# Coronavirus Information Signs

**a lot (many)**
Bend fingers of both hands, palms facing body, quickly hit second joints of each hand together, twice.

TV
Fingerspell
"T": Hold index finger of dominant hand on edge of non-dominant hand (may also hold in palm) + "V": Spread index and middle fingers of dominant hand and place on palm of non-dominant hand.

illness / sick
Extend dominant little finger. Slide little finger edge down same side of upper chest.
*may use two hands.
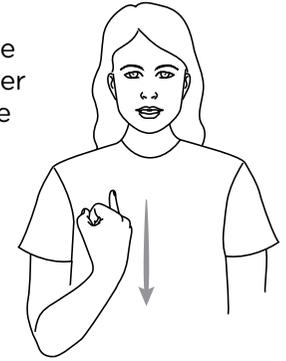
Coronavirus
Fingerspell "C": Hold index finger and thumb in a "C" shape in front of body (may also use whole hand to make "C" shape + sign "sick": (on this page).

people
Extend dominant index finger. Brush formation down tip of nose, twice.
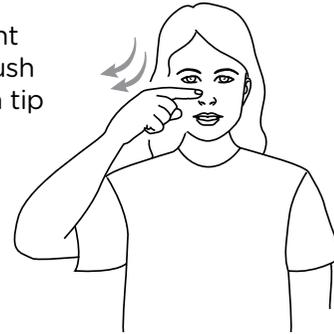
okay
Hold extended dominant thumb, palm down at chest height. Make two small forward circles.
*May use two hands.
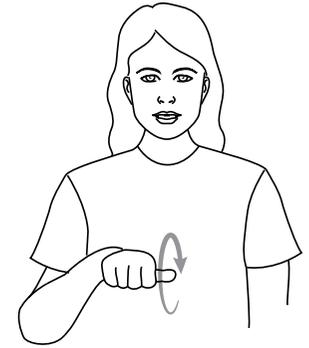
activities (do)
Move dominant fist in small circles towards body, hitting twice on non-dominant fist.

safe
Move blade of slightly cupped dominant hand, across open palm of non-dominant hand towards body.

get / catch illness
Hold both hands in front of you, palms down and fingers spread. Move hands forward while wiggling fingers.
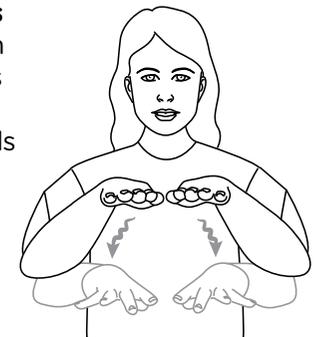
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someone (person)
Make a "C" with dominant index and thumb. Hold in front of body on dominant side, palm facing forward. Move formation downwards from shoulder height.
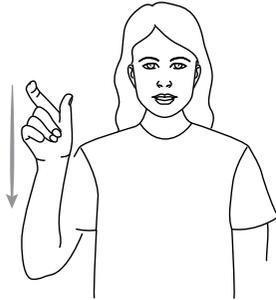
stop
Move open dominant hand forward, palm away from body, from shoulder height. (Natural gesture).

important
Extend index fingers of both hands, dominant hand pointing up and non-dominant index finger pointing towards dominant hand. Open dominant hand and bounce palm on non-dominant index finger twice.
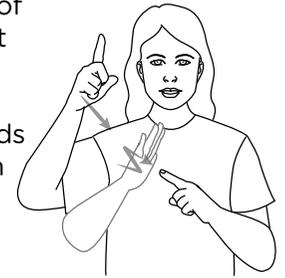
say (tell)
Move tip of extended dominant index finger forward away from mouth.
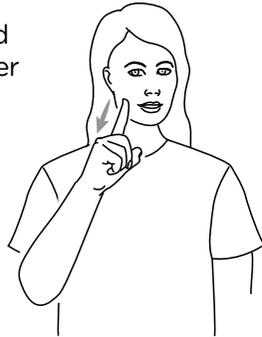
good
Extend dominant thumb, close rest of fingers into fist, thumb pointing up, move forward with stress. (Natural gesture).
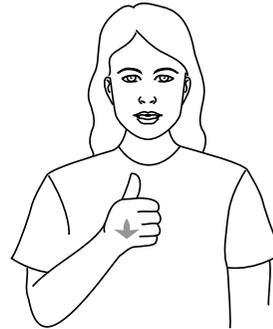
worried
Extend and crook dominant index finger. Twist this formation near temple of same side.
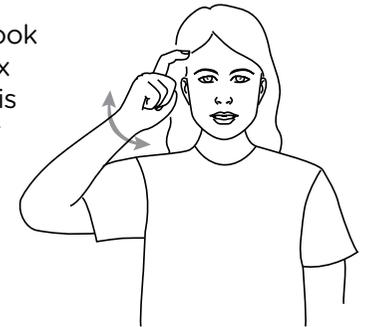
what
Point dominant index finger, palm away from body, at mid-chest height. Move formation at wrist from side to side, twice.
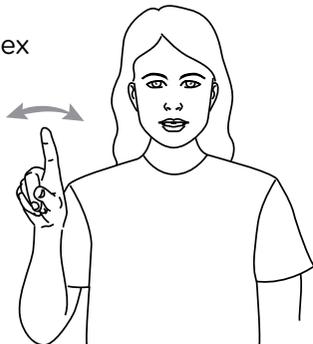
well (healthy)
Hold dominant hand bent at 3rd knuckles to side of chest, fingers touching. Move hand forward while closing it into fist with thumb extended.

