

# Basic Braille Short Reference

Version 4.2

Please also review the detailed user manual, which you can find on the StartStick.

Please place the Basic Braille in front of you, facing the Braille cells on the top edge. The hand resting surface is facing in your direction. Above the Braille cells you find for each Braille element an integrated cursor routing key. With this cursor routing keys you can place the cursor directly at the text position of that Braille module.

Left and right beside the Braille display there are three buttons each. The three buttons on the left hand side are described from top to button as [1], [2] and [3]. On the right hand side this three buttons are correspondingly described as [4], [5] and [6].

The Basic Braille without Bluetooth is powered by the USB interface only. The device turns on automatically when the USB interface is connected to a PC which is switched on. The Basic Braille with Bluetooth can be switched on by pressing and holding [4] for about two seconds. To switch the Basic Braille off, press [4] for 5 seconds. We recommend turning the Basic Braille off while it is not in use because this will increase the lifetime of the Braille cells.

On the right-hand side of the Basic Braille you find the USB connector for connecting the USB cable.

## Software Installation

Before you connect the Basic Braille to your computer, you should install the software delivered with the device. To install the required software, plug the included USB memory stick with the inscription StartStick into a free USB port on your PC. The StartStick with the HTStart program is a USB stick that contains all the relevant drivers and documents that you need to operate your Handy Tech Braille display. In addition, it contains the free NVDA screen reader, so that you can operate the PC immediately, even if no screen reader (JAWS or SuperNova) is installed.

After plugging the StartStick into your PC, run the start.exe program from the root directory. If a screen reader is already installed, it is available for use. Otherwise, the supplied screen reader NVDA provides access via speech output and Braille support.

## Connecting the USB Cable

Plug the small oval USB magnetic plug of the supplied USB connection cable into the USB socket on the right side of Basic Braille. Connect the larger flat plug to the USB port of the PC. When the PC is switched on, Basic Braille is automatically recognized by USB-compatible operating systems.

The power supply of Basic Braille is ensured by the USB interface. Basic Braille without Bluetooth switches on automatically as soon as the USB cable is connected, and the PC is switched on. In addition, you can switch Basic Braille on by pressing and holding [4] for about two seconds or switch it off by pressing [4] for about 5 seconds.

## Using USB and Bluetooth at the same time

From firmware version 3, you can use an USB and Bluetooth connection at the same time. If you have connected the Basic Braille for example via USB to your PC or laptop, you can hook on parallel a smart phone or a second PC via Bluetooth.

To switch between these two connections, press dot [2] and [5] together for one second. Please note, that the Bluetooth setting in Config Mode must be “ON” or “AUTO”.

If you choose “AUTO”, the Bluetooth channel will be active for 15 minutes after switching on the Basic Braille. If no connection will be established in this time, the Bluetooth interface will be deactivated in order to save battery live.

## Operation as a Braille Display

Please make sure that your Basic Braille is properly connected and switched on before starting up the screen reader program, because otherwise the screen reader will not be able to detect it. As a rule, the screen reader will display the currently selected position within the active window on the Braille display. For example, if you are moving through a menu, the selected menu item is displayed. The various screen reader program functions are assigned to specific keys on your Basic Braille.

## Braille input with the Basic Braille’s function keys

To use this feature, you need the latest driver of your screen reader for Handy Tech Braille displays. We recommend that you install the driver which can be found on the enclosed StartStick.

Key Basic Braille	Function
1 or 4	Move the Braille display to the left.
3 or 6	Move the Braille display to the right.
2	Go to focus
5	JAWS: JAWS- or PC Cursor NVDA: mouse to object
1 + 2 or 4 + 5	Line up (column wise)
2 + 3 or 5 + 6	Line down (column wise)
1 + 3	Beginning of line
4 + 6	End of line
1 + 4	Page up
3 + 6	Page down
1 + 6	Handy Tech configuration dialog
1 + 2 + 3	Top of file
4 + 5 + 6	End of file
1 + 3 + 5	Braille cursor tracking on/off, default: on
2 + 3 + 4 + 5	Top of window
1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6	Config mode Basic Braille (internal)
Any key	Wake up from sleep mode (falls to sleep after 30 minutes)
2 + 5 (1 second)	Toggle between USB- and Bluetooth-interface (if available)