



FATHER, DAD

Touch the forehead with the thumb of the right open hand. The fingers may be wiggled slightly.

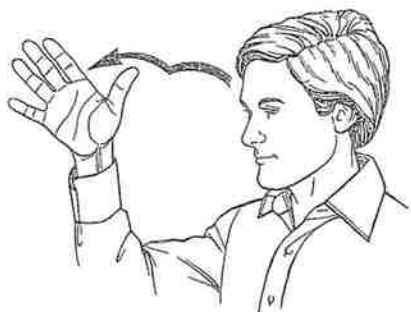
Memory aid: Indicates the head male of the family unit.



MOTHER, MOM, MAMA

Touch the right chin or cheek with the thumb of the right open hand. The fingers may be wiggled slightly. The sign for *mama* is similar except that the thumb touches the cheek several times.

Memory aid: Indicates the head female of the family unit.



GRANDFATHER

Touch the forehead with the thumb of the right open hand which has its palm facing left. Move the right hand in two forward arcs.

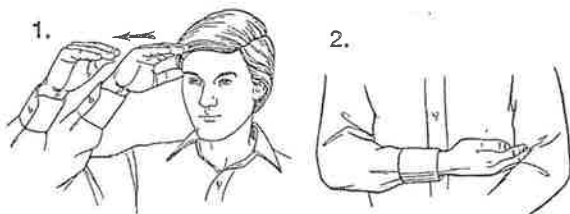
Memory aid: The combination of the sign for *father* and the double hand movements of both signs suggest the reference to someone of the older generation.



GRANDMOTHER

Touch the chin with the thumb of the right open hand which has its palm facing left. Move the right hand in two forward arcs.

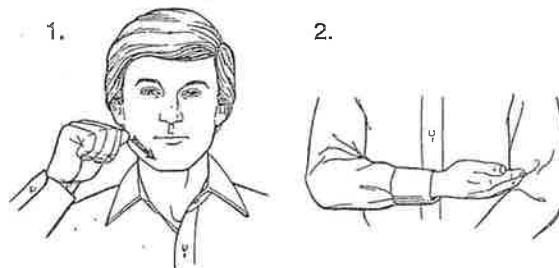
Memory aid: The combination of the sign for *mother* and the double hand movements of both signs suggest the reference to someone of the older generation.



SON

Move the right hand to the forehead as though gripping the peak of a hat between the fingers and thumb; then move it forward a few inches. Next move the right flat hand with palm facing up into the crook of the bent left elbow.

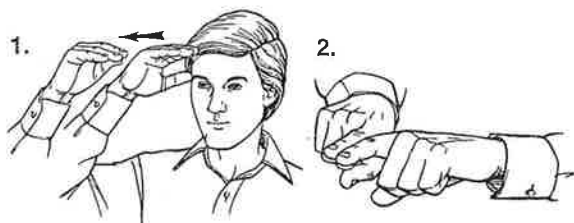
Memory aid: Indicates a male baby cradled in the arms.



DAUGHTER

Trace the right jawbone from ear to chin with the palm side of the right A thumb. Then move the right flat hand with palm facing up into the crook of the bent left elbow.

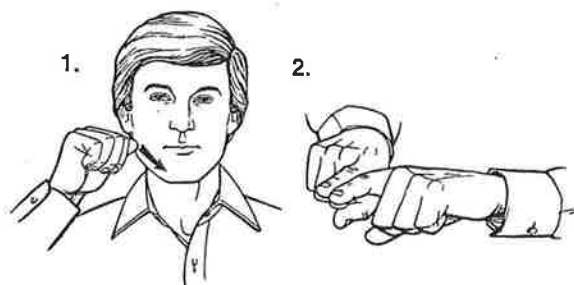
Memory aid: Indicates a female baby cradled in the arms.



BROTHER

Move the right hand to the forehead as though gripping the peak of a hat between the fingers and thumb; then move it forward a few inches. Next, point both index fingers forward and bring them together. The latter is the sign for *same*.

