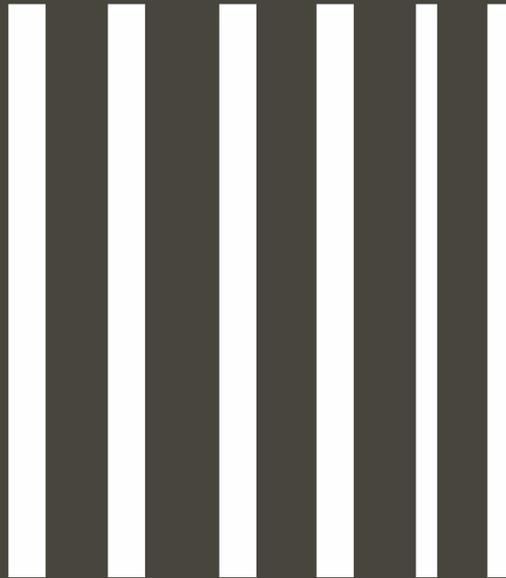
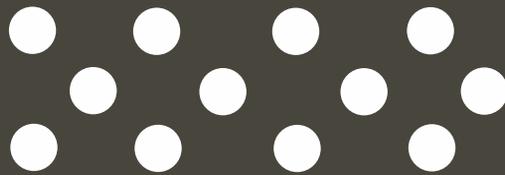


HAPPY VISION
Tactile signage
and wayfinding

Design for all



THE ITALIAN WAY



HAPPY VISION & DESIGN FOR ALL

What is suitable for less-abled people, is suitable for all. Our design concepts cultivate inclusivity.

“Design for use by all” - that is Happy Vision’s mission. Happy Vision’s products are intended to be used by all people, including pregnant mothers, children, or any others of varied mobility. That designation is not limited to locals, but also includes tourists who might be visiting the city for the first time. Happy Vision’s signs and tactile maps are purposed to be utilized by not only your eyes, but also your hands - continuing to cultivate our brands mission of “Design for use by all.”



Map of mobility upon exiting the elevator in Turin, Italy.

A BLIND MAN LEADS HAPPY VISION

Happy Vision was founded in 2001 by the strong motivation of its founder, Federico Zonca, who suffers from retinitis pigmentosa and went blind at the age of thirty. Federico searched for the best technical solutions to solve the problems of his mobility-related disability and proposed them to the market through Happy Vision, collecting the immediate interest of buyers and the trust of institutions and associations over time. Federico is the first user of the solutions provided by his company, Happy Vision, for the autonomous and safe mobility of people with visual impairment in railway stations, metro stations, airports, parks, museums, schools, banks, shopping malls, etc.



Federico in a sailing competition

HAPPY VISION IS MADE IN ITALY

Happy Vision develops products of excellence in line with the great tradition of Italian manufacturing. It only uses the best materials, starting with aluminum that provides contoured grooves of high-precision, and processes them with mastery and without added parts to ensure absolute durability that will stand the test of time.



Historical model in aluminum of the Palazzo della Ragione Padua, Italy

TACTILE SIGNAGE: SIGNS AND MAPS

For people unable to use sight as their primary mode of interpreting their surroundings, tactile maps serve as a tool to provide the ability to “visualize” ones surroundings. Happy Vision’s braille and raised letter signs give a much welcomed relief through simple and comprehensive reading. The tactile map lettering comes built into the plate; this integrity in design ensures absolute durability.

People with limited or diminished eyesight will find ease of use with the signs as well. They are designed with pronounced lettering, strong colors, and feature a sharp contrast between text and background. Happy Vision uses a patented paint composite that has been proven to stand the test of time - never fading.



Map of mobility and information at Genoa Rack Railway, Italy

THE TACTILE MAP CAN BE A MAP OF MOBILITY OR A MAP OF INFORMATION

A Map of Mobility offers a precise scale with detailed information, and also includes a tactile pathway on the ground. It is used by the visually impaired in order to move safely and autonomously. These maps are most commonly used in train stations, subways, airports, bus stops, hospitals, schools, or at the entrance to a park or museum.

