

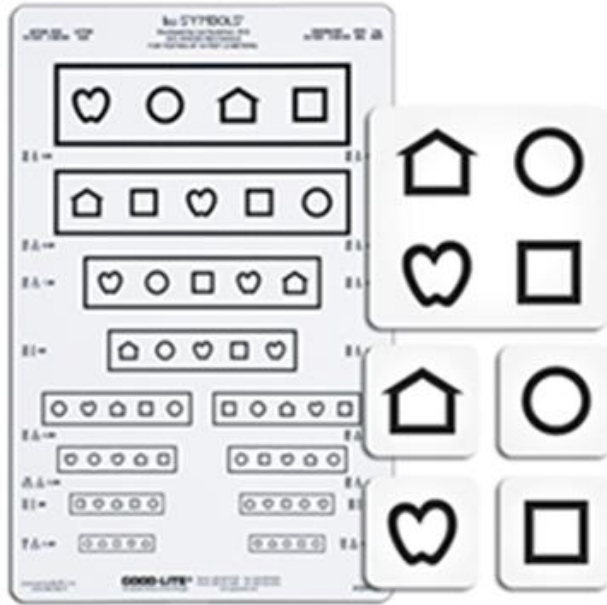
Equipment for Visual Acuity Screening

For 3 through 5 years of age

MDH recommends the 10-foot LEA SYMBOLS® or HOTV chart with 50% spaced rectangle boxes around each line for children ages 3 through 5 years of age.

Wall charts

LEA SYMBOLS® wall chart



HOTV wall chart



Flip Charts

MDH recommends handheld flip charts for screening at 10 feet with 50% spaced rectangle with line sizes from 10/40 (20/80) to 10/8 (20/16) for children who have difficulty with wall charts.

LEA SYMBOLS® MASS Vat Flip chart



HOTV MASS Vat Flip chart



For 6 years and older

MDH recommends the 10 foot Sloan Letters in LogMar sizes for testing at 10 feet for children ages 6 and older. The Snellen chart is no longer recommended.

Sloan letters chart



The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends visual acuity screening at 10 feet for all children.

The appropriate screening distance is noted at the top of the vision chart.



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Age appropriate occluders

Occlusion equipment temporarily obstructs vision in the eye not being screened during vision screening. It is never recommended at any age to use a hand to cover the eye. Kids peek. Peeking can be a factor for children who PASS when they can't see, known as a false negative. The ability of a child to peek is impressive, even with constant vigilance. The following are recommended by MDH:

Ages 3 through 9

Occluder glasses can be purchased online (left) or constructed (right) using wraparound sunglasses with lens popped out and duct tape or large sticker covering the other lens making sure there are no gaps left open.



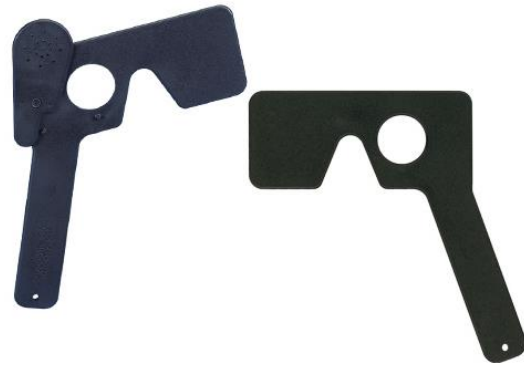
Adhesive temporary occlusion eye patches (left) or 2 inch micro-pore tape (right) can be used for children who will not wear occluder glasses or in cases where other forms of occlusion are not effective. These patches and tape may be purchased online or at medical supply stores.



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Ages 10 and older

Plastic occluders with lips (left) and spectacle occluders (right) can be purchased online.



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Plus Lens (near vision screening)

Ages 5 and older

+2.50 glasses, also known as reading glasses or cheaters are used for near vision screening of children ages 5 and older who have passed their distance visual acuity screening and do not already wear prescription lenses.

+2.50 glasses can be found inexpensively at most drug stores or dollar stores.



For questions regarding vision equipment, please contact:
health.childteencheckups@state.mn.us or 651-201-3760

Obtaining recommended vision charts

The following are examples of companies that supply the recommended vision screening instruments. MDH does not endorse any particular vendor.

[Good-Lite Company](#)

1-800-362-3860

[MacGill Discount School Nurse Supply](#)

1-800-323-2841

[School Health Corporation](#)

1-800-323-1305

[School Nurse Supply, Inc.](#)

1-800-485-2737

References

Committee on Practice and Ambulatory Medicine and Section on Ophthalmology (2003). Policy statement; Eye examination in infants, children, and young adults. *Pediatrics*, 111(4), 902-907.

[Minnesota Department of Health \(2017\). Vision Screening procedures; for Infancy, Childhood, and School Age Children.](#)



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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3760.