, they are signed differently. These numbers are **20,21,23,25**

If you are indicating a number alone, then:

- Palm faces the body for the numbers 1-5 (**common but varies**)
- Palm faces away from the body for the numbers 6-10
- Palm faces the body for the numbers 11-15
- Palm faces in then away from the body for the numbers 16-19
- Numbers 20 and up are signed with the palm facing outward

Numbers which use a **combination of 6-7-8-9** such as 69,78,98,96 for example, should have an "arm angling" which ends on the second number. This also is common but not mandatory. Advanced signed will naturally have this habit.

Time: A time is signed by first signing TIME and then the number indicating what time it is. AM and PM are shown by signing MORNING or NIGHT.

*Example: TIME 4 = 4:00
TIME 12 = 12:00*

***** **NOTE: 2 TIME = "two times" NOT 2:00. This applies for all numbers.*******

Age: ages are signed by signing OLD first and then the number indicating the age.

Money: An amount of money can be signed as a decimal or sign similarly to how it is said in English. For example, \$1.25 can be signed the following ways:

- ONE DOLLAR CENT 25
- ONE DOLLAR 25 CENT
- 1.25

Math: in most math problems in ASL, the two quantities are signed first, then the operation, and then MANY which the appropriate facial expression.

Example: 6, 10, ADD-UP, MANY?

Units: are spelled out by abbreviation.

Example: pound = lb, ounce = oz, etc