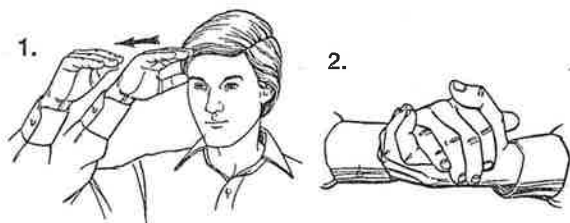
Memory aid: The two signs combined suggest a male of the same family.



SISTER

Trace the right jawbone from ear to chin with the palm side of the right *A* thumb. Then point both index fingers forward and bring them together. The latter movement is the sign for *same*.

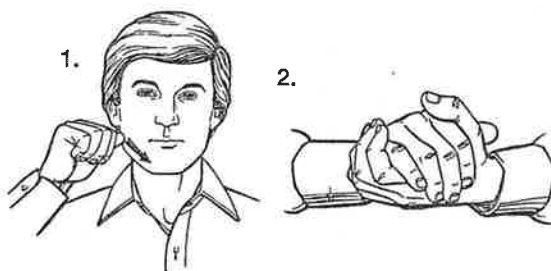
Memory aid: The two signs combined suggest a female of the same family.



HUSBAND

Move the right hand to the forehead as though gripping the peak of a hat between the fingers and thumb; then move it forward a few inches. Clasp the hands with the right hand above the left. The latter position is the sign for *marriage*.

Memory aid: Indicates a married male.



WIFE

Trace the right jawbone from ear to chin with the palm side of the right *A* thumb. Then clasp the hands in a natural position with the right hand above the left. The latter is the sign for *marriage*.

Memory aid: Indicates a married female.



UNCLE

With the palm facing forward, place the right *U* hand close to the right temple and shake back and forth from the wrist.

Memory aid: The initial *U* is placed near the *male* sign position.



AUNT

Place the right *A* hand close to the right cheek and shake back and forth from the wrist.

Memory aid: The initial *A* is placed near the *female* sign position.



NEPHEW

Place the right extended *N* fingers close to the right temple and shake back and forth from the wrist.

Memory aid: The initial *N* is placed near the male sign position.



NIECE

Place the right extended *N* fingers close to the right side of the chin and shake back and forth from the wrist.

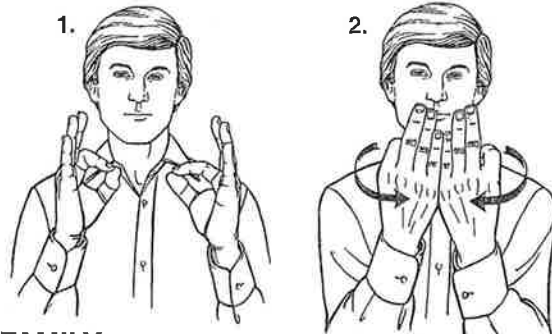
Memory aid: The initial *N* is placed near the female sign position.



PARENTS

Place the middle finger of the right *P* hand at the right temple, then at the right side of the chin.

Memory aid: The initial indicates the word, and the two locations refer to the basic male and female positions.



FAMILY

Place both upright *F* hands to the front with the palms facing each other. Make an outward circular movement with each hand simultaneously until the little fingers touch.

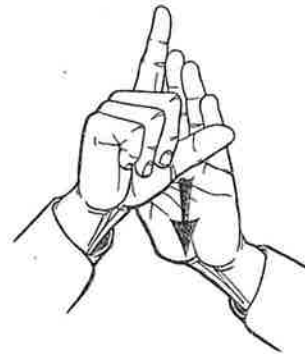
Memory aid: The two *F* hands describe the circle of a family.



COUSIN

Place the right *C* hand either close to the right temple for a male or close to the right cheek for a female; then shake back and forth from the wrist. Place between the *male* and *female* positions for neuter reference.

Memory aid: The initial *C* is placed wherever appropriate.



IN-LAW

Place the index and thumb side of the right *L* hand on the front of the palm-forward left hand. Begin near the top; then move the right hand downward in a small arc to the base of the left hand. Some prefer to sign *in* first.

Memory aid: This is the sign for *law*.



MAN

Touch the thumb of the right open hand on the forehead, then on the chest.

