

## “Australian Aborigines Sign Language [asw] (A language of [Australia](#))

- **Location:** Widespread. Southern Australia, central, and west desert regions, coastal Arnhem Land; north coast islands, Torres Strait islands, west side of Cape York peninsula.
- **Language Status:** 6a (Vigorous).
- **Dialects:** None known. May be a collection of several distinct languages; survey needed. Not related to Australian Sign Language [asf].
- **Language Use:** Used by hearing Aborigines as alternate form of communication with speakers of other languages. Other non-deaf sign languages used by some groups, such as Aranda, Warlpiri, Warumungu, during periods of mourning or hunting. Several such alternate sign languages are also used by deaf persons.”

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2015. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Eighteenth edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com>.

### Related Research

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