



ASL: 50 States

Presenter: Mary McGovern

STATE

50



Touch the side of an "S" hand to your left palm and then use a small arc to move the "S" hand to the lower part of palm.



Start with a "5" and fade into a "0"

ALASKA



The sign for Alaska starts as an "A" hand at the top of your face and travels in an arc downward along the curve of your face as it changes into either a "flat hand" or a "5" hand shape.

Memory aid: Imagine the fringe on the hood of a parka (coat).

ARIZONA



To do the sign for "Arizona," touch the thumb of your dominant "A" hand to one side and then the other side of the chin. Since I'm right handed I start on the right side of my chin. Note: You don't have to touch the chin. You can just put the hand up close to each side of the chin. Also, I tend to do a slight downward movement on each side of the chin.

CALIFORNIA



The sign for gold starts with a loose index-finger hand shape pointing at the earlobe and then you shake a "Y" hand shape.

COLORADO



Since Colorado has lots of mountains it is understandable how a sign would develop that shows the ups and downs of a mountain. In this version of the sign, you start with a "C" hand shape on your upper arm and you make a couple of arcs as you move down the arm with your "C" hand.

HAWAII



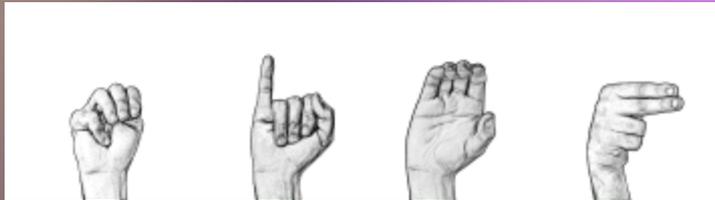
The sign for "Hawaii" is done by drawing a circle around your face with an "H" hand.

Los Angeles



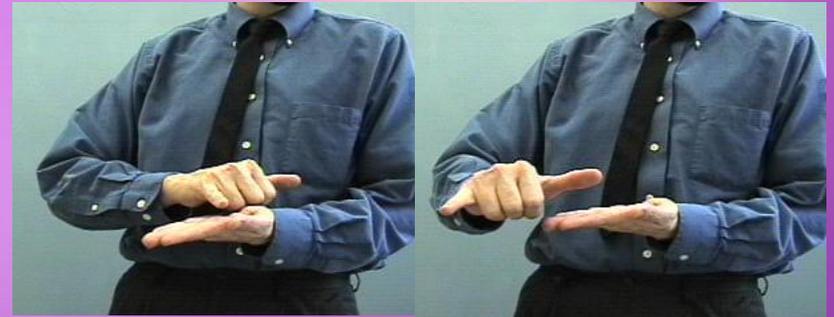
Done by spelling "LA" twice.

MICHIGAN



**To indicate
"Michigan"
fingerspell the
letters M-I-C-H**

NEW YORK



**The sign for "New York" is
to slide a "Y" hand forward
and back on the palm of
the non-dominant hand.**

Oregon



The sign for "Oregon" is an "O" off of the shoulder.

Some people do a small circular movement as they come off the shoulder.

TEXAS



To do the sign for "Texas," do an "X" hand on your dominant hand and move it to the right (if you are right handed, or left if you are left handed) and down. It is sort of like drawing a "7" in the air using an "X" hand.

Washington



Washington: Hold a "W" hand near your right shoulder and bring the hand straight forward.