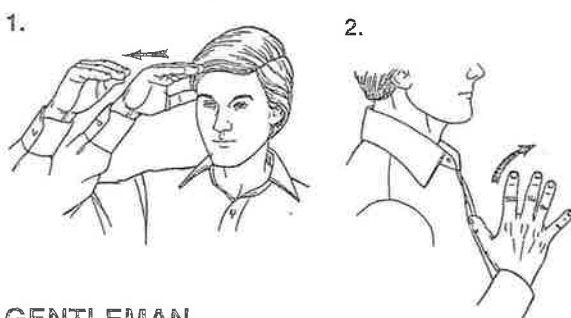
Memory aid: This sign is a combination of *father* and *fine*.



WOMAN

Touch the thumb of the right open hand on the chin, then on the chest.

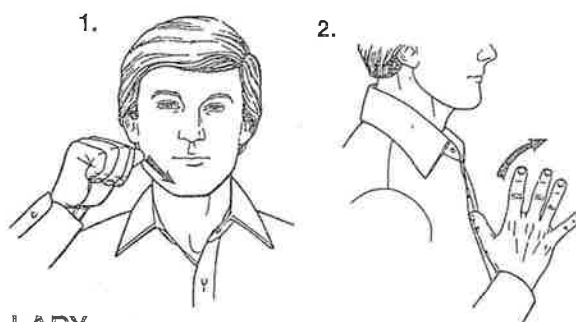
Memory aid: The sign is a combination of *mother* and *fine*.



GENTLEMAN

Move the right hand to the forehead as though gripping the peak of a hat between the fingers and thumb; then move it forward a few inches. Place the right thumb of the right open hand on the chest with palm facing left, then tilt the hand in a slight up-forward-down movement.

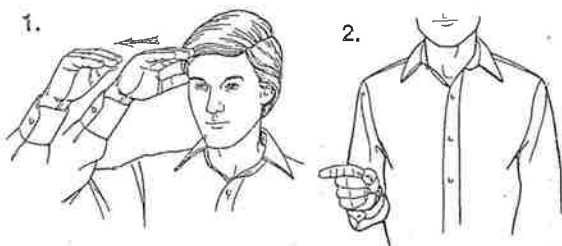
Memory aid: Old-fashioned tipping of hat.



LADY

Trace the right jawbone from ear to chin with the palm side of the right *A* thumb. Then place the right thumb of the right open hand on the chest with palm facing left; then tilt the hand in a slight up-forward-down movement.

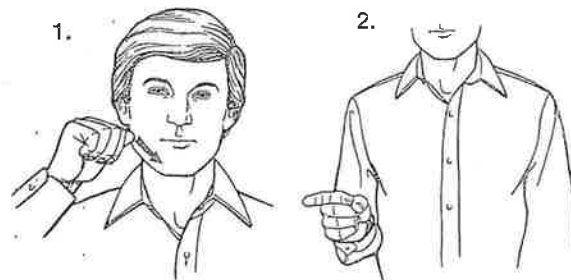
Memory aid: Indicates a *lady's* dress or blouse with frilly ruffles.



HE, HIM

Move right hand to forehead as though gripping the peak of a hat between fingers and thumb; then move it forward a few inches. Next point the index finger forward. If it is obvious that a male is being referred to, the sign for *male* can be omitted.

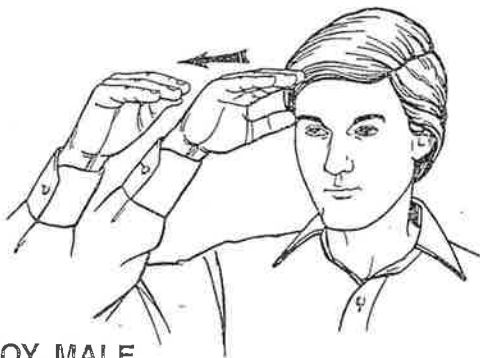
Memory aid: The signer directs attention by pointing.



SHE, HER

Trace the right jawbone from ear to chin with the palm side of the right *A* thumb; then point the index finger forward. If it is obvious that a female is being referred to, the sign for *female* can be omitted.

Memory aid: The signer directs attention by pointing.



