

Technical Document B 16-1: Spanish contracted braille and didactic criteria for its learning

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The ONCE ensures that the Group's internal and external communication uses non-sexist language, using writing techniques that make it possible to refer to people without specifying their gender. However, whenever deemed necessary, generic terms will be used, particularly in plurals, to ensure clarity, accuracy and ease of reading, without this implying ignorance of the necessary gender differentiation or any lesser commitment on the Institution's part towards policies of equality and non-gender discrimination.

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Introduction

This document brings together the *Estenografía hispano-americana*, approved in Montevideo in 1964 and modified by the changes introduced in uncontracted braille after its unification for Spanish-speaking countries (*Montevideo 1987*), the new contributions approved by the Plenary Session of the Spanish Braille Commission (CBE, for its acronym in Spanish) on 18 May 2018 (*Appendix A*) and some new contributions approved by the Plenary Session of the CBE on 18 June 2025 (*Appendix B*).

In 2018, the CBE included several modifications and improvements to the 1964 *Estenografía de Montevideo* in each of its traditional sections: Abbreviated Words, Beginnings, Contractions, Endings, and Use of Point 5. Two more sections were added, each dedicated to sequences, a new figure, and special cases—incorporated into the list of abbreviated terms in 2025, before disappearing as such. Rather than incorporating numerous new features, the aim was to provide greater flexibility to the 1964 Montevideo text and to develop a series of aspects that had already merely addressed therein.

For all of this work on reviewing and proposing improvements and modifications to contracted braille, the Spanish Braille Commission strives to base itself on scientific criteria for contemporary Spanish, avoiding merely subjective or intuitive approaches. Thus, among the documentation and technical resources available are the CREA (*Corpus de referencia del español actual*) and the Corpes XXI (*Corpus del Español del Siglo XXI*), both created by the Real Academia Española. These online resources work with a collection of hundreds of thousands of texts from diverse sources—dated between 1975 and the present and stored on computer media—from which it is possible to extract information to study the more than 500 million words they contain, their meanings, and their contexts. Using these tools, the Real Academia Española submitted to the CBE a document, *Estenografía y braille (breve estudio para la ONCE)*, with the 100 most frequently used words and the 50 syllables and pairs of letters that most commonly appear at the beginning, middle, or end of a word.

This technical document aims to facilitate the relaunching of Spanish contracted braille, with the aim, above all, of making it known to new generations of braille users and of incorporating it as quickly as possible into the digital and electronic means of reading, writing, and printing this system.

First, we propose disseminating, especially among users, the association of the concept of contracted braille with that of a signographic adaptation that favours the reduction of space, a decrease in writing time, and a significant increase in reading speed. The rapid decoding of meaning by the human brain, expressed in contracted signs, could significantly increase the level of reading fluency and comprehension in both children and adults.

Furthermore, this relaunch would be opportune to take advantage of the boom in devices and software that benefit braille literacy. In this regard, the progressive development observed in favour of writing using braille keyboards on smartphones and reading using the wide range of braille displays currently available are noteworthy.

In order to facilitate the introduction of these technical and scientific criteria to braille users, the Spanish Braille Commission has deemed it appropriate to complement the explanations offered in each section of this technical document with a series of clarifications, strategies, and illustrations in a more educational tone, which facilitate understanding and encourage ease of use and decoding. In this way, the aim is to increase the use of contracted braille reading and writing, particularly among new generations of *brailleists*, whose lack of knowledge of this signographic method and its advantages is almost complete.

1. Generalities about contracted braille

Contracted braille—as opposed to «uncontracted braille» or «full braille»—is a shorthand writing system for braille that is sometimes referred to as «abbreviated braille». However, abbreviated braille is a broader concept, which includes other, more specific types of abbreviations—or even other variants of contracted braille—such as the abbreviations created for braille labelling of pharmaceutical products.

It is also incorrect to refer to contracted braille as «braille shorthand». Shorthand, in all its forms, is a system of abbreviation based more on sounds than on the correct reproduction of a text.

In principle, contracted braille could be applied to the braille representation of any language. In countries where it is widely used—and this is also true in Spain—its use is restricted to texts. That is, there are no contracted braille signs for, for example, specific scientific signographies, where the precision of writing is paramount to saving braille characters. In the case of Spain, a shorthand exists for texts in Spanish, but nothing would prevent others from being created for the other co-official languages, taking into account the specificities of each language with respect to the most commonly used words and letter combinations.

As mentioned in the *Introduction*, the objective of contracted braille is threefold: to **reduce space**, **shorten writing time**, and **increase reading speed**. To achieve this, contracted braille offers the following tools:

- A list consisting of 284 of the most commonly used words in Spanish, which have been assigned a specific and fixed abbreviation of, in most cases, 1 or 2 characters and a maximum of 3. From these words, using gender and number markers, verbal endings and other elements typical of contracted braille, a series of variants have been established that have expanded this list by 485 terms, up to a total of 769 words.
- Abbreviations for a series of letter combinations, also very commonly used in Spanish, which can appear at the beginning (*beginnings*), at the end (*endings*) or in different positions (*sequences* and *contractions*) in those words that are not part of the aforementioned list.
- A set of rules for the correct use of these stenographic elements.

These tools form what we might call the *basis of contracted braille*.

Writing using the list of already abbreviated words and the rules of contracted braille does not mean, however, that all the words in a text will

be abbreviated, but rather most of them and, without a doubt, those that appear most frequently.

The reason for abbreviating some words or groups of letters and not others is directly related to their frequency of use. This is a basic criterion common to all contracted braille systems. Technically, all words that can be shortened in this way have a fixed abbreviation, but learning or memorising abbreviations for all Spanish words or for all possible groups of letters would be impractical. The main idea of any contracted braille system is to abbreviate, from the outset and as much as possible, those words or combinations of letters in the language that are used most frequently, rather than those that appear exceptionally, then providing tools that allow the user to abbreviate the rest as much as possible.

Therefore, a contracted text will be the combination of three types of terms:

- those that appear in the list of words with a prefixed abbreviation and their possible derived terms,
- those that—without being part of it—may include some abbreviation (beginning, ending, sequence, contraction or a combination of these), and
- those that cannot be abbreviated, remaining the same as they appear in uncontracted braille.

1.1. Abbreviated words and words that can be abbreviated

The objective of the list of already abbreviated words is to consistently and precisely reduce the number of braille characters used in the most common words in Spanish. In fact, many of the base words included in the list are among the thousand most frequently used words in written texts in our language.

The terms on our starting list were mostly abbreviated as early as 1964, and were joined by those that the Spanish Braille Commission deemed necessary to incorporate in subsequent revisions, primarily in 2018 and 2025. Derived terms from some of these words have also been included, and these have been established and listed for the first time in the 2025 revision of contracted braille. To this end, gender and number variants, verbal endings, beginnings, endings, or a combination of these have been applied when the source word allows them and when it has been deemed that they do not hinder comprehension and reading speed.

The importance of the word in contracted braille is why this document is structured starting from the already abbreviated words and their learning—always in a step-by-step manner—to then move on to the tools that contracted braille offers us to derive new terms and try to abbreviate as much as possible the rest of the words in a text.

According to this, the process of encoding a contracted text must follow a series of steps that will be applied word by word and in this order:

- Check whether it is in the list of already abbreviated terms (see *Appendix C*) or if it is a derivative of one of those words. If this is the case, the already established transcription would be used and the process would begin with the next word.
- If it is not listed, check whether it begins with any of the beginnings in the table in section 3.1, following the corresponding abbreviation rules.
- Next, check if the end of the word matches any of the endings in section 3.2 and follow its abbreviation rules.
- Check if the remaining unabbreviated part of the word contains one of the sequences in section 3.3 and, finally,
- see if the combinations of letters not yet abbreviated match any of the contractions in section 3.4.

Following this order of formation of new abbreviated words aims to reduce the number of characters in a term in a coherent and unambiguous manner. An example is the word *importante*, an already abbreviated word on the list that is directly reduced from 10 to 3 braille characters. However, if the first step is ignored and the following steps are performed directly, it would result in a term with 8 characters. Furthermore, the resulting transcription would not be valid—it is not a matter of choosing between two alternative abbreviations, but of doing it correctly.

1.2. Gender and number

Gender and number are of great importance in contracted braille, and understanding how they are formed—sometimes in a way that is somewhat different from what we are used to from a lexical point of view—will allow us to further reduce these inflections so typical of Spanish.

In Spanish contracted braille, gender and number marks can be added to all types of elements:

- to some of the already abbreviated words in the list,
- to certain endings, and
- to contractions at the end of words that admit gender and/or number markings.

The rules governing the marking of the gender and number of the aforementioned elements include peculiarities and exceptions that will be seen in the sections corresponding to each contracted braille element.

1.3. Contracted as an alternative to uncontracted braille reading and writing

Some of the advantages of using contracted braille for reading and writing have already been mentioned in this technical document. However, this section aims to make it clear that, before embarking on the path to using contracted braille, it is essential to have a high level of mastery of uncontracted braille and spelling rules.

Only if one is adequately literate and sufficiently familiar with braille texts can one extrapolate uncontracted braille characters to any additional signography, and vice versa. This ensures that learning contracted forms is not disconnected from its original natural code, thus facilitating the decoding process.

For example, there are rules regarding the abbreviation of syllables or parts of words when they include a stressed vowel (see *1.4. Contracted braille and linguistic correctness*), so it is necessary to know how these words are accented correctly in uncontracted braille in order to use this rule without equivocation. Similarly, there are rules regarding the use of abbreviations according to hyphenation, which must be understood correctly before the rule can be applied (see *1.5. Word hyphenation*).

Only when the relationship between the simplest graphemes and phonemes has been established, can the relationship between characters and syllables or words with complete meaning be understood, without perceiving them as arbitrary or confusing.

1.4. Contracted braille and linguistic correctness

In verbatim braille texts, the punctuation marks of uncontracted braille are always respected, as well as the capital letter, number, and any other braille signs. Contracting a text is simply a transcription of the text into braille with the addition of an extra task: the shortening of all words that allow it. This is one of the characteristics that differentiates it from shorthand, which, among other things, ignores upper and lower case letters and unifies similar sounds—such as «b» and «v» or «g» and «j»—into a single sign. Contracted braille always strives for abbreviated terms to be unambiguous and for spelling rules to be scrupulously observed. This allows entire works to be produced in contracted braille without affecting their linguistic or spelling accuracy, and allows any user to accurately transform that text into uncontracted braille.

There is, for example, a restriction regarding accented letters, which, as a general rule, cannot be part of an abbreviation, except for accented words that are part of the list (*acción, además, algún...*) and the endings in *-ón* that appear in section 3.2. In these cases, the accentuation is, in some way, implicit in the already fixed abbreviation, hence the importance of knowing its correct spelling perfectly in order to be able to correctly encode and decode the abbreviated term.

Continuing with accents, we cannot consider words that exist in two versions interchangeable: one unstressed and the other stressed, depending on their function or meaning. Thus, abbreviations of vocabulary words such as *que, quien, or cual* will be preceded by a mark (a dot 5) when they should be written as *qué, quién, or cuál*, to make it clear that they have an accent mark. Likewise, the abbreviations of *último* or *tenía* cannot be interchanged with *ultimo* or *tenia*. In some cases, when both words are in very common use, it has been decided to include both in the word list, each with its unique transcription, as is the case with *hacía* and *hacia* or *sí* and *sí*.


Contracted braille does not take into account a word's grammatical function when abbreviating it: it simply reduces a word—understood as a combination of letters—into a shorter one, regardless of its meaning. That is, *haya* and *hayas* will be abbreviated identically when they appear as verb forms or as nouns referring to the tree in question.




Although it may seem like the highest priority of contracted braille, reducing the number of cells is not its only or main objective: reading speed—which depends largely on rapid recognition and understanding of

the abbreviated term, without possible misunderstandings or doubts about its meaning that could make the reader stop when faced with an ambiguous term—will determine in some cases whether or not it is possible to abbreviate certain derived terms or groups of letters.

1.5. Word hyphenation

In a word hyphenated at the end of a line, the rules for abbreviation do not apply if the hyphen breaks the syllable, which must remain intact according to the spelling rules for hyphenation in Spanish. This case can occur with beginnings, endings, sequences, and contractions.

Thus, for example, the correct ways to divide the word  (*asesinados*)—a term that benefits from the application of different contractions—would be:

	<i>ase- sinados</i>
	<i>asesi- nados</i>
	<i>asesina- dos</i>

1.6. Some teaching strategies

As the highest authority in the design, review and updating of the signographies associated with the braille code, the CBE obviously shows in the technical documents it produces a rigorous approach, with a predominance of signographic tables, scientific criteria and technical parameters.

In the specific case of contracted braille, this rigour may be difficult for those unfamiliar with the aforementioned criteria. Therefore, it is proposed to add a didactic reinforcement to promote its user-friendly use by all braille users. The objective, therefore, is for the elements contained in this technical document—tables of signs, explanations, examples, etc.—to provide a sufficient theoretical basis for developing the teaching materials necessary for proper learning with the help of practice.