wash hands (NG)
Mime washing hands.

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soap
Make fists with both hands. Hold dominant hand on non-dominant hand and brush dominant hand back and forth along non-dominant hand.
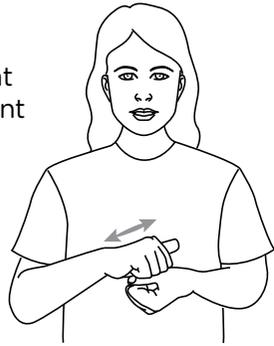
before
Brush edge of open dominant hand, thumb in, forward off cheek, twice.

eat
Close dominant fingertips onto ball of thumb. Tap formation on chin, twice.

drink
Shape dominant hand as for holding a glass – tilt to mouth as for drinking.

medicine
Extend dominant little finger. Form an "O" with fingers and thumb of non-dominant hand. 'Stir' little finger of dominant hand into nondominant formation.

don't touch
"No": Shake dominant fist, palm down, sideways in front of body. "(Don't) touch": Mime touching face and use facial expression to indicate "no".
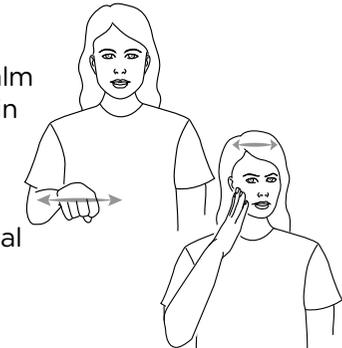
eyes, nose, mouth (NG)
Point to eyes, nose and mouth respectively.
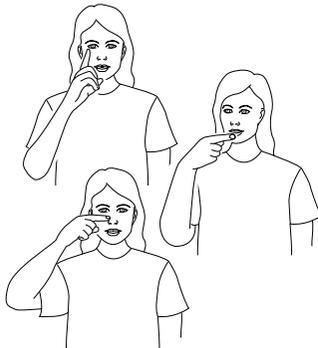
tissue
Hold open dominant hand, bent at third knuckles and palm down, over non-dominant hand in same formation. Lift dominant hand up while closing fingertips onto thumb, twice (Natural gesture as if taking tissue out of box).

