



AKD-010 Rotary Brailleframe Upward Version

Please retain these instructions for future reference.

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General Description

The Rotary Brailleframe is a low cost braille writing frame featuring a paper feeding system. It is designed to produce notes, labels or letters quickly wherever you are, as it is compact, light and portable. The Rotary Brailleframe is capable of producing 32 Cells of braille on brailon/paper/labelling material up to the width of A4 in portrait orientation (210mm x 297mm).

Two styluses are located within the Rotary Brailleframe for simple and safe storage. Braille dots are produced using one of these styluses. Braille is written from right to left, and in reverse as per traditional frame products.

The Rotary Brailleframe uses the Marburg Medium braille cell specification.

Items supplied with the Rotary Brailleframe

- 1 x Rotary Brailleframe
- 2 x Stylus

Orientation

Place the Rotary Brailleframe on a surface, so that the series of ridges runs across the top of the frame from left to right. These ridges need to be closest to you when the frame is correctly orientated. It is recommended that the Rotary

Brailleframe is used on a desk or table, and the rubberised feet underneath should reduce movement.

At each end of the Rotary Brailleframe beyond the ridged area, you will find a feeder knob identified by raised lines running around its circumference. Located in slots just behind each feeder knob is a stylus (AKD-012). The styluses appear to be loose in the slots, but this is a feature designed to enable the styluses to be removed easily, and they should not fall out by mistake.

The series of ridges that run across the frame provide strength and support when writing braille, and guide the user to the feeder knobs. Just behind these ridges, you will find the cell location indicators, which are a row of small, raised triangular shapes that run along the length of the Rotary Brailleframe. The cell location indicators guide the user to the centre of each braille cell.

Behind the cell location indicators is the writing guide. This is where the braille is embossed on to the writing or labelling material. The writing guide is best explored with a stylus, as this provides the best feedback and location information to you.

On the top of the writing guide, at the edge facing away from you, there is a series of indicator pips that advise the user of the cell positions. These are marked at cells 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30. Run your fingers outwards toward the feeder knobs along the writing guide. At each end of the writing guide, you can feel a depression and a slot that runs underneath the writing guide. This is the slot for locating and guiding Dymo tape should you wish to use it with the Rotary Brailleframe. Please see the section titled "Using Dymo Tape" for more information.

Getting started

Place the Rotary Brailleframe in front of you, then position a piece of brailon, paper or labelling material on the flat surface in front of the ridges nearest you, gently pushing it into the Rotary Brailleframe until you feel resistance. Try to ensure that the writing material is as straight as possible. Gently secure the writing material in position with one hand, turning one feeder knob away from you until the material is secured; now use both hands to turn the feeder knobs away from you until the material just overhangs the reading ledge at the back of the Rotary Brailleframe. You may like to roll back one click towards you to make maximum use of the writing material, which is now ready to be written on.

If the writing material fails to feed into the Rotary Brailleframe or you feel some resistance, stop and check that the writing material is correctly aligned. It may require several attempts to feed the paper or other material into the Rotary Brailleframe before you are familiar with the technique.

During the paper feeding process you should feel the feeder knobs start to resist or even stop turning, you may also hear a click at this point as well. This is the line spacing feature of the product. The line spacing feature of the Rotary Brailleframe is designed to move the paper forward or backwards the set distance for close-line braille writing. The distance is around one centimetre from the previous line, and you will need to move up or down by two clicks for double line spacing.

During the paper feeding process, please observe the feeling of the feeder knobs stopping or a click sound being heard. This is an accurate indication that a new line position has been reached. The line space function closely matches the Marburg Medium specification for braille layout, but does depend on other factors, such as the thickness of the material being used and accuracy during the paper feeding process.

If the writing material is a little crooked as it emerges from the back of the Rotary Brailleframe you can realign the paper with a combination of rotating the feeder knobs and pulling gently on one side of the paper. Aligning the writing material will become easier with experience. You are ready to start writing once you can feel that a new line position has been reached and the writing material is emerging beyond the writing guide.

Remove a stylus from the Rotary Brailleframe body by sliding it out sideways and, holding the stylus, locate the cell you wish to start at. Insert the stylus into the cell grid and explore the way in which the stylus latches into the standard braille six-cell pattern. You can feel each dot of the cell as a raised notch or as an indent in the sides of the cell, and these indicate the cell grid.

Once you have familiarised yourself with the grid, you are ready to emboss braille onto the writing material. Use the stylus to create the dots you want by pushing down on it vertically. It is not necessary to use great pressure unless the writing material is very thick, in which case significant pressure may need to be applied with the stylus in order to create a dot accurately. You may hear a slight click or feel a resistance when a dot is formed, and with practice it will become easier to write correctly with the Rotary Brailleframe. Although using the stylus is relatively easy, making good quality dots is very much dependent on the type of material being used in the Rotary Brailleframe. It is important to keep the stylus vertical to ensure it pushes the paper down correctly onto the pins that form each dot.