The purpose of this chapter is to list the didactic criteria that served as the basis for this objective.

1. **Expanded explanations.** All the technical criteria that led to the presentation of this braille signography by the CBE have been rigorously agreed upon by a team of experts. However, considering the level of beginner users, it has been deemed appropriate to accompany the presentation of these criteria with some additional specifications:

- Provide an explanation based on simple and logical reasoning that favours the processes of understanding, internalisation and use of the signography in question.
 - In cases where some rules cannot be explained logically, indicate that these rules are simply the result of consensus, based on the criteria considered most favourable by the experts at the time they were drafted. That is, they are not arbitrary rules or those derived from personal preferences, but rather from a consensus based on the experience and knowledge of these experts.
2. **Illustration.** Clear and simple examples of each rule and its exceptions are provided. Some of these rules have been simplified recently, in a similarly consensual manner.
 3. **Presentation of the sign tables in an orderly and systematic manner.** Certain association criteria, more or less mnemonic, are established as a guide to facilitate more intuitive learning.
 4. **Order of presentation of the contents.** This document attempts to introduce contracted braille systematically and progressively in terms of its degree of difficulty. Therefore, the following order of presentation will be followed:
 - Abbreviated words with a single character: their appearance at the beginning will increase the perception of achievement by students, who will be able, from the beginning, to abbreviate complete words without much difficulty.

The possibility of starting by abbreviating words with a single braille character generates a high level of motivation in students, since they see themselves progressing quickly, they can clearly see the decrease in characters in the text, they are able to read texts more easily—which boosts their self-esteem—and, finally, by starting with words, which are mostly quite deductive, they exercise their memory and the learning process is made easier.

- Words abbreviated in two or three braille characters, which although it adds a greater degree of complexity to learning, is not a new element, since it is expanding the acquired vocabulary with somewhat longer terms that follow similar patterns to those of the previous ones.
- Simultaneously with the purely memorisation exercise of learning words and their abbreviations, two very important tasks are performed. The first is to explain how, from these words, certain

derived terms have been created in a simple and coherent way—by adding, for example, the corresponding gender and number markers. Knowing the case studies and the applied techniques will help the student understand how to use the rest of the tools offered by contracted braille. The second refers, precisely, to the gradual introduction of these tools while memorising more and more words.

- Finally, the complete use of beginnings, endings, sequences, and contractions in the correct order is introduced. These terms, which already appear tangentially in the various explanations of how new terms were derived from the words on the list, can now be used with the rest of the words whose abbreviation has not been previously established.

Thus, by combining a more mnemonic arrangement of signography with explanations for everything that can be explained, including examples that help to establish concepts, avoiding rules that are impossible to comply with and clarifying those that were left open or that offered a certain degree of ambiguity, as well as systematising the learning process and abbreviation of terms, the aim has been to create a document that is both technical and didactic, which will be complemented with the corresponding learning materials.

2. Words already abbreviated

The words already abbreviated in contracted braille—that is, those listed in *Appendix C*—have been selected to reduce the length of widely used words in Spanish to a minimum. Since this list is validated and maintained by the Spanish Braille Commission, learning it is a simple memorisation exercise. However, this document attempts to make this exercise more bearable by reorganising the different word tables as mnemonically as possible and explaining how the various terms derived from them were created.

The abbreviations for the words in the list use some elements and rules of contracted braille, but not always, since their main objective has been to create abbreviations of between 1 and 3 characters for the most common prepositions, adverbs, adjectives, nouns, verbs, etc. in our language.

Some of these words are the basis of many others that have been formed—and also fixed—making use of some of the tools that contracted braille offers to abbreviate the rest of the words in the Spanish language, such as:

- changes in gender and number: from *absoluto*, we have *absoluta*, *absolutos* and *absolutas*;
- certain verbal endings: from *había* we get to *habías* and *habían*;
- and, when possible, of some beginnings (*reacción* from *acción*), endings (*anterioridad* from *anterior*), of the combination of both (such as *prehistóricamente*, from *histórico*) and the combination of these with gender markers (as *reacciones*, from the derivative *reacción*).

Although it is not in the hands of the user who approaches contracted braille to add new words to the list or create new variants, knowing the way in which these derivatives have been formed from what we could call *base words* of the list—while memorizing them—is, without a doubt, a good starting point to learn how to use these tools appropriately when it is necessary to abbreviate words that are not part of the list.

The first thing to keep in mind is that the process of generating new variants has its limits—it has not been governed by generic rules that we can apply to all terms equally. In fact:

- A word abbreviated with a single character does not admit beginnings or endings, only gender and number marks, and not in all cases.

- To abbreviated words of two or three characters, beginnings and endings have been applied—when considered appropriate—in addition to gender and number markers, to form derivatives.
- In no case have sequences or contractions been used to create new derived words.

In addition to not being permitted to add variants of one's own to those listed, we may not—although this occurs in very rare cases—combine two already abbreviated words into a single word, even when that is their usual spelling in uncontracted braille. Thus, the words *padrenuestro* or *contratiempo* may not be abbreviated by putting together the abbreviations for *padre* and *nuestro* or *contra* and *tiempo*—all of which are already abbreviated and are included in the list—but rather their fixed form in the list will be ignored and they will be transcribed using the rest of the tools for contracted braille.

Going through this list, then, is the first step to take to abbreviate a word in contracted braille—only when it is not included in the list should the tools and techniques offered by contracted braille to shorten the rest of the words be applied (see 3. *Tools for abbreviating other words*).

Another peculiarity to keep in mind—although it is not very common—refers to the unwritten rule that says that **once a part of a word has been abbreviated, we cannot abbreviate the result further**. Thus, by using the principle *pro-* (represented by a *p-*) before the letter *r*, a new combination of letters (*pr-*) is created, which we might think, a priori, could be abbreviated again using the corresponding contraction. However, this option is neither acceptable nor correct.

In the following sections of this chapter, we will include tables of words whose abbreviations have already been established in 1, 2, or 3 characters, ordered according to mnemonic criteria—sometimes by their braille character and sometimes alphabetically by word. A complete list of the 284 available words and their accepted variants, ordered alphabetically by the term they represent in uncontracted braille, can be found in *Appendix C* of this technical document.

2.1. Words abbreviated to a single character

Spanish contracted braille has 51 words already abbreviated using a single braille character. All of these words were chosen because they are very commonly used and therefore appear frequently in our texts.

Braille sign	Word	Braille dots
⠠	el	15
⠠	él	2346
⠠	fue	124
⠠	gran	1245
⠠	ha	125
⠠	jamás	245
⠠	le	123
⠠	me	134
⠠	no	1345
⠠	por	1234
⠠	que	12345
⠠	se	234
⠠	te	2345
⠠	un	136
⠠	vez	1236

2.1.2. Words that contain the braille letter that represents them

Table 2. Words that contain the braille letter that represents them

Braille sign	Word	Braille dots
⠠	año	12456
⠠	más	12356
⠠	según	23456

Braille sign	Word	Braille dots
⠠⠠⠠	ser	1235
⠠⠠	si	24
⠠⠠	sí	34

2.1.3. Other words abbreviated to a single character

Table 3. Other words abbreviated to a single character

Braille sign	Word	Braille dots
⠠	al	13
⠠	ante	146
⠠	aquel	346
⠠	cada	1456
⠠	como	2456
⠠	del	256
⠠	ella	123456
⠠	en	26
⠠	entre	356
⠠	es	1246
⠠	este	1356
⠠	grado	2356
⠠	hace	2365
⠠	la	3
⠠	las	12346

Braille sign	Word	Braille dots
⠠	lo	36
⠠	los	246
⠠	muy	156
⠠	número	3456
⠠	para	16
⠠	pero	235
⠠	pues	1256
⠠	siempre	126
⠠	sin	35
⠠	sobre	23
⠠	son	1346
⠠	su	345

2.1.4. Terms derived from words abbreviated to a single character

With these types of already abbreviated words, the tools used to create their variants are reduced to one: gender and number markings for words that allow them. The vast majority of words shortened to one character are invariable (prepositions, conjunctions, adverbs, etc.), but some others do allow variations in number, and still others in gender.

Table 4 lists the different marks that have been used to fix the abbreviated transcription of the variants in gender and number of these words, endings that are widely used in contracted braille beyond the words contained in the list and their variants, as will be seen later:

Table 4. Gender and number endings in already abbreviated words

Braille sign	Gender or number endings	Braille dots
⠠	-a	1
⠠⠠	-as	12346
⠠⠣	-o	135
⠠⠠⠣	-os	246
⠠⠠⠠	-es	1246

As can be seen in this table, the ending -s, so common in Spanish for forming the plural, has not only been used very rarely when abbreviating the listed terms, but it is also **not applicable to the words in the list abbreviated to a single character**, with the sole exception of *su* and *sus* (see 2.1.4.3).

2.1.4.1. Single-character abbreviated words that vary in gender and number

The use of the endings in Table 4 in the previous section differs slightly from what we are usually accustomed to. Thus, the plural endings -as, -os, and -es are added directly to the single-character word, regardless of whether or not that word ends in uncontracted braille with the vowel included in the ending.

⠠ *este* ⠠⠠ *estas* and not ⠠⠠⠠

Table 5 includes words that are abbreviated with a single character and can be marked with gender and number. The first word in each group, which is the word abbreviated with a single braille character, can be considered the basis from which the other abbreviated words are generated.

In the list in *Appendix C* we will only find the word abbreviated by a single character, and the other terms that appear in Table 5 associated with it appear in the appendix as accepted variants.











Table 5. Gender and number variants of words abbreviated in a single character

Words and gender and number variants	Braille sign	Braille dots
aque	⠠⠠⠠	346
aquella	⠠⠠⠠⠠	346-1
aquello	⠠⠠⠠⠠	346-135
aquellas	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	346-12346
aque l los	⠠⠠⠠⠠	346-246
ella	⠠⠠⠠⠠	123456
ello	⠠⠠⠠⠠	123456-135
ellas	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	123456-12346
ellos	⠠⠠⠠⠠	123456-246
este	⠠⠠⠠	1356
esta	⠠⠠⠠⠠	1356-1
esto	⠠⠠⠠⠠	1356-135
estas	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	1356-12346
estos	⠠⠠⠠⠠	1356-246
un	⠠⠠	136
una	⠠⠠⠠	136-1
uno	⠠⠠⠠	136-135
unas	⠠⠠⠠⠠	136-12346
unos	⠠⠠⠠	136-246

2.1.4.2. Words abbreviated to a single character and variable only in number

In the case of words abbreviated in a single character that are only variable in number, the corresponding marks have also been added regardless of whether the contracted word included or not an ending in *-a*, *-o* or *-e* in uncontracted braille (Table 6).

Table 6. Number variants of words abbreviated in a single character

Singular and plural	Braille sign	Braille dots
año años	 	12456 12456–246
bien bienes	 	12 12–1246
grado grados	 	2356 2356–246
le les	 	123 123–1246
número números	 	3456 3456–246

There are other words among those we have seen that also allow a plural form—such as *sí* (*síes*), *no* (*noes*), *jamás* (*jamases*), or *pero* (*peros*)—and which do not appear in this table. In these cases, following the derivation criteria used with the words in the table would have resulted in confusing or ambiguous terms. This, coupled with the infrequent use of these plurals, has made it preferable to follow the general abbreviation rules for contracted braille.

 *jamás*  *jamases* and not 

2.1.4.3. Gender and number peculiarities in words abbreviated to a single character

1. As can be seen in the tables of words abbreviated in a single character (Tables 1, 2, and 3), we find terms that, rather than being derived from one of the existing words, have been assigned their own sign in contracted braille. The most striking case is that of the articles *el*, *la*, *lo*, *las*, and *los* (Table 7).

Table 7. Definite articles

Article	Braille sign	Braille dots
el	⠠⠠	15
la	⠠⠠	3
lo	⠠⠠	36
las	⠠⠠	12346
los	⠠⠠	246

2. On the other hand, in the group headed by *ella* (Table 5) we notice the absence of *él*, a word that is also abbreviated with a different sign not derived from *ella*.

⠠⠠ *ella* ⠠⠠⠠ *ellas* ⠠⠠ *él*

3. *Un*, on the other hand, is formed with a single character, the vowel *u*, but this does not prevent the corresponding number and gender marks from being added.

⠠⠠ *un* ⠠⠠⠠ *unos*

4. To avoid possible confusion with ⠠⠠⠠ (ves), the word *vez* makes the plural irregularly.

⠠⠠ *vez* ⠠⠠⠠ *veces*

5. The only exception to the plural ending is the case of *su*, to which only -s is added, as in uncontracted braille.

⠠⠠ *su* ⠠⠠⠠ *sus*

2.2. Words abbreviated to more than one character

2.2.1. Words abbreviated to two characters

Contracted Spanish braille assigns a two-character abbreviation to 159 commonly used words. Table 8 shows all of them arranged according to their braille character.

