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# BrailleTouch: Mobile Touchscreen Text Entry for the Visually Impaired



**Figure 1.** BrailleTouch on a smartphone.

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## **Abstract**

We present a demonstration of BrailleTouch, an accessible keyboard for blind users on a touchscreen smartphone (see Figure 1). Based on the standard Perkins Braille, BrailleTouch implements a six-key chorded braille soft keyboard [1]. We will briefly introduce audience members to the braille code, and then allow them to hold the BrailleTouch prototype and enter text, with the aid of a visual chart of the braille alphabet.

## **Author Keywords**

Accessibility; text entry; blindness; mobile devices; touchscreens; multi-touch interaction; chording; gestures.

## **ACM Classification Keywords**

H.5.2. [Information Interfaces and Presentation]: User Interfaces – Input devices and strategies, Voice I/O.  
K.4.2. [Computers and Society]: Social issues – assistive technologies for persons with disabilities.

## **References**

1. Southern, C., Clawson, J., Frey, B., Abowd, G. D., and Romero, M., An Evaluation of BrailleTouch: Mobile Touchscreen Text Entry for the Visually Impaired, in *Proc. MobileHCI '12*, ACM: San Francisco, CA, USA, (2012).

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