



MOUNTBATTEN BRAILLER

The Mountbatten Braille is an electronic braille writer with an ergonomically designed braille keyboard. The main function of the Mountbatten is for word processing. The Mountbatten Braille is an instant access braille, meaning that as the student brailles, a paper copy can be produced. The document can also be saved in a file. Other features include, correction and erasing functions, connecting to a MIMic (an LCD display that allows sighted individuals to see what is being brailled). Using the 'Forward Translation' function, the Mountbatten can be connected to a standard (QWERTY) keyboard and the QWERTY keyboard can be used to type text and produce Braille. The Mountbatten Braille can also be used to send files to either a text printer or a Braille embosser. MB Comm (a computer software) can be used to transfer files between the Mountbatten and a computer. The Mountbatten Braille costs approximately \$5000.

INTENDED USE

The Mountbatten Braille provides braille and/or text copies of student's work. It could be used to provide text copies for the sighted teacher, classmates or parents and/or a braille copy for the student. In 'Advanced Mode' the Mountbatten Braille has memory and can be used to maintain and organize files of the student's work. Although portable, the Mountbatten Braille writer would be best suited for use in a stationary classroom setting or at home.

STUDENT QUALIFICATIONS

- Braille user.
- Very good abstract conceptualization
- Ability to learn and remember sequenced operations.
- Responsible
- Ability to learn to read and write braille
- Ability to understand synthesized speech
- Likely to be stationary.

Training: Recommended 1-2 week Short Term Program at the APSEA Centre for student, 2 days for Itinerant teacher.

REQUEST PROCEDURE

A request for a Mountbatten Braille should come out of a Collaborative Action Plan (CAP) meeting where team members outline the student's visual impairment; the impact the visual impairment has on the student's vision; goals for the student; and how the assistive technology may assist the student in meeting these goals, highlighting what assistive technology would best meet the needs of the student. The CAP form must be sent to the Provincial Supervisor by the itinerant teacher for students with visual impairments.

The proposal should include student information, age, grade, visual acuity, eye condition, field restrictions, training requirements for teacher and time frame when student would be available for 1-2 weeks training at APSEA. Requests are then forwarded to the APSEA Director of Programs for Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired. Requests will be reviewed, and if approved, processed as received.

RESOURCES

These resources are from schools or organizations working directly with students who are blind or visually impaired. It is not APSEA's intent to intentionally endorse or omit specific organizations.

MB Pro: The Second Generation Mountbatten Braille, A Visual Guide
Graham Cook, Special Education Technology - British Columbia, 2001
ftp.setbc.org/pub/mbpro/mbpro_guide.pdf

MB Pro Braille Writer: Step by Step Introductory Lessons
Graham Cook, Special Education Technology - British Columbia, 2001
ftp.setbc.org/pub/mbpro/mbpro_lessons.pdf

By listing the website of the following product manufacturer, APSEA does not intend to endorse or discredit any link listed or omitted.

Quantum Technology:
Mountbatten Braille
www.quantech.com.au/products/quantum_products/braille/mountbatten.htm