Table 8. Words abbreviated to two characters

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠	1–12	absoluto
⠠⠠	1–14	acaso
⠠⠠	1–1234	apenas
⠠⠠	1–356	atrás
⠠⠠	1–136	aunque
⠠⠠	1–3456	acción
⠠⠠	12–245	bajo
⠠⠠	12–2345	bastante
⠠⠠	12–1456	bondad
⠠⠠	12–1345	buen
⠠⠠	12–1	buena
⠠⠠	12–134	buenamente
⠠⠠	12–135	bueno
⠠⠠	12–12346	buenas
⠠⠠	12–246	buenos
⠠⠠	14–234	casi
⠠⠠	14–14	cerca
⠠⠠	14–1245	ciego
⠠⠠	14–2345	cierto
⠠⠠	14–123	cual
⠠⠠	14–12345	cualquier
⠠⠠	14–145	cuando

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠⠠	14-136	cuanto
⠠⠠⠠⠠	14-13456	cuyo
⠠⠠⠠	145-14	decía
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-123	delante
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-134	demás
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-1235	doctor
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-234	desde
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-1234	después
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-356	detrás
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-124	difícil
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-245	dijo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-145	donde
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145-136	durante
⠠⠠⠠⠠	15-124	efecto
⠠⠠⠠⠠	15-245	ejemplo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	124-12356	fácil
⠠⠠⠠⠠	124-1456	facilidad
⠠⠠⠠⠠	124-1236	favor
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1245-1345	general
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1245-145	grande
⠠⠠⠠⠠	125-1235	haber
⠠⠠⠠⠠	125-12	había

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠	125-14	hacia
⠠⠠⠠	125-234	hasta
⠠⠠⠠⠠	125-13456	haya
⠠⠠⠠	125-134	hermano
⠠⠠⠠	125-245	hijo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	125-2345	historia
⠠⠠⠠⠠	125-2456	hombre
⠠⠠⠠	24-1245	igual
⠠⠠⠠⠠	245-1236	joven
⠠⠠⠠⠠	245-2345	junto
⠠⠠⠠	13-1245	algo
⠠⠠⠠	13-1345	algún
⠠⠠⠠⠠	13-1235	alrededor
⠠⠠⠠⠠	123-1245	largo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	123-245	lejos
⠠⠠⠠⠠	123-1256	luego
⠠⠠⠠⠠	123-136	lugar
⠠⠠⠠⠠	134-1	madre
⠠⠠⠠⠠	134-1345	manera
⠠⠠⠠⠠	134-13456	mayor
⠠⠠⠠⠠	134-145	medio
⠠⠠⠠⠠	134-245	mejor

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠⠠	134–234	menos
⠠⠠⠠⠠	134–356	mientras
⠠⠠⠠	134–134	mismo
⠠⠠⠠	134–136	mujer
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1345–1456	nada
⠠⠠⠠	1345–145	nadie
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1345–2345	natural
⠠⠠⠠	1345–1245	ningún
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1345–12456	niño
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1345–1256	nuestro
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1345–1236	nuevo
⠠⠠⠠	1345–14	nunca
⠠⠠⠠⠠	135–3456	ocasión
⠠⠠⠠	135–124	oficio
⠠⠠⠠⠠	135–1234	oportuno
⠠⠠⠠	135–356	otro
⠠⠠⠠	1234–1	padre
⠠⠠⠠	1234–34	país
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1234–12456	pequeño
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1234–1345	persona
⠠⠠⠠	1234–14	poco
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1234–1235	poder

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠	1234-145	podía
⠠⠠	1234-1234	propio
⠠⠠	1234-12345	porque
⠠⠠	1234-2345	pronto
⠠⠠	1234-1256	puede
⠠⠠	12345-1345	quien
⠠⠠	1235-1356	razón
⠠⠠	1235- 123	relación
⠠⠠	234-145	sido
⠠⠠	234-1245	siguiente
⠠⠠	234-1345	sino
⠠⠠	234-12345	siquiera
⠠⠠	234-1235	señor
⠠⠠	234-2345	sitio
⠠⠠	234-123	solo
⠠⠠	234-1234	superior
⠠⠠	234-156	sordo
⠠⠠	234-13456	suyo
⠠⠠	2345-12	también
⠠⠠	2345-2345	tanto
⠠⠠	2345-1235	tener
⠠⠠	2345-1345	tenía

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–1234	tiempo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–1236	todavía
⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–145	todo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–13456	tuyo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	136–145	usted
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1236–14	veces
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1236–1456	verdad
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1236–145	vida
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1236–1256	vuestro
⠠⠠⠠⠠	1346–1235	exterior
⠠⠠⠠⠠	2–245	abajo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	23–123456	braille
⠠⠠⠠⠠	23–1236	breve
⠠⠠⠠⠠	25–134	conmigo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	25–234	consigo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	25–2345	contigo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	25–356	contra
⠠⠠⠠⠠	26–14	encima
⠠⠠⠠⠠	26–2345	entonces
⠠⠠⠠⠠	235–14	principio
⠠⠠⠠⠠	236–1235	hacer
⠠⠠⠠⠠	236–14	hacía

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠	35-124	inferior
⠠⠠	35-134	inmediato
⠠⠠	35-2345	interés
⠠⠠	35-1235	interior
⠠⠠	356-12	trabajo
⠠⠠	356-2345	entretanto
⠠⠠	5-2456	cómo
⠠⠠	5-12345	qué
⠠⠠	23456-123	último
⠠⠠	23456-14	único
⠠⠠	16-1235	arriba
⠠⠠	146-1235	anterior
⠠⠠	146-234	antes
⠠⠠	1456-134	además
⠠⠠	1456-123	adelante
⠠⠠	1246-2345	está
⠠⠠	1246-12	estaba
⠠⠠	1246-145	estado
⠠⠠	1246-1345	están
⠠⠠	1246-1235	estar
⠠⠠	1246-1236	estuvo
⠠⠠	4-125	ahora

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠⠠	4–134	mucho
⠠⠠⠠⠠	45–1345	nosotros
⠠⠠⠠⠠	45–1236	vosotros
⠠⠠⠠⠠	345–234	sus
⠠⠠⠠⠠	3456–234	numeroso

2.2.2. Words abbreviated to three characters

Contracted Spanish braille includes 75 words with a prefixed abbreviation of three braille characters. Of these, 21 correspond to the names of the countries that make up Ibero-America, which are listed separately and further on in Table 10. The remaining 54 appear in Table 9, also sorted by their braille character. For an alphabetical search of these and other terms, see *Appendix C*.

Table 9. Words abbreviated to three characters

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠⠠	1–14–14	acerca
⠠⠠⠠⠠	14–1245–1235	ceguera
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145–12–245	debajo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145–134–145	demasiado
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145–124–14	diferencia
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145–124–2345	diferente
⠠⠠⠠⠠	145–145–12345	dondequiera
⠠⠠⠠⠠	15–124–1236	efectivo
⠠⠠⠠⠠	15–245–1235	ejemplar
⠠⠠⠠⠠	124–1236–12	favorable

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠⠠	125-12-145	habido
⠠⠠⠠	125-2345-14	histórico
⠠⠠⠠	245-1236-2345	juventud
⠠⠠⠠	13-1245-1345	alguien
⠠⠠⠠	134-13456-1235	mayoría
⠠⠠⠠	134-145-2345	mediante
⠠⠠⠠	1345-2345-1356	naturaleza
⠠⠠⠠	1345-14-1235	necesario
⠠⠠⠠	1345-14-1456	necesidad
⠠⠠⠠	1345-1236-1456	novedad
⠠⠠⠠	135-124-123	oficial
⠠⠠⠠	135-124-1345	oficina
⠠⠠⠠	1234-34-234	países
⠠⠠⠠	1235-123-1236	relativo
⠠⠠⠠	1235-1356-12	razonable
⠠⠠⠠	234-14-1245	sordociego
⠠⠠⠠	234-14-1235	sordoceguera
⠠⠠⠠	234-156-1235	sordera
⠠⠠⠠	234-2345-3456	situación
⠠⠠⠠	2345-123-124	teléfono
⠠⠠⠠	2345-1234-14	tampoco
⠠⠠⠠	2345-1234-123	temporal

Braille sign	Braille dots	Word
⠠⠠⠠	2345-1345-145	tenido
⠠⠠⠠	1246-1345-145	estando
⠠⠠⠠	25-25-2345	concreto
⠠⠠⠠	25-145-3456	condición
⠠⠠⠠	25-234-14	consecuencia
⠠⠠⠠	25-234-2345	consecuente
⠠⠠⠠	25-356-1235	contrario
⠠⠠⠠	235-14-123	principal
⠠⠠⠠	26-2345-15	ente
⠠⠠⠠	26-2345-1246	entes
⠠⠠⠠	35-2345-2345	interesante
⠠⠠⠠	356-12-156	trabajador
⠠⠠⠠	356-12-1235	trabajar
⠠⠠⠠	5-14-145	cuándo
⠠⠠⠠	5-14-123	cuál
⠠⠠⠠	5-14-136	cuánto
⠠⠠⠠	5-145-145	dónde
⠠⠠⠠	5-1234-12345	porque
⠠⠠⠠	5-12345-1345	quién
⠠⠠⠠	345-1234-14	importancia
⠠⠠⠠	345-1234-2345	importante

2.2.2.1. Three-character abbreviations for names of Ibero-American countries

The names of Ibero-American countries (Table 10) are formed from current Internet domains preceded by the ⠠ character (456). In these cases, the capital letter is implicit in the three-character character, so it is not necessary to add the capital letter sign neither before the 456 character nor the domain itself. The reason why, in this case, this prefix is used instead of a capital letter prefix is to avoid confusion between the Internet domains and some existing Spanish words or contracted braille abbreviations that may appear in capital letters. This would be the case, for example, with:

⠠	<i>Cual</i>	not <i>Chile</i>
⠠	<i>Cuanto</i>	not <i>Cuba</i>
⠠	<i>Ni</i>	not <i>Nicaragua</i>
⠠	<i>Pronto</i>	not <i>Portugal</i>
⠠	<i>Ve</i>	not <i>Venezuela</i>

Table 10. Three-character abbreviations for Ibero-American countries

Country	Braille sign	Braille dots
Argentina	⠠	456–1–1235
Bolivia	⠠	456–12–135
Brasil	⠠	456–12–1235
Chile	⠠	456–14–123
Colombia	⠠	456–14–135
Costa Rica	⠠	456–14–1235
Cuba	⠠	456–14–136
Ecuador	⠠	456–15–14
El Salvador	⠠	456–234–1236
España	⠠	456–15–234

2.2.3. Terms derived from words abbreviated to more than one character

Many of the words abbreviated to more than one character (Tables 8 and 9) also have their derived terms (*Appendix C*), although in this case, these may have different origins:

- Variations in gender and/or number.
 - Variations in endings in verb forms.
 - Variations adding beginnings, endings, or both.
 - Variations in gender and/or number on variants formed with beginnings, endings, or a combination of both.
1. As a general rule, and following the guidelines already established for words abbreviated to one braille character, words in the list abbreviated to two or more characters will be pluralized by adding the endings *-as*, *-os* and *-es*— ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠, ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ and ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠, respectively—as appropriate, regardless of whether the source word already includes a vowel. The use of the *-s* ending is limited to certain exceptions.
 2. Examples of gender and number variations in words abbreviated to more than one character:

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *algún* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *alguno* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *alguna*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *algunas* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *algunos*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *breve* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *breves*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *absoluto* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *absolutos* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *absoluta*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *absolutas*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *ceguera* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *cegueras*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *mayor* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *mayores*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *concreto* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *concretos*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *concreta* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *concretas*

3. Some of the words abbreviated to two characters are verbal forms in the first or third person singular—*decía, estaba, haya*, etc.—that have formed the second person singular and the third person plural by adding an *-s* and an *-n*, respectively.

Examples:

⠠⠠	<i>decía</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>decías</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>decían</i>
⠠⠠	<i>estaba</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>estabas</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>estaban</i>
⠠⠠	<i>haya</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>hayas</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>hayan</i>

4. We find in the list terms derived as a result of the use of beginnings, endings, and even both. These, in turn, sometimes admit changes in gender and/or number. Without going into details about the use and peculiarities of beginnings and endings—which will be discussed later in *Chapter 3. Tools for abbreviating other words*—they are included here solely to illustrate this system of word derivation.

⠠⠠	<i>anterior</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>anteriores</i>
⠠⠠⠠	<i>anterioridad</i>	⠠⠠⠠⠠	<i>anterioridades</i>
⠠⠠	<i>general</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>generalmente</i>
⠠⠠⠠	<i>exgeneral</i>	⠠⠠⠠⠠	<i>exgenerales</i>

We will only mention the ending *-al* (⠠⠠) here because it is **used exclusively with the already abbreviated words in the list**, and therefore will not be used with any other type of words. This ending takes the value *-l* when the word to which it is added ends in *-a* (see 3.2.3. *Peculiarities about endings*). Examples:






⠠⠠	<i>ocasión</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>ocasional</i>
⠠⠠	<i>persona</i>	⠠⠠⠠	<i>personal</i>

2.2.3.1. *Peculiarities of gender, number, and verbal endings in words abbreviated to two or more characters*

1. The verb form *está* does not make the third person plural by adding an *-n* to the base word in the conventional way:


⠠⠠	<i>está</i>	⠠⠠	<i>están</i>
----	-------------	----	--------------

2. The case of *buen* is another exception, since its variants are formed irregularly by losing the **-n** of the word from which they originate, which is why all its variants appear in the list as terms in their own right and not as words derived from *buen*:

 *buen*
  *buena*
  *bueno*
 *buenas*
  *buenos*

3. There is also a case of irregular plural:

 *país*
  *países*



In this case, to avoid possible confusion with  (**pías*).