Once you have finished a line of braille, rotate the feed knobs away from you until you hear or feel a click. The paper has reached a new line position so you can continue writing on the next line.

To check the braille you have created rotate the feed knobs away from you so that you feed the paper through at least two line spaces from the current line space position. Turn over the Rotary Brailleframe so it is upside down. You will feel the rubberised feet located on the left and right side of the Rotary Brailleframe, these

are also used to store the Stylus. Towards the centre of the Rotary Brailleframe is a round shaped object which supports the central part of the product. You should also feel a series of ridges running along the Rotary Brailleframe and the edge of the where the paper emerges from the product. You should be able to feel the paper and the braille just behind the ridge profile. You can now check your work. Please remember the number of line spaces you selected before you turned the Rotary Brailleframe over as this will ensure the accuracy of the braille positioning when you feed the paper back inside the Rotary Brailleframe.

The Rotary Brailleframe will feel stiffer in use when tested without paper. Please avoid turning the feed knobs without paper for long periods as this may damage or wear out some of the internal parts.

Using Dymo Tape

With the Rotary Brailleframe positioned in front of you and without any paper inserted, unroll a length of Dymo tape. Locate the depressions and slot at each end of the writing guide. Position the Dymo tape (sticky side up) at the right side of the reading ledge and slip it underneath the writing guide. The tape should protrude out of the slot at the left end of the writing guide. Once the left end of the tape is positioned correctly, hold this in place while locating the other depression and pushing the tape into this slot. Make sure the tape is actually underneath the writing guide by running your fingers along the guide plate to establish that the tape appears straight and is running correctly. It is possible to feed the tape into both slots at the same time, but this does require some gentle manoeuvring of the tape. Once the tape is fitted correctly, draw it gently to the right until only a small piece is sticking out from the left end of the writing guide, as this will save wastage.

Once the tape is correctly positioned, you can start writing braille on it in the normal way. Please note that some additional pressure may be required with the stylus to produce an accurate dot when using dymo tape. For best results it is recommended that you constantly check that the tape is in position while creating your braille message or label. If you wish to write a long message or several labels on the tape, simply pull the tape along from the right once a line is complete, making sure it is not dislodged from the slot. Once you feel the last character you brailled emerging, you are ready to start writing again, and can continue for as long as you like, or until the reel of dymo tape is used up!

Product features

The Rotary Brailleframe is a compact, low cost, traditional writing braille frame featuring a paper feeding system to quickly produce notes, labels or letters. Small and light enough to carry with you, the Rotary Brailleframe is capable of producing 32 Cells of braille on brailon/self-adhesive labelling sheets/paper up to and including the A4 format (210mm wide).

Technical specification

Maximum Paper size: A4

No of cells horizontally: 32

No of cells Vertically: 1 (with roller feed mechanism)

Material Recommended to be used in the Roller Frame

Plasticised materials, such as Brailon or plastic self-adhesive labels, give the best results. Although paper can be used successfully in the roller frame, some "ghost" or faint dots may be felt when adjacent pins in the base of the writing guide have partially embossed the paper.

Brailon A4 Sheets

Dymo tape

Standard A4 paper with a minimum of 80 g/m² in weight. A heavier paper weight above 80 g/m² is recommended.

A4 plastic self-adhesive labelling sheets (Product Code DL67)

Trouble shooting

Writing material does not feed into product.

Distorted or poor quality paper (Glossy)

Paper is too large for the Rotary Brailleframe

Roller drive rings worn or damaged

Feed slippage or error.

Braille quality is poor.

Ensure enough pressure is used

Ensure stylus is held vertically, not at an angle

Worn stylus - replace with new AKD-012

Worn Braille plate - send product back for repair

Writing material is too thick to emboss

Alignment fault of Guide Plate and Braille Plate - send product back for repair

Braille appears to be mis-aligned or the lines are not straight

Check Paper is straight when feeding into Rotary Brailleframe

Check paper does not have any tears or folds that may prevent proper paper feeding

Prolonged use of the frame may lead to tiredness in the wrist and hand so please take regular breaks when using the Rotary Brailleframe for long periods.

Product Materials

The Rotary Brailleframe has been made with as many recyclable materials as possible. Currently this product **can** be recycled by an appropriate recycling facility.

Product designed and manufactured in the UK

Terms and Conditions of Sale

All goods are guaranteed against faults for 12 months from date of invoice. Faults should be notified to Alan King Design prior to return, who will issue a returns authorisation number (RMA). Please use the following email address for any return enquiries

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Where goods are sold to organisations, who then sell on the goods, the guarantee will commence from the date of original purchase from Alan King Design.

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