



Information about North & South Dialect Auslan used in Auslan Resources

Hi, my name is Susan McConnell, I am a 4th generation Deaf native Auslan user.

I grew up in Victoria, and use South Dialect Auslan.

When making Auslan resources (Auslan illustrations, books, e-books and videos), I began with South Dialect Auslan. North Dialect Auslan is now being added.

I have asked some fluent Auslan users (Deaf, CODA, and Certified Interpreters) in Qld and NSW who use North Dialect Auslan to check with all signs in my e-books, videos and Auslan Kids books. They pointed out which signs had a North Dialect version and gave me the Northern Dialect signs.

Since Auslan has some sign variations due to age, school, region, etc, I double checked their input (and my South Dialect signs) with a number of sources to decide on the most commonly used sign variations in both North and South Dialect Auslan.

If you are a native Auslan user, and you see some signs that needs revising, please contact me to let me know which signs they are. I will double check with them and make changes in future illustrations and videos.

I cherish Auslan and want to see both North Dialect and South Dialect Auslan preserved and enjoyed by all.

Many thanks,

Susan
July 2022

Sources used:

- Native and fluent Auslan users in both North Dialect and South Dialect Auslan
- Auslan Dictionary – *A Dictionary of the Sign Language of the Australian Deaf Community*. 1995. Trevor Johnson. Australian Print Group, Maryborough, Victoria.
- Dictionary of Australia – *English to Auslan With Regional Sign Variations*. 2004. Edited by Brian Bernal and Lyn Wilson. Deaf Children Australia, St Kilda Rd, Melbourne, Victoria.
- Auslan Sign Bank – Trevor Johnson. www.auslan.org.au