4. There are three cases of words whose contracted form end in a vowel, without this preventing them from forming their variants in gender and/or number following the general rule:

 *madre*
  *madres*
 *padre*
  *padres*
 *cuanto*
  *cuanta*
 *cuantos*
  *cuantas*

2.3. Abbreviations taken from the Spanish language

In the case of words on the list that are, in fact, abbreviations specific to Spanish, they follow the plural form used in uncontracted braille. After all, these short forms are copies of the original abbreviation, not contracted terms. Since these are well-known, widely used, and already established abbreviations in the language, it is always preferable to incorporate them rather than create new ad hoc abbreviations, as has been done with the vast majority of the words on the list.

 *ejemplo*
  *ejemplos*
 not


In addition to the previous case, the accepted abbreviations and their variants are:

 *doctor*
  *doctora*
 *doctores*
  *doctoras*

also shows in which cases this braille character is also used to represent a contraction.

Table 11. Beginnings and their correspondence with some contractions

Braille sign	Beginning	Braille dots	Contraction
⠠	com-	36	
⠡	con-	25	cr
⠢	dis-	256	dr
⠣	entre-	356	tr
⠤	ex-	1346	on
⠥	inter-	13456	
⠦	pre-	235	pr
⠧	pro-	1234	
⠨	re-	1235	
⠩	sobre-	23	br

Beginnings cannot be used if they precede a vowel, whether unstressed or stressed. Thus, *re-* ⠨ can be used in *retina* but not in *reactivo*, and *com-* ⠠ can be used in *comparar* but not in *común*:


⠨⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *retina* but not ⠨⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ **reactivo*

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *comparar* but not ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ **común*

This is to prevent, first, the four beginnings represented by a letter of the alphabet—*ex-* ⠤, *inter-* ⠥, *pro-* ⠧ and *re-* ⠨—from appearing before a vowel, which could hinder quick identification of the word when its beginning becomes a pronounceable syllable. Another example:

⠤⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *extraño* but not ⠤⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ **exilio*

On the other hand, in the six cases where there is a coincidence of braille signs between principle and contraction—as shown in Table 11—one can be easily distinguished from the other depending on whether, after the

 *reconquista*

 *sobreinterpretar*

Regarding the rule that **beginnings must precede a consonant**, in the case of concatenated beginnings, only the last one needs to meet this requirement, since the different possible combinations of braille characters that could occur between concatenated beginnings do not give rise to confusion. Example:

 *reinterpretación*

Other examples of concatenated beginnings:

 *disconforme*

 *recompensa*

 *interdisciplinar*

 *preconsular*

 *exconvicto*

 *comprensión*

 *intercontinental*

There is a curious case: the word *recompre*. This word consists of three syllables that coincide with three of the principles in the table, and if we follow the technique of concatenated beginnings to the letter, we might be tempted to abbreviate the entire word in this way:


 **recompre*

Technically, considering *pre* as a beginning, coming as it does at the end of a word, would not make much sense. It is true that, in the case of concatenated beginnings, only the first is, strictly speaking, a «beginning,» but in order to consider those that might follow it as such—for abbreviation purposes—they must, at least, precede something. In this case, the correct transcription would be:



where  represents the contraction *pr*, not the beginning *pre*-.

In *recompremos*, however, since the last «beginning» no longer appears at the end of the word, the three could be concatenated:

 *recompremos*








3.2. Endings

Once we have determined whether or not the initial part of a word can be abbreviated, checking whether its ending matches any of the endings for contracted braille is the next step when abbreviating a term not included in the list of abbreviated words.

Spanish contracted braille includes 18 endings, or combinations of between 2 and 6 letters that are abbreviated to one or two characters and that, according to the Real Academia Española, are most frequently found at the end of words.

There are eight abbreviated endings of a single braille character (Table 12). Some of them match the sign assigned to a word on the list abbreviated to a single character, and even that of a contraction:

Table 12. Single-character endings and their correspondences with some words and contractions

Braille sign	Ending	Braille dots	Word	Contraction
	-ble	12		
	-cia	14	con	
	-bre	23	sobre	br
	-ión	3456	número	ion
	-mente	134	me	
	-que	12345	que	qu
	-te	2345		
	-dad	1456	cada	ad

And ten endings (Table 13) abbreviated to two braille characters:

Table 13. Two-character endings

Braille sign	Ending	Braille dots
⠠⠠	-acción	1–3456
⠠⠤	-ección	15–3456
⠠⠢	-icción	24–3456
⠠⠠⠠	-ucción	136–3456
⠠⠠⠠	-ando	146–145
⠠⠠⠠	-endo	26–145
⠠⠠⠠	-iendo	256–145
⠠⠠⠠	-iento	256–2345
⠠⠠⠠	-mento	134–2345
⠠⠠⠠	-tura	2345–1235

3.2.1. Number markings on endings

All endings allow plural markings. These markings, with a few unavoidable exceptions, do not follow the strict rule for using *-as*, *-os*, and *-es* used with the words in the list. Instead, they follow the plural formation normally used in uncontracted braille with these word endings (Table 14), with some exceptions. This includes the use of the ending *-s*.

Tabla 14. Plural marking on endings

Braille sign	Ending	Plural suffix
⠠	-ble	-s
⠠	-bre	-s
⠠	-cia	-s
⠠	-ión	-es

Braille sign	Ending	Plural suffix
⠠	-mente	-s
⠠	-que	-s
⠠	-te	-s
⠠	-dad	-es
⠠	-acción	-es
⠠	-ección	-es
⠠	-icción	-es
⠠	-ucción	-es
⠠	-ando	-s
⠠	-endo	-s
⠠	-iendo	-s
⠠	-iento	-os
⠠	-ienta	-as
⠠	-iente	-es
⠠	-mento	-os
⠠	-menta	-as
⠠	-tura	-s

Thus, unlike what has been seen until now, an ending like *-ble* ⠠ in *influenciable* will now only have an *-s* added, not the complete ending *-es*, as was done with some variants of the list of already abbreviated words, like *diferenciables*:

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *diferencia**bles***


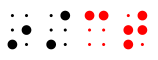
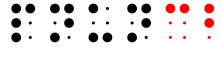

but

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *influncia**bles***


Concatenated endings commonly occur between abbreviated endings of a single braille character (*-blamente*, *-ciable*, etc.), although there are some cases in which endings of both types are combined, such as *-teando* or *-ciatura*.

The mechanics are similar to those of the concatenated beginnings: starting at the end of the word, the ending is abbreviated and set aside; if the end of the resulting word matches one of the endings in the table, it can also be abbreviated with the corresponding braille characters, and so on.

Examples:

	<i>tristemente</i>		<i>pateando</i>
	<i>tembleque</i>		<i>iníciate</i>
	<i>pronunciable</i>		<i>reciamente</i>
	<i>licenciatura</i>		<i>sociable</i>


An example with three concatenated endings:

 *apreciablemente*

As with the concatenated principles, we could say, as a general rule, that **it is not allowed to abbreviate a word solely based on endings**, although it is true that no examples have been found of words in Spanish in which this could occur.

3.2.3. Peculiarities about endings

As mentioned when discussing derivations of words in the list abbreviated to more than one character (see 2.2.3), endings are one of the tools that have been used to derive new terms. However, in addition to differences in the way they form plurals, some endings behave differently when added to one of the words in the list than when used to abbreviate the end of any other type of word.

1. As already noted in section 2.2.3, the ending *-al* (or *-l*), which is formed with the character , is restricted to words in the list abbreviated to more than one character. **We cannot use *-al* as an ending for words outside the list** (hence its absence in the table in section 3.2). Instead,

we will use the contraction *al*, which can easily appear at the end of a word and is represented by the character ⠠⠠. Thus:

⠠⠠ *ocasión* ⠠⠠⠠⠠ *ocasion**al***

but

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *residuo* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *residua**l***

2. The ⠠⠠ character for the ending *-mente* is also equivalent to *-amente* in those words on the list that require it to correctly form the adverb. However, for words not on the list, its value will be only *-mente*.

Examples:

⠠⠠⠠⠠ *contrario* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *contrari**amente***

but

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *sabio* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *sabi**amente***

3. Concatenating the two mentioned endings, we obtain ⠠⠠⠠⠠ for the endings in *-lmente* or *-almente* that appear in some variants of words in the list and ⠠⠠⠠⠠ to shorten the ending *-almente* in the rest of the words. Thus:

⠠⠠⠠⠠ *ocasión* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *ocasiona**lmente***

⠠⠠⠠⠠ *persona* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *persona**lmente***

but





⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *genio* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *genia**lmente***

4. For its part, the ending ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (*-dad*), when forming derivatives of already abbreviated words, has taken the value of *-edad* or *-idad*, depending on the root of the word, when necessary:

⠠⠠⠠⠠ *anterior* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *anterior**idad***

⠠⠠⠠⠠ *breve* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *brev**edad***


However, in the abbreviation of words not included in the list, it will only have the value of *-dad*:

	<i>nulo</i>		<i>nulidad</i>
	<i>ansia</i>		<i>ansiedad</i>

3.3. Sequences





The four sequences included in Spanish contracted braille (Table 15) are based on four words abbreviated to a single character, but with some variations. They are used in words without their own abbreviation as a means of reducing their length, just like beginnings, endings, or contractions. Their selection as such sequences is based on their high frequency of use in the Spanish language.

Sequences, therefore, are represented with the same character they appear with when they are isolated words, but with a few exceptions:

- The sequence *que* used the braille character of the word;
- *esta* uses, in fact, the character assigned to *este*;
- *ante* and *para* add a new prefix ( , 456) to the sign originally used to designate the words from which they come.

Their location in the word is not uniform either: *para* and *esta* can appear in any position, while *ante* and *que* can only be considered sequences if they appear at the beginning or within the word, never in the final position.

Table 15. The sequences and their position in the word

Sequence	Braille sign	Braille dots	Position
ante		456–146	Beginning and medial
para		456–16	In any position
esta		1356	In any position
que		12345	Beginning and medial

3.3.1. The *esta* and *para* sequences

The sequences *esta* and *para* are the most versatile of the four in terms of their possible placement within the word, which can actually be any: at the beginning, within, or at the end of the word.

Although the meaning of ⠠⠠ (1356) as a single-sign word is *este*, it has adopted the meaning of *esta* as a sequence. To be used as such, it must appear before a consonant at the beginning of the word, between consonants when in medial position, and after a consonant at the end of the word:

⠠⠠⠠⠠ *estadio*
 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *condestable*
 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *floresta*

The sequence *para* does not have the same limitations as *esta* regarding the characters that must precede or follow it. It can appear in any position, although it must be preceded by the ⠠⠠ (456) sign when performing this function as a sequence so as not to confuse it with the contraction *ar* (⠠⠠, 16), which will be seen later.

Exmples:

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *paraguas*
 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *imparable*
 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *prepara*

3.3.2. The *ante* and *que* sequences

The sequence *ante* can only be used at the beginning and in the middle of a word. This is because, in final position, according to the rules for creating abbreviations for new words, the use of the ending *-te* preceded by the contraction *an* (⠠⠠, 146), which will be discussed later, takes precedence. As with *para*, it must be preceded by the braille character 456 ⠠⠠ to avoid confusion with the aforementioned contraction.

Examples:

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *anteojos* ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ *panteísmo*

but



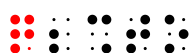
constante



mangante

Finally, the sequence *que* can only be used, like the one above, at the beginning and in the middle of a word. At the end of a word, according to the rules of priority, the ending *-que* must always be used, although both are represented by the same character: ⠠⠠⠠ (12345).

Examples:



quebranto



querida



quedamos



requemar



renquear



lloriquear

but, as an ending



bloque

3.4. Contractions

Unlike beginnings and endings, **contractions are exclusive to words that do not have a predefined abbreviation**, so they have never been used to create variants of the words on the list.

Once beginnings, endings, and sequences have been abbreviated, the remaining unabbreviated letter combinations in the word will be checked to see if they match any of the combinations we call *contractions*.

Braille contractions are, in fact, abbreviations of 25 letter pairs plus a combination of three that can occur in different parts of a word: at the beginning, within, or at the end, although there are certain letter combinations that do not occur in Spanish in certain positions. That is, the contraction *br* ⠠⠠⠠, for example, can be found at the beginning (*brillo*) or within a word (*cobre*), but we will not find words in Spanish with those last two letters at the end, while *es* can appear in any of the three positions (for example, in *establo*, *meseta* and *peces*).