cough
Hit fisted dominant hand into centre of chest, with thumb edge touching, twice.
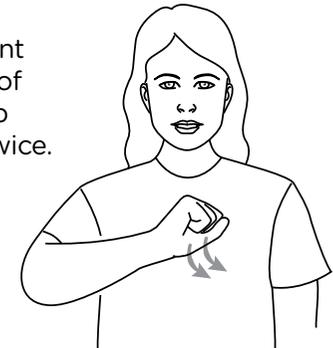
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sneeze
Extend pointer finger and place under nose. Move hand down mimicing a sneeze.
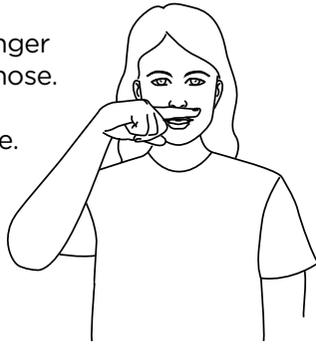
throw
Mime holding a specific item and then throwing it. May use two hands, if required.
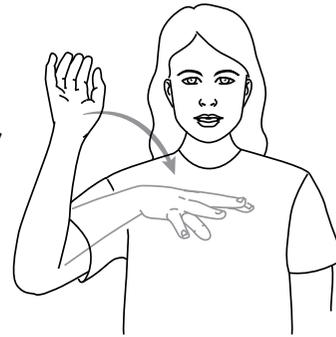
bin
Cup both hands, palms facing, at chest height. Move formation down.
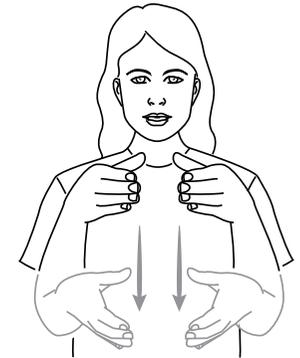
cover mouth with elbow (NG)
Mimic coughing into elbow of dominant arm.
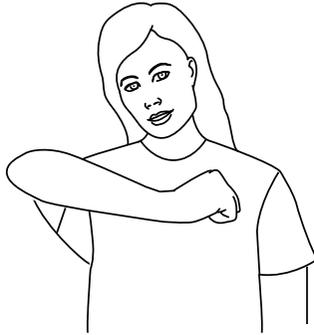
hot
Wipe forehead with dominant index finger crooked, hand opening as it is flung away from forehead.
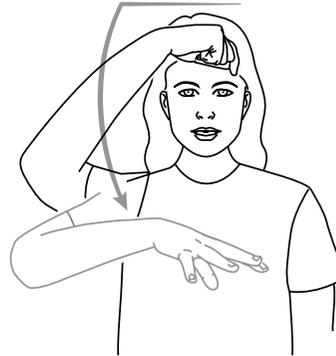
tired
Place dominant finger tips on chest. Twist hand down until blade of hand rests on chest. *May use both hands.
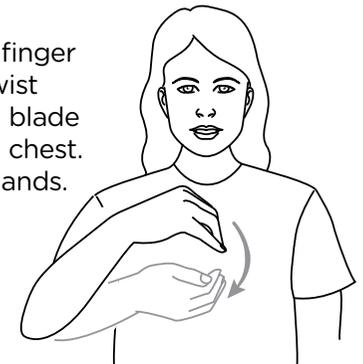
hard / difficult
Finger spell "D": move formation diagonally away from body.

breathe
Place dominant hand on chest and move in and out twice.

stay
Hold dominant hand, palm facing down at midline. Move hand down firmly.

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home
Move slightly cupped dominant hand, palm away from body, in an arc away from body and down.

go
Swing slightly cupped dominant hand forward in relevant direction. Finish with straight fingers.
*With directionality.

cancel
Hold both hands facing towards each other in front of body, with fingers bent at third knuckles. Close fingers onto thumb while moving hands towards each other.

everyone / all
Place dominant hand, palm facing down at chest height. Move hand around in a circle formation.

staff
Sign "people": (see page 1) + "work": hit blade of open dominant hand on base of thumb of open non-dominant hand, thumb closed, twice; non-dominant arm diagonally across body, blade down.

distance (NG)
Point to a safe distance away from you.
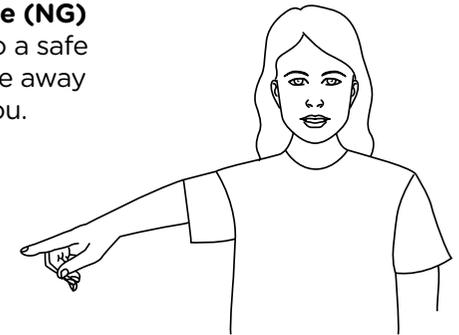
Coronavirus Health Information Line:
1800 020 080

Health direct hotline:
1800 022 222

Australian Department of Health:
www.health.gov.au

World Health Organisation:
www.who.int

At the time of filming the video and making this handout for it, we could not find an Auslan sign for "Coronavirus" and only saw it as a finger spelt word. A new sign is now appearing in some Auslan resources. It is important to remember that Key Word Sign is generally used with people who can hear but have difficulty with spoken communication, while Auslan is the language of the Deaf community. For the purposes of our Coronavirus resources, we created a new gesture which is a combination of the letter "C" + "sick". We also used a combination of "people" + "work" to mean "staff".

We acknowledge the Deaf community for the use of Auslan signs.

COVID-19 Video Resource

Key Word Sign™
Australia