BOY, MALE

Move the right hand to the forehead as though gripping the peak of a cap or hat between the fingers and thumb; then move it forward a few inches.

Memory aid: Old-fashioned tipping of caps by men, especially when greeting women.



GIRL, MAIDEN, FEMALE

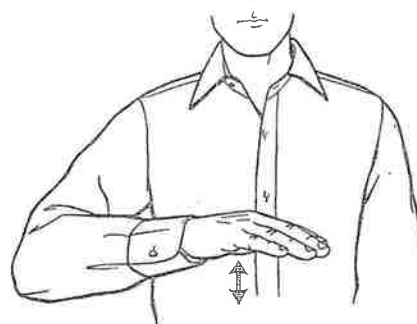
Trace the right jawbone from ear to chin with the palm side of the right A thumb.

Memory aid: The thumb follows the location of the old-fashioned bonnet string.



right

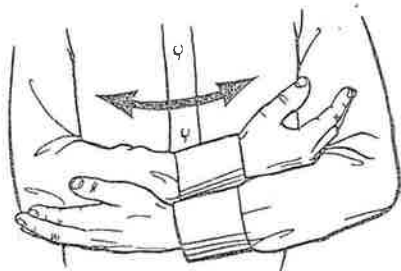
tial indicates the word, and er to the basic positions for



CHILD, CHILDREN

Place the right flat downturned hand before the body and motion as if patting the head of a child. When referring to more than one child, move the hand to another position and repeat the sign.

Memory aid: *Children* are shorter than adults.



BABY, INFANT

Hold the arms in the natural position for cradling a baby and rock the arms sideways.

Memory aid: The natural movement of comforting a *baby* in the arms.



KID

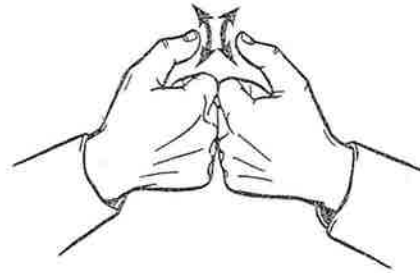
Extend the index and small finger of the right hand. With the palm facing down, put the index finger under the nose. The hand is then pivoted up and down slightly and often moved to the right simultaneously.

Memory aid: Suggests the runny nose of a young child.



spoken to e

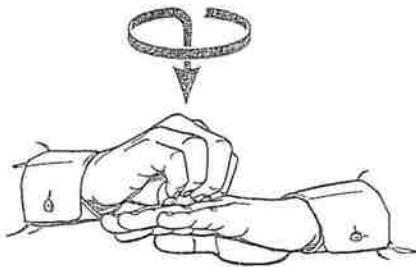
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SWEETHEART, BEAU, LOVER

Bring the knuckles of both *A* hands together with palms facing inward; then raise and lower both thumbs simultaneously.

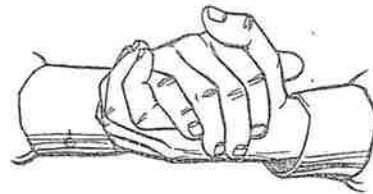
Memory aid: Suggests two lovebirds billing and cooing.



ENGAGED (prior to marriage)

Circle the right *E* hand over the left palm-down flat hand; then place the right *E* on the left ring finger.

Memory aid: The *engagement* ring finger is given prominence.



MARRY, MARRIAGE

Clasp the hands in a natural position with the right hand above the left.

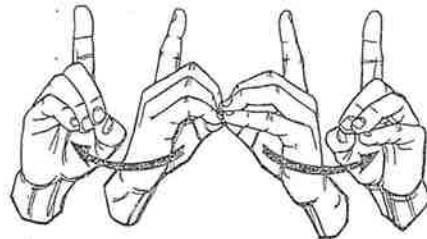
Memory aid: A couple joins hands during their wedding ceremony.



WEDDING

Point the fingers of both flat hands down from the wrists in the front. Swing the hands toward each other until the left fingers and thumb grasp the right fingers.

Memory aid: Suggests a bride and groom joining hands.



DIVORCE

Hold both *D* hands with palms facing and knuckles touching. Twist both hands outward and sideways until the palms face forward.

Memory aid: Two people once close to each other now separate.