Examples:



brillo



cobre

establo
 meseta
peces

Braille contractions are formed with a single character, and some share this same character with some of the words in the list abbreviated to a single character, as we just saw with *es* . As a mnemonic curiosity, in all cases where this occurs, the contraction is always part of the word in question—for example, the contraction *em* and the word *siempre*, both represented by —and, in some cases, the contraction and the word coincide completely (*al*, *en*, and *es*).

Being single-character braille signs, there are also coincidences with certain beginnings and/or endings. All these peculiarities are shown in Tables 16, 17, and 18 below, and are collected in more detail in *Appendix D*.

Some contractions include a vowel, while others do not. In the first case, that vowel is always unstressed; that is, the contraction *al* in *alabar* is not equivalent to the letter pair *ál* in *álamo* (see 1.4. *Contracted braille and linguistic correctness*):

alabar but not **álamo*
mártires and not

A special case in the formation of contractions is that of *ue* , made up of two unstressed vowels. An even more special case is the unstressed contraction *ion*, which coincides in sign () with the stressed ending *-ión*.

Table 16. Vowel + consonant contractions and their correspondence with words, beginnings, or endings

Contraction	Braille sign	Braille dots	Word	Beginning or ending
ab		2		
ad		1456	cada	-dad
al		13	al	
an		146	ante	

Contraction	Braille sign	Braille dots	Word	Beginning or ending
ar	⠠⠗	16	para	
as	⠠⠎	12346	las	
em	⠠⠎	126	siempre	
en	⠠⠎	26	en	
er	⠠⠗	236		
es	⠠⠎	1246	es	
im	⠠⠎	345		
in	⠠⠎	35	sin	
om	⠠⠎	2456	como	
on	⠠⠎	1346	son	ex-
or	⠠⠗	156		
os	⠠⠎	246	los	

Table 17. Consonant + consonant contractions and correspondence with words, beginnings or endings

Contraction	Braille sign	Braille dots	Word	Beginning or ending
br	⠠⠗	23	sobre	sobre-, -bre
cr	⠠⠗	25		con-
dr	⠠⠗	256		dis-
gr	⠠⠗	2356	grado	
pr	⠠⠗	235		pre-
tr	⠠⠗	356	entre	

Table 18. Other contractions and correspondence with words, beginnings or endings

Contraction	Braille sign	Braille dots	Word	Beginning or ending
ion	⠠⠠⠠	3456	número	-ión
ll	⠠⠠	123456	ella	
qu	⠠⠠	12345	que	-que
ue	⠠⠠	1256	pues	

3.4.1. Contiguous contractions

Sometimes, a letter could form a contraction with both the letter that precedes it and the one that follows it. In these cases, **the contraction will always be formed with the letter that follows it.**

There are seven possible three-letter combinations—relatively frequently used in Spanish—that include this possibility (Table 19). For example, *abr* could be the contraction *ab* ⠠⠠ plus the letter *r* or the letter *a* plus the contraction *br* ⠠⠠. As mentioned, the second of the possible contractions always takes priority over the first. The result is a vowel followed by a contraction instead of a contraction followed by a consonant, which will always aid word identification and, therefore, reading speed.

Table 19. Contiguous contractions

Contiguous contraction	Braille sign	Braille dots
abr [ab/br]	⠠⠠⠠	1–23
adr [ad/dr]	⠠⠠⠠	1–256
all [al/ll]	⠠⠠⠠	1–123456
uem [ue/em]	⠠⠠⠠	136–126
uen [ue/en]	⠠⠠⠠	136–26
uer [ue/er]	⠠⠠⠠	136–236
ues [ue/es]	⠠⠠⠠	136–1246

Examples:

	<i>labrar</i>	not	
	<i>descuadrar</i>	not	
	<i>mallazo</i>	not	
	<i>roguemos</i>	not	
	<i>cuento</i>	not	
	<i>cuerpo</i>	not	
	<i>puesto</i>	not	

3.4.2. Other considerations on the use of contractions

1. As with some of the endings in section 3.2.1 (Table 14), those words that, ending in a contraction, admit variations in number, will form the plural by adding the corresponding ending (-s, -as, -os, -es).

Examples:

	<i>baobabs</i>		<i>telares</i>
	<i>palas</i>		<i>faros</i>

2. In the same word, as many contractions as necessary can be used, even repeated, and even to the point of constituting the entire word, as in *alababan*:

alababan

Even if all of them occupied the lower position of the cell:

	<i>trinen</i>		<i>tren</i>
	<i>drenen</i>		<i>graben</i>
	<i>traben</i>		<i>entren</i>

This peculiarity can also occur with other types of particles when combined with contractions, as in *compre*: beginning *com-* plus contractions *pr* and *en*:

compre

4. Use of dot 5

4.1. As a stress marker

Some of the already abbreviated words may have, in addition to the unstressed form with which they appear in the list (*como, que...*), another stressed form (*cómo, qué...*). When these words—and, where applicable, their accepted variants—must appear accented, they will be preceded by the dot 5 ⠠, as shown in Table 20 below. This dot 5 is not a mere marker, but is, for all intents and purposes, an integral part of the sign.

Exceptions to this rule are the words on the list of abbreviated words (*Appendix C*) *de* ⠠⠠, *se* ⠠⠠ and *te* ⠠⠠, which will be transcribed unabbreviated:

⠠⠠⠠ *dé* ⠠⠠⠠ *sé* ⠠⠠⠠ *té*

The unstressed word *si* ⠠, also listed in *Appendix C*, has its own stressed form: ⠠⠠ (*sí*).

Table 20. Stressed form of certain unstressed words

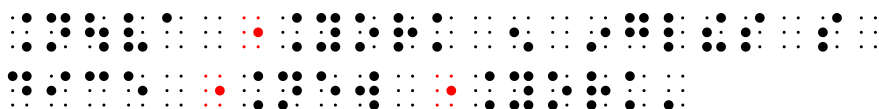
Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Variants
cómo	⠠⠠⠠	5–2456	
cuál	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–14–123	<i>cuáles</i>
cuándo	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–14–145	
cuánto	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–14–136	<i>cuánta, cuántos, cuántas</i>
dónde	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–145–145	
porqué	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–1234–12345	<i>porqués</i>
qué	⠠⠠⠠	5–12345	
quién	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–12345–1345	<i>quiénes</i>

In its 2010 edition, the *Ortografía de la lengua española* eliminated accents in words that, until then, had an unstressed and stressed version,

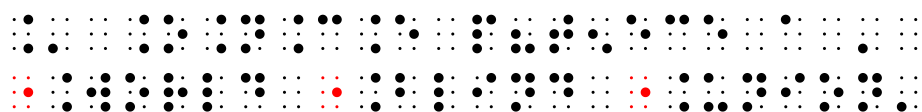
- a. With a dot 5 immediately before each word if the interruption affects an expression of one, two or three terms.

 *Un kilómetro.*

 *Juego al waterpolo.*

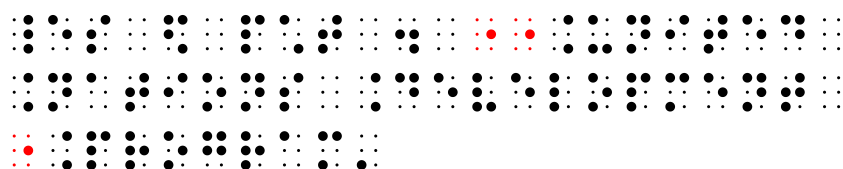


Nueva York en inglés se dice New York.



La ONCE pertenece a la World Blind Union.

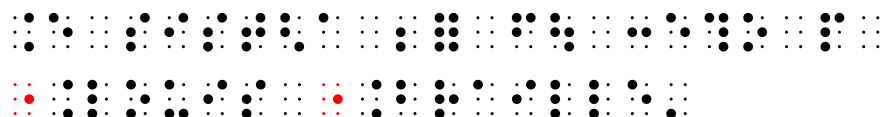
- b. In duplicate before the first word of a group of four or more and once before the last word.



España es parte del United Nations Development Program.

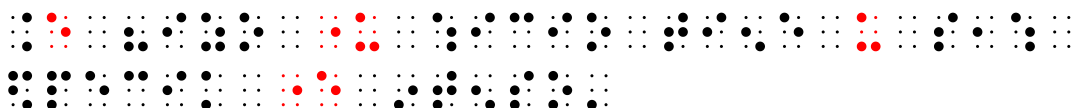
This rule must be followed in all cases, even if the word in another language or other words it affects are or are not susceptible to abbreviation. Examples:

 *show kilo*

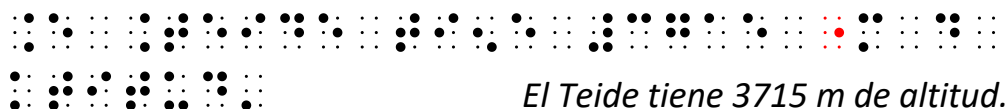


El sistema braille fue creado por Louis Braille.

2. The conjunctions *e* and *u* must be marked with a dot 5 when they are in lowercase to differentiate them from the words abbreviated to a single braille character *el* ⠠ and *un* ⠠, respectively.

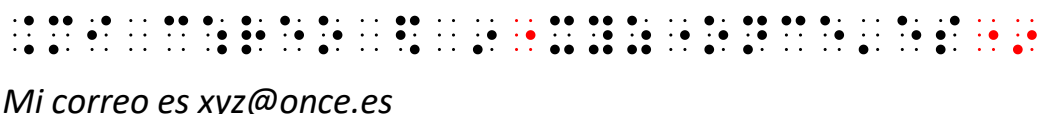


El erizo u oricio tiene un sabor especial e intenso.



El Teide tiene 3715 m de altitud.

4. A dot 5 must be placed before a web address, e-mail address, or any other computer or scientific element where writing accuracy requires its terms not to be abbreviated in any way. They will be considered a single word as they do not contain any spaces between their elements. If they appear as part of a longer text, they must have the mandatory 35 ⠠ signs at the beginning and end of the expression, placing the dot 5 between the opening sign and the e-mail or web address, and the 5-35 ⠨ sign at the end:

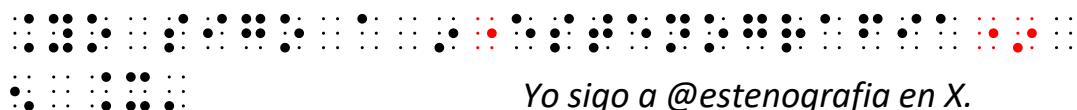


Mi correo es xyz@once.es



https://www.once.es

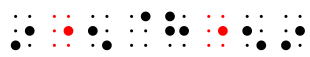
In those cases where the corresponding expression begins with the at sign—as in the usernames of X or Instagram, for example—the dot 5 of the initial at sign also serves to indicate that the text must remain in uncontracted braille.



Yo sigo a @estenografia en X.

4.2.2. As an orthographic and expression signs separator

Certain punctuation marks, typographical changes, or expression signs are expressed in braille with signs—mostly with dots at the bottom half of the cell—that coincide with some of the characters chosen to abbreviate beginnings, endings, or contractions. Some of these are double signs, opening and closing signs (Table 22), and others are single signs (Table 24).



 ¿ahora?
 “¿ahora!?”


but never:

 “¿ahora!?”

There are other signs (Table 24) that appear either preceding or following a term without a separating space and that could lead to confusion due to their coincidence with an orthographic sign in uncontracted braille.

Table 24. Other signs likely to create confusion

Braille sign	Braille dots	Contracted	Uncontracted
	256	beginning <i>dis-</i>	asterisk marking a wrong expression
	23	ending <i>-bre</i>	semicolon


The asterisk, when accompanying an ungrammatical or erroneous term or expression, coincides in sign with the beginning *dis-* , with which it could be confused as this type of asterisk always appears before the word or expression to which it refers. Example:

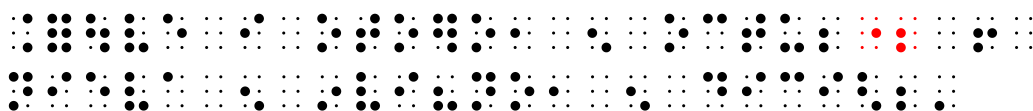


*Quiero más *cocretas, papá.*



*Tiene muchas *distrezas.*

The semicolon, on the other hand, could be interpreted as an ending *-bre*  in certain circumstances. To avoid this potential confusion, if it immediately follows a word ending in *-bre*, the semicolon will be preceded by a dot 5.



Llueve en otoño, en octubre; pero nieva en invierno, en diciembre.

Un paraguas —*umbrella* en inglés—...

Un paraguas —*umbrella* en inglés—...

Me han puesto un sobresaliente. ¡*Cum laude!*

Me han puesto un sobresaliente. ¡*Cum laude!*

- b. If it affects an expression of four or more words, a double dot 5 will be placed between the orthographic or expression signs and the first word and a dot 5 before the last word.

Estoy leyendo el libro *New world braille usage*.

Estoy leyendo el libro *New world braille usage*.

Es «*conditio sine qua non*» para aprobar.

Es «*conditio sine qua non*» para aprobar.