An Informative Map provides general information useful in gaining cognitive purpose within an open space. This is the case of the informative map built in Genoa at the Museum of the Sea, or at the Castelletto esplanade where the map represents the gulf and main monuments of the city.



Informative tactile map of the Genoa Gulf at Genoa Spianata Casteletto, Italy

A more specific example of a “map of mobility” would be the Climbing Map. In this instance the tactile pathway is not on the ground, but on the wall. Instead of tactile ground indicators for walking, there would be a tactile climbing path.

Public Toilet Maps are one of the most essential way-finding tools employed by Happy Vision. It gives users clear and safe guidance to the restroom, including toilet location.



Public Toilet Map at Milan Underground



Map of mobility of the Tram of Valli, Bergamo, Italy



Rock climbing tactile map in Placche di BaoneArco, Northern Italy

TACTILE GROUND SURFACE INDICATORS

Information from braille and tactile signs are part of the wayfinding system that provide all people the means to orient themselves. Then, by using ground indicators, direction can be maintained until users reach their intended destination.

Tactile signage is integrated with tactile ground indicators to ensure an effortless and seamless transition by all users. As is true with all Happy Vision products, the tactile paving is very durable.

Its durable and rugged nature give users the grip needed to maintain that all important “visualization” of surroundings.

The distinguished texture and sharp color contrast of the pathways allow those with diminished eyesight the ability to maintain not only a tactile connection, but a visual connection with the pathway as well.

Rubber tactile ground surface indicators at Porta Garibaldi Station in Milan, Italy.



THE ITALIAN WAY

Happy Vision offers a pedestrian navigation code in the form of six varied groove-planes or textures, indicated on the tactile maps, that provide the user with knowledge of upcoming turns, danger, crosswalks, or simply to continue to guide them forward.



Happy Vision’s tactile ground indicators - THE ITALIAN WAY

Happy Vision is capable of building these navigation codes to any relevant international standard.



Most common tactile ground surface indicators “International Standards”

HAPPY VISION AND INTEGRATED DESIGN

All aids are coordinated to provide the visually impaired with autonomous mobility in full comfort and safety.

Only a proper design that combines tactile tools with strong color contrasts (maps, signs, and tactile ground floor indicators) can allow those with visual impairments or who cannot see at all to **move independently and safely**. A tactile map without tactile paving will only provide a “visual” of the surroundings, but does nothing to assist in the act of mobility. Conversely, a tactile ground surface indicator without a map is only useful for those who already know the surroundings. Happy Vision aims to provide visually impaired persons the means to move independently with the same ease as those who are not visually impaired. All of this is credit to **accessibility**. Happy Vision will always take a careful assessment of the natural surroundings, remove obstacles, and add any necessary tools or guides to ensure the most comfortable and shortest pathway possible. These pathways are built intuitively by following the most commonly used walkways - the “natural environment.”

Tactile map and gres tactile ground surface indicators in Lotto Station (line 5), Milan, Italy



GET TO EXPO WITH HAPPY VISION

Over the course of 10 years Happy Vision has created hundreds of projects providing accessibility to the public and the private. Take this year's EXPO in Milan for example - stations along the Railroad Link and all stops along the Metro Line 5 were made accessible by Happy Vision. Air stations in Milan were adjusted and expanded to provide millions of visitors just like Federico accessibility, and all of this thanks to **Happy Vision's wayfinding strategy**. Over 20 million visitors and up to 250,000 people a day traversed the city of Milan and it's Expo by way of Happy Vision's implementations.

HAPPY VISION AND ART

To learn what surrounds you by touch provides not only independent mobility, but also a sense of the surrounding beauty. That could be anything from the informative map of a bay in front of a city, a modeled map of the Nuraghe, an historic citadel, an archaeological park, a church, or an ancient palace. Happy Vision provides those without the means to see not only the ability to understand their surroundings, but also the ability to visualize the beauty that lies around them.



1. Departure from Bergamo



2. Intermodal junction in Milan PG Station



3. Should we take the train or the metro?



4. Arrival at Rho Station, entrance of the Expo



5. Brazilian Pavillon



Tactile map of the Gulf at the MUMA Museum, Genoa, Italy



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