

How to Read and Write a Mixed Number

Background

A **mixed number** is composed of a **whole number** and a **fraction**. If you ordered three pizzas for three of your friends, and each person only ate half a pizza, you would have one whole pizza and a half of a pizza left. You could think of this as $1 + \frac{1}{2}$, but it's easier to write this as a mixed number or $1\frac{1}{2}$.

This is read as one and one-half.

In Nemeth Code, mixed numbers begin with the numeric indicator and the whole number. The fractional part of the mixed number is then enclosed within the **mixed number indicators**. Either the horizontal fraction line or the diagonal fraction line is used within the fractional part.

Basic Rules for Writing a Mixed Number

Mixed numbers use the following Nemeth symbols:

- ⠠ (dots 3-4-5-6) numeric indicator to write the whole number
- ⠠⠠ (dots 4-5-6, dots 1-4-5-6) opening mixed number indicator
- ⠠⠠ (dots 3-4) horizontal fraction line
- ⠠⠠⠠ (dots 4-5-6, dots 3-4) diagonal fraction line
- ⠠⠠⠠ (dots 4-5-6, dots 3-4-5-6) closing mixed number indicator

So to write the mixed number $1\frac{1}{2}$ (which has a horizontal fraction line) in Nemeth Code, you would write:

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ or numeric indicator, one, opening mixed number indicator, one, horizontal fraction line, two, closing mixed number indicator.

To write the mixed number $1\frac{1}{2}$ (which has a diagonal fraction line) in Nemeth Code, you would write:

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ or numeric indicator, one, opening mixed number indicator, one, diagonal fraction line, two, closing mixed number indicator.

In the following examples, if the fraction line is horizontal in print, then a horizontal fraction line is used in braille. If the fraction line is diagonal in print, then a diagonal fraction line is used in braille.

Examples

1. $2\frac{3}{4}$ two and three-fourths



2. $37\frac{5}{8}$ thirty-seven and five-eighths



3. $4\frac{9}{10}$ four and nine-tenths



4. $56\frac{3}{7}$ fifty-six and three-sevenths



5. $42\frac{53}{80}$ forty-two and fifty-three eightieths



6. $19\frac{33}{100}$ nineteen and thirty-three hundredths



Activity time: See if you can re-create the six mixed numbers in examples 1 to 6.