2. In the second case—a word that already includes a dot 5 to indicate that it is the stressed variant of one of the unstressed words in Table 20 preceded by expression or emphasis marks—the appearance of a dot 5 as a stress marker—together with the capital letter prefix, when appropriate—is sufficient to make it unnecessary to mark with another dot 5 the opening signs that may appear:

¡*Qué bien lo he pasado!*

¿*Cómo está tu madre?*

No sé *cuál* es el tuyo.

No sé *cuál* es el tuyo.

Note how the dot 5 appears after the capital letter in the first two examples, as in those cases it is not functioning as a marker or indicator, but rather as part of the abbreviation for the words *Qué*, *Cómo*, and *cuál* used in these examples.

Appendix A. New features added in 2018

As already mentioned in the introduction to this technical document, the changes introduced in 2018 by the CBE, and approved at the Plenary Session on May 18 of that year, sought to make the 1964 text more flexible, expanding some aspects that were only outlined at that time.

For example, the use of prefixes— ⠠⠠ (4–125, *ahora*), ⠠⠠⠠ (4–134, *mucho*), ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (45–1345, *nosotros*) y ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (45–1236, *vosotros*)—and the incorporation of words abbreviated to a single character as sequences of longer ones: the contractions ⠠⠠ (13, *al*), ⠠⠠⠠ (1246, *es*) and ⠠⠠ (26, *en*); the prefixes ⠠⠠ (23, *sobre*) and ⠠⠠⠠ (356, *entre*), and the ending ⠠⠠⠠ (12345, *que*).

Words abbreviated to a single character

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
ha	⠠⠠	125

The change in meaning of ⠠⠠ (*h*), which becomes «ha», whose frequency of occurrence is seven times that of the word «haber», which is the meaning that Montevideo attributed to it. In the 2018 version «haber» is transcribed as ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (*hr*).

Words abbreviated to two or more characters

When incorporating new words written with two or more characters, two main criteria have been established:

1. The creation of letter combinations for the most frequently used words in Spanish, or those related to blindness and disability, especially when they do not already have an abbreviated sign or this occurs very rarely. This is the case, for example, with the words «braille», «país» and its plural «países».
2. Whenever possible, incorporate abbreviations already existing in Spanish, such as «ejemplo» ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (*ej*) and «usted» ⠠⠠⠠⠠ (*ud*). In these cases, the abbreviation will be lowercase and without the period.

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
Argentina	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-1-1235
Bolivia	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-12-135
braille	⠠⠠	23-123456
Brasil	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-12-1235
Chile	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-14-123
Colombia	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-14-135
Costa Rica	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-14-1235
Cuba	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-14-136
Ecuador	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-15-14
El Salvador	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-234-1236
España	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-15-234
Guatemala	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-1245-2345
haber	⠠⠠	125-1235
Honduras	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-125-1345
México	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-134-1346
Nicaragua	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-1345-24
país	⠠⠠	1234-34
países	⠠⠠⠠⠠	1234-34-234
Panamá	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-1234-1
Paraguay	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-1234-13456
Perú	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-1234-15
Portugal	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-1234-2345
República Dominicana	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-145-135

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
Uruguay	⠠⠭⠷⠁⠮⠤⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	456–136–13456
usted	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	136–145
ustedes	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	136–145–234
Venezuela	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	456–1236–15

Beginnings

Beginning	Braille sign	Braille dots
pro-	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	1234

The concept of concatenated beginnings was introduced in the 2018 revision of the code. Thus, Rules 1 and 3, established by Montevideo 1964, were amended.

Endings

Ending	Braille sign	Braille dots
-ble	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	12
-bles	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	12–234
-bre	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	23
-cia	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	14
-cias	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	14–234
-iento	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	256–2345
-ienta	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	256–2345–1
-ientas	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	256–2345–12346
-iente	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	256–2345–15
-ientes	⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎⠠⠎⠽⠷⠁⠎	256–2345–1246

Ending	Braille sign	Braille dots
-ientos	⠠⠠⠠⠠	256–2345–246
-mento	⠠⠠	134–2345
-menta	⠠⠠⠠	134–2345–1
-mentas	⠠⠠⠠⠠	134–2345–12346
-mentos	⠠⠠⠠⠠	134–2345–246
-te	⠠	2345

Sequences

With this name, *Sequences*, the 2018 version gave substance to the phenomenon of using single-character abbreviated words as sequences of longer words, which Montevideo 1964 had already seen. Thus, the words «al» (⠠⠠), «es» (⠠⠠) and «en» (⠠⠠) were incorporated into longer words as contractions; «entre» (⠠⠠) and «sobre» (⠠⠠) were incorporated as beginnings, and «que» (⠠⠠) as an ending.

This function was thus made more explicit with the addition of four sequences:

Sequence	Braille sign	Braille dots
ante	⠠⠠	456–146
para	⠠⠠	456–16
esta	⠠	1356
que	⠠	12345

Contractions

Contraction	Braille sign	Braille dots
ll	⠠	123456

Recovered again, after having been lost due to the changes introduced in uncontracted braille in *Montevideo 87*.

Appendix B. New features added in 2025

The overall new features in this 2025 version compared to the 2018 version are many and varied. In addition to the more didactic nature of the technical document to facilitate learning, numerous practical examples have been included, and all the case studies that could be defined or defined more clearly have been systematized with tables and new explanations.

This section includes only the main changes affecting contracted braille or the use of certain abbreviation elements that had not been considered until 2025.

Words abbreviated to two or more characters

1. The term *ente* and its plural form *entes*, have been added to the list of already abbreviated words. These words were included in the «special cases» section in 2018. This option was preferred to avoid a document with too many exceptions and specific cases. The irregular abbreviation *ente* and its plural are included in the list to avoid possible confusion with *cuando*—a word already included in the list—as the former could be abbreviated using the contraction *en* + the ending *-te*.



ente



entonces

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
ente		26-2345-15
entes		26-2345-1246

2. Other terms that were pending evaluation in 2018 and whose contracted form, as well as their accepted variants, have also been considered useful to establish, as well as irregular terms that were not part of the list, have also been incorporated.

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
buenas		12-12346
buenos		12-246

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
concreto	⠠⠠⠠⠠	25-25-2345
favorable	⠠⠠⠠⠠	124-1236-12
histórico	⠠⠠⠠⠠	125-2345-14
numeroso	⠠⠠⠠	3456-234
oficina	⠠⠠⠠⠠	135-124-1345
razonable	⠠⠠⠠⠠	1235-1356-12

3. Similarly, as proposed in the 2018 revision, abbreviations have been created for words related to the world of visual impairment that have been part of the list since 2025, as well as their derived terms (in italics in the table):

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
ceguera	⠠⠠⠠	14-1245-1235
<i>cegueras</i>	⠠⠠⠠⠠	14-1245-1235-12346
sordera	⠠⠠⠠	234-156-1235
<i>sorderas</i>	⠠⠠⠠⠠	234-156-1235-12346
sordo	⠠⠠	234-156
<i>sorda</i>	⠠⠠⠠	234-156-1
<i>sordos</i>	⠠⠠⠠	234-156-246
<i>sordas</i>	⠠⠠⠠	234-156-12346
<i>sordamente</i>	⠠⠠⠠	234-156-134
sordoceguera	⠠⠠⠠	234-14-1235
<i>sordocegueras</i>	⠠⠠⠠⠠	234-14-1235-12346
sordociego	⠠⠠⠠	234-14-1245

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
<i>sordociega</i>	⠠⠎⠠⠣⠠⠡⠠⠠	234-14-1245-1
<i>sordociegos</i>	⠠⠎⠠⠣⠠⠡⠠⠠⠠	234-14-1245-246
<i>sordociegas</i>	⠠⠎⠠⠣⠠⠡⠠⠠⠠⠠	234-14-1245-12346

4. Following the decision taken by the CBE in 2018 to incorporate, whenever possible, Spanish abbreviations rather than creating new ones, the following are included in 2025, listed here with their derived terms (in italics):

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots
doctor	⠠⠣⠠⠡	145-1235
<i>doctora</i>	⠠⠣⠠⠡⠠	145-1235-1
<i>doctoras</i>	⠠⠣⠠⠡⠠⠠⠠	145-1235-1-234
<i>doctores</i>	⠠⠣⠠⠡⠠⠠⠠	145-1235-15-234
señor	⠠⠎⠠⠠	234-1235
<i>señora</i>	⠠⠎⠠⠠⠠	234-1235-1
<i>señoras</i>	⠠⠎⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	234-1235-1-234
<i>señores</i>	⠠⠎⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	234-1235-15-234
teléfono	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345-123-124
<i>teléfonos</i>	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345-123-124-234

5. The stressed variants of unstressed words that must be preceded by a dot 5, such as *qué*, *cómo*, *quién*, *cuál*, etc., are also part of the list.
6. The change adopted in 2018 regarding the beginning *pro-*, which replaced the character 235 ⠠ with 1234 ⠠, is applied to the words in the list *pronto* and *propio* and to their derived terms.

⠠⠠⠠ *pronto* ⠠⠠⠠ *propio*

7. Finally, the list of already abbreviated words (*Appendix C*) contains the 485 permitted variants for those that allow variations in gender and/or number or that can be combined with certain beginnings and endings. This avoids abbreviation errors with new possible terms that each user might create by considering them acceptable in comparison with other words on the list.

Endings

Two new endings commonly used in Spanish are added.

Ending	Braille sign	Braille dots
-dad	⠠⠠⠠⠠	1456
-tura	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–1235

1. The use of the ending *-tura* was already considered in the meetings prior to the 2018 version, but it was decided not to incorporate it at that time.
2. For its part, the ending *-dad*—with the variants *-edad* and *-idad*, where appropriate, for the formation of variants of already abbreviated words—was somehow already established in Spanish contracted braille in practice, although it had not been cataloged as an ending officially. The list prior to the 2025 revision included terms such as *contrariedad*, *efectividad*, *propiedad*, and *relatividad*, which are now variants of the words *contrario*, *efectivo*, *propio*, and *relativo*, respectively. This has meant eliminating from the list the only four words that had a four-character abbreviation, and others with three characters that are now listed as variants (*anterioridad*, *brevedad*, *generalidad*, etc.).

Those words that, despite having this ending, have been formed irregularly, such as *fácil* and *facilidad*, are kept on the list.

⠠⠠⠠⠠ *fácil* ⠠⠠⠠⠠ *facilidad*

At the same time, by now being considered an established ending, other words on the list have benefited from new variants not previously considered, such as *numerosidad* or *oficialidad*, from *numeroso* and *oficial*, respectively. Finally, the frequency of use of this ending—much higher than that of other pre-existing endings—

allows its transcription to be reduced from two characters (⠠⠠ 145–1456) to one (⠠ 1456) in the large number of Spanish words in which it appears.

Use of dot 5

1. Without expanding any of the classic functions of dot 5, used since the 1964 version of contracted braille, the explanations of its different functionalities have been expanded in order to make its use clearer and more intuitive:
 - As a stress marker for certain already abbreviated words.
 - As an uncontracted braille switch:
 - Marking words or expressions that should remain uncontracted.
 - Separating contracted words or texts from certain punctuation or expressions marks that coincide with abbreviation signs.
 - As a stress marker and separating punctuation marks at the same time.
 - Marking words or expressions that should not be abbreviated and indicating punctuation or expression marks at the same time.
2. In addition, examples of cases not considered until now have been included:
 - Use of dot 5 before webpage URLs, e-mails and other computer or scientific expressions that we can find in non-scientific texts.
 - Use of dot 5 before single letters other than the conjunctions *e* and *u*, already considered, which could be confused with words abbreviated to one character.
3. Other signs are specified which, to avoid confusion, must be accompanied by a dot 5 in certain cases:

Braille sign	Braille dots	Contracted	Uncontracted
⠠	256	beginning <i>dis-</i>	asterisk marking a wrong expression

Braille sign	Braille dots	Contracted	Uncontracted
⠆⠑⠑	23	ending <i>-bre</i>	semicolon

Appendix C. List of already abbreviated words and their accepted variants

This appendix compiles in a single alphabetical table all those Spanish words that already have a prefixed abbreviation and their accepted variants according to the review and validation work carried out in 2025. These variants will be formed with gender and number endings, with certain beginnings and endings, and with a combination of all these elements in accordance with the provisions set forth in the points cited below and taking into account any irregularities mentioned therein:

- 2.1.4. *Terms derived from words abbreviated to a single character.*
- 2.2.3. *Terms derived from words abbreviated to more than one character.*
- 2.3. *Abbreviations taken from the Spanish language.*
- 3.2.1. *Number markings on endings.*
- 3.2.3. *Peculiarities about endings.*

In addition to the tables of terms formed with one, two or three characters collected in this document, this list includes other words previously considered special cases or irregular terms.

