

What are Braille Blocks?

“Tactile paving” is the official name of braille blocks.

In Okinawa and Japan, tactile paving is constructed in various places such as pedestrian paths, stations, and public facilities. The visually impaired are led in the correct direction by touching it with the bottom of their feet or with a white cane.

There are two types of braille blocks: 1. Linear blocks for leading and 2. Spotted blocks for warning. With these two constructed together, it fulfills its role of leading the visually impaired.

1. Leading (Linear) Block

- Constructed continuously on a path, it informs the visually impaired of their direction of movement.



2. Warning (Spotted) Block

- Constructed in front of areas where changes of direction or stopping is necessary, it urges the visually impaired to be cautious.



■ Examples of Braille Blocks

Braille blocks are constructed in various places such as on streets and inside buildings.

Street/Path



Intersection



Inside a Facility (Near Entrance/Exit)



■ Points of Caution

- Braille blocks are important for the visually impaired.
- As the visually impaired move by checking their location and direction using the braille blocks, if people stand or place objects on the blocks, it blocks the movement of the visually impaired and is very dangerous.

Caution

- ☑ **Do not place objects on the braille blocks!**
(e.g. Carrying cases, handbags, shopping carts, etc.)
- ☑ **Do not stop on and block the braille blocks!**
- ☑ **Give way to the visually impaired when they are utilizing the braille blocks!**



We ask for your cooperation when in Okinawa and Japan!