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
abajo	⠠⠠⠠	2–245	
absoluto	⠠⠠⠠	1–12	<i>absoluta, absolutas, absolutos, absolutamente</i>
acaso	⠠⠠⠠	1–14	
acción	⠠⠠⠠	1–3456	<i>acciones exacción, exacciones interacción, interacciones, interaccional reacción, reacciones, reaccional</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
acerca	⠠⠠⠠	1-14-14	
adelante	⠠⠠	1456-123	
además	⠠⠠	1456-134	
ahora	⠠⠠	4-125	
al	⠠	13	
algo	⠠⠠	13-1245	
alguien	⠠⠠⠠	13-1245-1345	
algún	⠠⠠	13-1345	<i>alguna, algunas, alguno, algunos</i>
alrededor	⠠⠠	13-1235	<i>alrededores</i>
ante	⠠	146	
anterior	⠠⠠	146-1235	<i>anteriores anteriormente anterioridad, anterioridades</i>
antes	⠠⠠	146-234	
año	⠠	12456	<i>años</i>
apenas	⠠⠠	1-1234	
aquel	⠠	346	<i>aquella, aquellas, aquello, aquellos</i>
Argentina	⠠⠠⠠	456-1-1235	
arriba	⠠⠠	16-1235	
atrás	⠠⠠	1-356	
aunque	⠠⠠	1-136	

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
bajo	⠠⠃⠁⠎	12–245	<i>baja, bajas, bajos</i>
bastante	⠠⠃⠁⠎⠞⠞⠞⠞	12–2345	<i>bastantes</i>
bien	⠠⠃⠢	12	<i>bienes</i>
Bolivia	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	456–12–135	
bondad	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	12–1456	<i>bondades</i>
braille	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	23–123456	<i>brailles</i> <i>prebraille, probaille</i>
Brasil	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	456–12–1235	
breve	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	23–1236	<i>breves</i> <i>brevemente</i> <i>brevedad, brevedades</i>
buen	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	12–1345	
buena	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	12–1	
buenamente	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	12–134	
buenas	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	12–12346	
bueno	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	12–135	
buenos	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	12–246	
cada	⠠⠃⠠⠃	1456	
casi	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	14–234	
ceguera	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	14–1245–1235	<i>cegueras</i>
cerca	⠠⠃⠠⠃	14–14	
Chile	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	456–14–123	
ciego	⠠⠃⠠⠃⠠⠃	14–1245	<i>ciega, ciegas, ciegos</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
			<i>ciegamente</i> <i>prociegos</i>
cierto	⠠⠠⠠	14-2345	<i>cierta, ciertas, ciertos</i> <i>ciertamente</i>
Colombia	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-14-135	
como	⠠⠠	2456	
cómo	⠠⠠⠠	5-2456	
con	⠠	14	
concreto	⠠⠠⠠	25-25-2345	<i>concreta, concretas,</i> <i>concretos</i> <i>concretamente</i>
condición	⠠⠠⠠	25-145-3456	<i>condiciones</i> <i>condicional,</i> <i>condicionales,</i> <i>condicionalmente</i>
conmigo	⠠⠠	25-134	
consecuencia	⠠⠠⠠	25-234-14	<i>consecuencias</i> <i>consecuencial,</i> <i>consecuenciales,</i> <i>consecuencialmente</i>
consecuente	⠠⠠⠠	25-234-2345	<i>consecuentes</i> <i>consecuentemente</i>
consigo	⠠⠠	25-234	
contigo	⠠⠠	25-2345	
contra	⠠⠠	25-356	<i>contras</i>
contrario	⠠⠠⠠	25-356-1235	<i>contraria, contrarias,</i> <i>contrarios</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
			<i>contrariamente</i> <i>contrariedad,</i> <i>contrariedades</i>
Costa Rica	⠠⠨⠠⠗⠢⠠	456–14–1235	
cual	⠠⠠⠠	14–123	<i>cuales</i>
cuál	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–14–123	<i>cuáles</i>
cualquier	⠠⠠⠠	14–12345	<i>cualquiera</i>
cuando	⠠⠠⠠	14–145	
cuándo	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–14–145	
cuanto	⠠⠠⠠	14–136	<i>cuanta, cuantas,</i> <i>cuantos</i>
cuánto	⠠⠠⠠⠠	5–14–136	<i>cuánta, cuántas,</i> <i>cuántos</i>
Cuba	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456–14–136	
cuyo	⠠⠠⠠	14–13456	<i>cuya, cuyas, cuyos</i>
de	⠠⠠	145	
debajo	⠠⠠⠠⠠	145–12–245	
decía	⠠⠠⠠	145–14	<i>decías, decían</i> <i>predecía, predecías,</i> <i>predecían</i>
del	⠠⠠	256	
delante	⠠⠠⠠	145–123	
demás	⠠⠠⠠	145–134	
demasiado	⠠⠠⠠⠠	145–134–145	<i>demasiada,</i> <i>demasiadas,</i> <i>demasiados</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
desde	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–234	
después	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–1234	
detrás	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–356	
diferencia	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–124–14	<i>diferencias</i> <i>diferencial,</i> <i>diferenciales</i> <i>diferencialmente</i> <i>diferenciable,</i> <i>diferenciables</i>
diferente	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–124–2345	<i>diferentes</i> <i>diferentemente</i>
difícil	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–124	<i>difíciles</i> <i>difícilmente</i>
dijo	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–245	<i>predijo</i>
doctor	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–1235	<i>doctora, doctoras</i> [adding -a+s], <i>doctores</i> [adding -e+s]
donde	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–145	
dónde	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	5–145–145	
dondequiera	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–145–12345	
durante	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	145–136	
Ecuador	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	456–15–14	
efectivo	⠠⠑⠠⠔⠠⠑⠠⠔	15–124–1236	<i>efectiva, efectivas,</i> <i>efectivos</i> <i>efectivamente</i> <i>efectividad,</i> <i>efectividades</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
efecto	⠠⠑⠋⠢⠠	15–124	<i>efectos</i>
ejemplar	⠠⠑⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	15–245–1235	<i>ejemplares</i> <i>ejemplarmente</i> <i>ejemplaridad,</i> <i>ejemplaridades</i>
ejemplo	⠠⠑⠠⠠⠠	15–245	<i>ejemplos</i> [adding -s]
el	⠠⠑	15	
él	⠠⠑⠠	2346	
El Salvador	⠠⠑⠠⠠⠠⠠	456–234–1236	
ella	⠠⠑⠠⠠	123456	<i>ellas, ello, ellos</i>
en	⠠⠑	26	
encima	⠠⠑⠠⠠	26–14	
ente	⠠⠑⠠⠠⠠	26–2345–15	
entes	⠠⠑⠠⠠⠠	26–2345–1246	
entonces	⠠⠑⠠⠠	26–2345	
entre	⠠⠑⠠	356	
entretanto	⠠⠑⠠⠠	356–2345	<i>entretantos</i>
es	⠠⠑⠠	1246	
España	⠠⠑⠠⠠⠠	456–15–234	
está	⠠⠑⠠⠠	1246–2345	<i>estás</i>
estaba	⠠⠑⠠⠠	1246–12	<i>estabas, estaban</i>
estado	⠠⠑⠠⠠	1246–145	<i>estados</i>
están	⠠⠑⠠⠠	1246–1345	

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
estando	⠠⠠⠠⠠	1246–1345–145	
estar	⠠⠠	1246–1235	
este	⠠	1356	<i>esta, estas, esto, estos</i>
estuvo	⠠⠠	1246–1236	
exterior	⠠⠠	1346–1235	<i>exteriores exteriormente exterioridad, exterioridades</i>
fácil	⠠⠠	124–12356	<i>fáciles fácilmente</i>
facilidad	⠠⠠	124–1456	<i>facilidades</i>
favor	⠠⠠	124–1236	<i>favores</i>
favorable	⠠⠠⠠	124-1236-12	<i>favorables favorablemente</i>
fue	⠠	124	
general	⠠⠠	1245–1345	<i>generales exgeneral, exgenerales generalmente generalidad, generalidades</i>
grado	⠠	2356	<i>grados pregrado, pregrados</i>
gran	⠠	1245	
grande	⠠⠠	1245–145	<i>grandes grandemente</i>
Guatemala	⠠⠠⠠	456–1245–2345	

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
ha	⠠⠏⠁	125	
haber	⠠⠏⠁⠃⠑	125–1235	
había	⠠⠏⠁⠃⠊⠁	125–12	<i>habías, habían</i>
habido	⠠⠏⠁⠃⠊⠃⠔	125–12–145	
hace	⠠⠏⠁⠎	236	
hacer	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠑	236–1235	
hacia	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠊⠁	125–14	
hacía	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠊⠁	236–14	<i>hacías, hacían rehacía, rehacías, rehacían</i>
hasta	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠞⠁	125–234	
haya	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠁	125–13456	<i>hayas, hayan</i>
hermano	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠏⠁	125–134	<i>hermana, hermanas, hermanos</i>
hijo	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠔	125–245	<i>hija, hijas, hijos</i>
historia	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠞⠊⠁	125–2345	<i>historias historial, historiales historiable, historiables prehistoria, prehistorias</i>
histórico	⠠⠏⠁⠎⠞⠊⠁⠎⠞⠊⠁	125–2345–14	<i>histórica, históricas, históricos históricamente prehistórico, prehistórica,</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
			<i>prehistóricas,</i> <i>prehistóricos</i> <i>prehistóricamente</i>
hombre	⠠⠏⠗⠆	125–2456	<i>hombres</i> <i>prohombre,</i> <i>prohombres</i>
Honduras	⠠⠏⠗⠆⠠⠒⠗⠆	456–125–1345	
igual	⠠⠒⠗⠆	24–1245	<i>iguales</i> <i>igualmente</i> <i>igualdad, igualdades</i>
importancia	⠠⠒⠗⠆⠠⠒⠗⠆	345–1234–14	<i>importancias</i>
importante	⠠⠒⠗⠆⠠⠒⠗⠆	345–1234–2345	<i>importantes</i> <i>importantemente</i>
inferior	⠠⠒⠗⠆	35–124	<i>inferiores</i> <i>inferiormente</i> <i>inferioridad,</i> <i>inferioridades</i>
inmediato	⠠⠒⠗⠆	35–134	<i>inmediata, inmediatas,</i> <i>inmediatos</i> <i>inmediatamente</i>
interés	⠠⠒⠗⠆	35–2345	<i>intereses</i>
interesante	⠠⠒⠗⠆⠠⠒⠗⠆	35–2345–2345	<i>interesantes</i> <i>interesantemente</i>
interior	⠠⠒⠗⠆	35–1235	<i>interiores</i> <i>interiormente</i> <i>interioridad,</i> <i>interioridades</i>
jamás	⠠⠒⠗⠆	245	

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
joven	⠠⠵⠺⠺	245–1236	<i>jóvenes</i>
junto	⠠⠵⠢	245–2345	<i>junta, juntas, juntos juntamente conjunto, conjunta, conjuntas, conjuntos conjuntamente disjunto, disjuntos, disjunta, disjuntas disjuntamente</i>
juventud	⠠⠵⠺⠺⠠⠵⠢	245–1236–2345	<i>juventudes</i>
la	⠠⠺	3	
largo	⠠⠺⠠⠺	123–1245	<i>larga, largas, largos largamente</i>
las	⠠⠺⠠	12346	
le	⠠⠺⠠	123	<i>les</i>
lejos	⠠⠺⠠⠵	123–245	
lo	⠠⠺⠠	36	
los	⠠⠺⠠⠠	246	
luego	⠠⠺⠠⠵	123–1256	
lugar	⠠⠺⠠⠵	123–136	<i>lugares</i>
madre	⠠⠺⠠⠠	134–1	<i>madres</i>
manera	⠠⠺⠠⠵	134–1345	<i>maneras sobremanera</i>
más	⠠⠺⠠	12356	
mayor	⠠⠺⠠⠵	134–13456	<i>mayores</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
			<i>mayormente</i>
mayoría	⠠⠏⠗⠗⠠	134–13456– 1235	<i>mayorías</i>
me	⠠⠑	134	
mediante	⠠⠏⠗⠗⠠	134–145–2345	
medio	⠠⠏⠗	134–145	<i>media, medias, medios</i> <i>promedio, promedios</i> <i>intermedio,</i> <i>intermedios</i> <i>remedio, remedios</i>
mejor	⠠⠏⠗⠗	134–245	<i>mejores</i>
menos	⠠⠏⠗	134–234	
México	⠠⠏⠗⠗⠠	456–134–1346	
mientras	⠠⠏⠗	134–356	
mismo	⠠⠏⠗	134–134	<i>misma, mismas,</i> <i>mismos</i> <i>mismamente</i>
mucho	⠠⠏⠗	4–134	<i>mucha, muchas,</i> <i>muchos</i>
mujer	⠠⠏⠗	134–136	<i>mujeres</i> <i>exmujer, exmujeres</i>
muy	⠠⠑	156	
nada	⠠⠏⠗	1345–1456	
nadie	⠠⠏⠗	1345–145	
natural	⠠⠏⠗	1345–2345	<i>naturales</i> <i>naturalmente</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
			<i>naturalidad,</i> <i>naturalidades</i> <i>connatural,</i> <i>connaturales,</i> <i>connaturalmente,</i> <i>connaturalidad,</i> <i>connaturalidades</i> <i>sobrenatural,</i> <i>sobrenaturales,</i> <i>sobrenaturalmente,</i> <i>sobrenaturalidad,</i> <i>sobrenaturalidades</i>
naturaleza	⠠⠨⠠⠷⠠⠵⠠⠗⠠⠗⠠⠗⠠	1345–2345– 1356	<i>naturalezas</i>
necesario	⠠⠨⠠⠨⠠⠸⠠⠷	1345–14–1235	<i>necesaria, necesarias,</i> <i>necesarios</i> <i>necesariamente</i>
necesidad	⠠⠨⠠⠨⠠⠸⠠⠸	1345–14–1456	<i>necesidades</i>
Nicaragua	⠠⠨⠠⠨⠠⠸⠠⠷⠠⠸⠠⠸	456–1345–24	
ningún	⠠⠨⠠⠨	1345–1245	<i>ninguno, ningunos,</i> <i>ninguna, ningunas</i>
niño	⠠⠨⠠⠨	1345–12456	<i>niña, niñas, niños</i>
no	⠠⠨	1345	
nosotros	⠠⠨⠠⠨	45–1345	<i>nosotras</i>
novedad	⠠⠨⠠⠨⠠⠸⠠⠸	1345–1236– 1456	<i>novedades</i>
nuestro	⠠⠨⠠⠨	1345–1256	<i>nuestra, nuestras,</i> <i>nuestros</i>
nuevo	⠠⠨⠠⠨	1345–1236	<i>nueva, nuevas, nuevos</i> <i>nuevamente</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
número	⠠⠠⠠⠠	3456	<i>números</i> <i>numeral, numerales</i>
numeroso	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	3456-234	<i>numerosa, numerosas,</i> <i>numerosos</i>
nunca	⠠⠠⠠	1345-14	
ocasión	⠠⠠⠠	135-3456	<i>ocasiones</i> <i>ocasional, ocasionales</i> <i>ocasionalmente</i>
oficial	⠠⠠⠠⠠	135-124-123	
oficina	⠠⠠⠠⠠	135-124-1345	<i>oficinas</i>
oficio	⠠⠠⠠	135-124	<i>oficios</i> <i>oficial, oficiales</i> <i>oficialmente</i> <i>oficialidad,</i> <i>oficialidades</i>
oportuno	⠠⠠⠠	135-1234	<i>oportuna, oportunas,</i> <i>oportunos</i> <i>oportunamente</i> <i>oportunidad,</i> <i>oportunidades</i>
otro	⠠⠠⠠	135-356	<i>otra, otras, otros</i>
padre	⠠⠠⠠	1234-1	<i>padres</i> <i>compadre, compadres</i>
país	⠠⠠⠠	1234-34	
países	⠠⠠⠠⠠	1234-34-234	
Panamá	⠠⠠⠠⠠	456-1234-1	
para	⠠⠠	16	

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
Paraguay	⠏⠗⠗⠁⠎⠏⠁⠎	456–1234– 13456	
pequeño	⠏⠑⠘⠑⠏⠑	1234–12456	<i>pequeña, pequeñas, pequeños pequeñamente</i>
pero	⠏⠑⠗⠔	235	
persona	⠏⠑⠗⠎⠁	1234–1345	<i>personas personal, personales, personalmente personalidad, personalidades</i>
Perú	⠏⠑⠗⠗⠁	456–1234–15	
poco	⠏⠔⠘⠔	1234–14	<i>poca, pocas, pocos</i>
poder	⠏⠔⠑⠗	1234–1235	<i>poderes</i>
podía	⠏⠔⠑⠁	1234–145	<i>podías, podían</i>
por	⠏⠔⠗	1234	
porque	⠏⠔⠗⠘⠘	1234–12345	
porqué	⠏⠔⠗⠘⠘⠘	5–1234–12345	<i>porqués</i>
Portugal	⠏⠔⠗⠗⠁⠎	456–1234–2345	
principal	⠏⠔⠗⠑⠗⠑⠗⠑	235–14–123	<i>principales principalmente</i>
principio	⠏⠔⠗⠑⠗	235–14	<i>principios</i>
pronto	⠏⠔⠗⠏⠔	1234–2345	<i>pronta, prontas, prontos prontamente</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
propio	⠏⠗⠏⠏	1234–1234	<i>propia, propias, propios</i> <i>propiamente</i> <i>propiedad,</i> <i>propiedades</i>
puede	⠏⠗⠗⠗	1234–1256	<i>puedes, pueden</i>
pues	⠏⠗	1256	
que	⠏⠗	12345	
qué	⠏⠗⠗	5–12345	
quien	⠏⠗⠗	12345–1345	<i>quienes</i>
quién	⠏⠗⠗⠗	5–12345–1345	<i>quiénes</i>
razón	⠗⠗⠗	1235–1356	<i>razones</i>
razonable	⠗⠗⠗⠗	1235–1356–12	<i>razonables</i> <i>razonablemente</i>
relación	⠗⠗⠗	1235– 123	<i>relaciones</i> <i>relacional,</i> <i>relacionales,</i> <i>relacionalmente</i> <i>interrelación,</i> <i>interrelaciones,</i> <i>interrelacional,</i> <i>interrelacionales,</i> <i>interrelacionalmente</i>
relativo	⠗⠗⠗⠗	1235–123–1236	<i>relativa, relativas,</i> <i>relativos</i> <i>relativamente</i> <i>relatividad,</i> <i>reletividades</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
República Dominicana	⠠⠷⠦⠠⠫⠠⠳⠠⠨⠠⠴⠠⠨⠠⠴⠠⠨⠠⠴⠠⠨	456–145–135	
se	⠠⠎	234	
según	⠠⠎⠠⠒⠠⠒	23456	
señor	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠨	234–1235	<i>señora, señoras</i> [adding -a+s], <i>señores</i> [adding -e+s]
ser	⠠⠎⠠⠑	1235	
si	⠠⠎⠠⠊	24	
sí	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠎	34	
sido	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠳	234–145	
siempre	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠑⠠⠑	126	
siguiente	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠒	234–1245	<i>siguientes</i> <i>consiguiente,</i> <i>consiguientes,</i> <i>consiguientemente</i>
sin	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠨	35	
sino	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠨⠠⠨	234–1345	<i>sinos</i>
siquiera	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠒⠠⠒	234–12345	
sitio	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠒⠠⠒	234–2345	<i>sitios</i>
situación	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠒⠠⠒⠠⠒	234–2345–3456	<i>situaciones</i> <i>situacional,</i> <i>situacionales,</i> <i>situacionalmente</i>
sobre	⠠⠎⠠⠑	23	<i>sobres</i>
solo	⠠⠎⠠⠊⠠⠒	234–123	<i>solá, solas, solos</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
			<i>solamente</i> <i>soledad, soledades</i>
son	⠠⠎⠠⠒	1346	
sordera	⠠⠎⠠⠒⠠⠑⠠⠗⠠⠑⠠⠗⠠⠑	234–156–1235	<i>sorderas</i>
sordo	⠠⠎⠠⠒⠠⠑	234–156	<i>sorda, sordas, sordos</i> <i>sordamente</i>
sordoceguera	⠠⠎⠠⠒⠠⠑⠠⠒⠠⠑⠠⠗⠠⠑	234–14–1235	<i>sordocegueras</i>
sordociego	⠠⠎⠠⠒⠠⠑⠠⠒⠠⠑	234–14–1245	<i>sordociega,</i> <i>sordociegas,</i> <i>sordociegos</i>
su	⠠⠎⠠⠑	345	
superior	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠒⠠⠑⠠⠒	234–1234	<i>superiores</i> <i>superiormente</i> <i>superioridad,</i> <i>superioridades</i>
sus	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠎	345–234	
suyo	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑	234–13456	<i>suya, suyas, suyos</i>
también	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑	2345–12	
tampoco	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑	2345–1234–14	
tanto	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑	2345–2345	<i>tanta, tantas, tantos</i> <i>entretanto,</i> <i>entretantos</i>
te	⠠⠎⠠⠑	2345	
teléfono	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑	2345–123–124	<i>teléfonos</i> [adding -s]
temporal	⠠⠎⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑⠠⠑	2345–1234–123	<i>temporales</i> <i>temporalmente</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
			<i>temporalidad,</i> <i>temporalidades</i>
tener	⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–1235	<i>contener</i> <i>entretener</i> <i>retener</i>
tenía	⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–1345	<i>tenías, tenían</i> <i>contenía, contenías,</i> <i>contenían</i> <i>entretenía,</i> <i>entretenías,</i> <i>entretenían</i> <i>retenía, retenías,</i> <i>retenían</i>
tenido	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–1345–145	<i>tenida, tenidas,</i> <i>tenidos</i> <i>contenida, contenidas,</i> <i>contenido, contenidos,</i> <i>contenidamente</i> <i>entretenida,</i> <i>entretenidas,</i> <i>entretenido,</i> <i>entretenidos,</i> <i>entretenidamente</i> <i>retenida,</i> <i>retenidas, retenido,</i> <i>retenidos,</i> <i>retenidamente</i>
tiempo	⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–1234	<i>tiempos</i> <i>entretiempos,</i> <i>entretiempos</i>
todavía	⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–1236	
todo	⠠⠠⠠⠠	2345–145	<i>toda, todas, todos</i>

Word	Braille sign	Braille dots	Accepted variants
			<i>sobretudo, sobretodos</i>
trabajador	⠠⠠⠠⠠	356-12-156	<i>trabajadora, trabajadoras, trabajadores</i>
trabajar	⠠⠠⠠	356-12-1235	
trabajo	⠠⠠	356-12	<i>trabajos contrabajo, contrabajos</i>
tuyo	⠠⠠	2345-13456	<i>tuya, tuyas, tuyos</i>
último	⠠⠠	23456-123	<i>última, últimas, últimos últimamente</i>
un	⠠	136	<i>una, unas, uno, unos</i>
único	⠠⠠	23456-14	<i>única, únicas, únicos únicamente</i>
Uruguay	⠠⠠⠠	456-136-13456	
usted	⠠⠠	136-145	<i>ustedes [adding -s]</i>
veces	⠠⠠	1236-14	
Venezuela	⠠⠠⠠	456-1236-15	
verdad	⠠⠠	1236-1456	<i>verdades</i>
vez	⠠	1236	
vida	⠠⠠	1236-145	<i>vidas</i>
vosotros	⠠⠠	45-1236	<i>vosotras</i>
vuestro	⠠⠠	1236-1256	<i>vuestra, vuestras, vuestros</i>

Appendix D. Single-character braille signs associated with more than one function

In its effort to reduce the number of braille characters as much as possible, contracted braille makes the most of the use of single characters to abbreviate both complete words and different groups of letters. This has led to nearly half of braille characters having more than one function.

An example is the character ⠨ (23), which, when used alone, represents the word *sobre*; when it appears at the end of a word, it is the ending *-bre*, and when it appears elsewhere within a word, it refers to the contraction *br*. A table is included below showing the different functions of these braille signs when they have been assigned more than one function.

Braille sign	Braille dots	Abbreviation	Function
⠨	12	-ble	Ending
		bien	Single-character word
⠨	14	-cia	Ending
		con	Single-character word
⠨	13	-al	Ending
		al	Single-character word
⠨	134	me	Single-character word
		-mente	Ending
⠨	1234	por	Single-character word
		pro-	Beginning
⠨	12345	qu	Contraction
		que	Single-character word
		-que	Ending

Braille sign	Braille dots	Abbreviation	Function
		que	Sequence
⠠	1235	re-	Beginning
		ser	Single-character word
⠡	2345	-te	Ending
		te	Single-character word
⠢	2456	como	Single-character word
		om	Contraction
⠣	1346	ex-	Beginning
		on	Contraction
		son	Single-character word
⠤	1356	esta	Sequence
		este	Single-character word
⠥	12346	as	Contraction
		las	Single-character word
⠦	123456	ella	Single-character word
		ll	Contraction
⠧	16	ar	Contraction
		para	Single-character word
⠨	126	em	Contraction
		siempre	Single-character word
⠩	146	an	Contraction

Braille sign	Braille dots	Abbreviation	Function
		ante	Single-character word
⠠	1456	ad	Contraction
		-dad	Ending
		cada	Single-character word
⠠	156	muy	Single-character word
		or	Contraction
⠠	1246	es	Single-character word
		es	Contraction
⠠	1256	pues	Single-character word
		ue	Contraction
⠠	246	los	Single-character word
		os	Contraction
⠠	23	br	Contraction
		-bre	Ending
		sobre-	Beginning
		sobre	Single-character word
⠠	25	con-	Beginning
		cr	Contraction
⠠	256	del	Single-character word
		dis-	Beginning
		dr	Contraction

Braille sign	Braille dots	Abbreviation	Function
⠠	26	en	Single-character word
		en	Contraction
⠠	235	pero	Single-character word
		pr	Contraction
		pre-	Beginning
⠠	2356	gr	Contraction
		grado	Single-character word
⠠	236	er	Contraction
		hace	Single-character word
⠠	35	in	Contraction
		sin	Single-character word
⠠	356	entre-	Beginning
		entre	Single-character word
		tr	Contraction
⠠	345	im	Contraction
		su	Single-character word
⠠	3456	ion	Contraction
		-ión	Ending
		número	Single-character word
⠠	36	com-	Beginning
		lo	Single-character word

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