

# *Seeing Through Touch*

Tactile Flooring For Public Restrooms

# Problem

The blind have a difficult time locating essential items in public restrooms.



# Design Objective

Design a tactile floor pattern to assist the blind in navigating about a public restroom.





*Project Assistant*  
**Svetlana**, a blind student at the University of Oregon helped us understand challenges that the blind encounter in public restrooms.

# *Svetlana's Observations*

- Closely spaced bumps work best
- Bumps should come out further than the actual object.
- Material that reacts well with her cane (Avoid rubber).
- AVOID Tiles stretching out into the walkway.
- AVOID Complicated patterns and unidirectional bumps



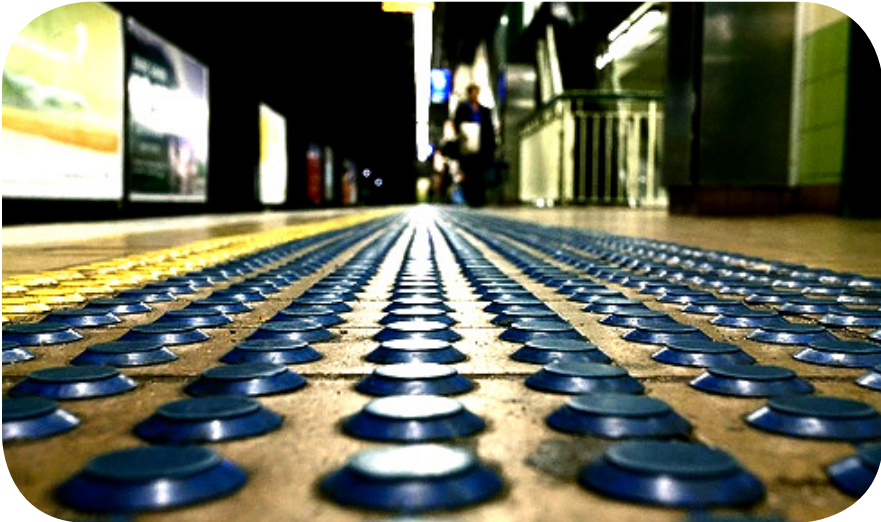
# *Conclusion*

After meeting with Svetlana, our group determined that we should focus on creating a simple tile design that speaks to the language of the restroom.



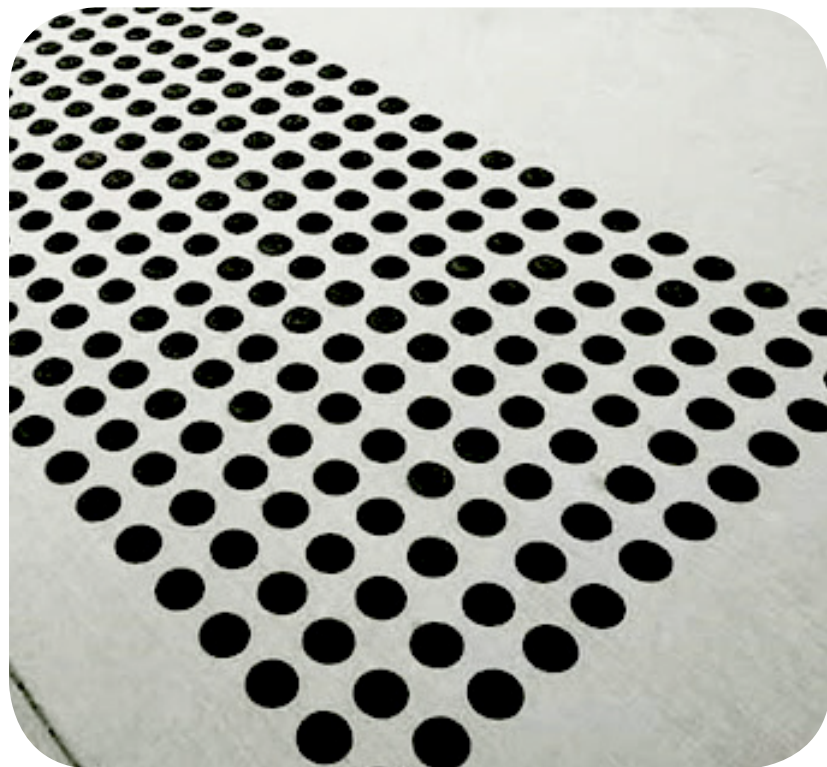
# Precedent Study

- Tactile Flooring has been around since the 1980s. It is textured pavement that is used to indicate or warn a blind person when there is danger, a curb or a bike path.





T  
A  
C  
T  
I  
L  
E  
  
F  
L  
O  
O  
R  
I  
N  
G



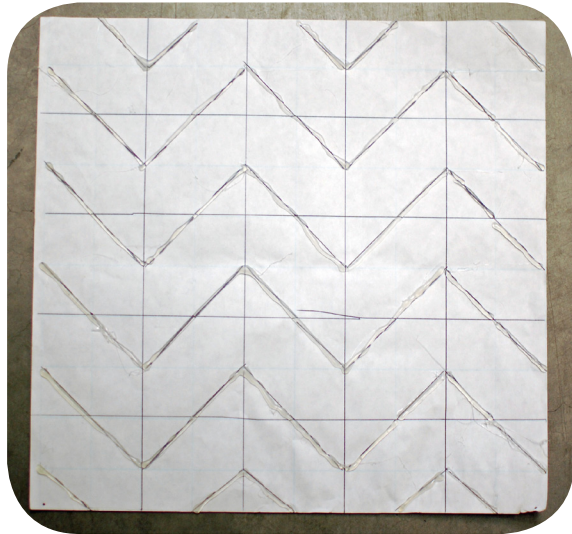
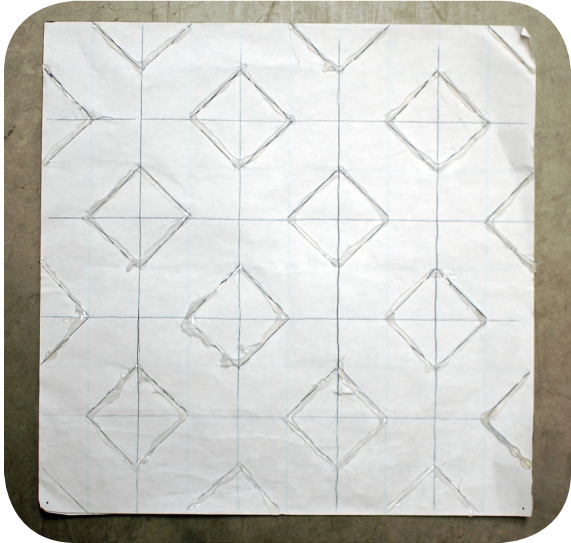




Tactile flooring has already been enforced by the ADA, but until this point no one has thought of creating a tactile design for public restrooms.

# Prototyping

- Paper



# Prototyping

- Clay





# Prototyping

- Glue



# Final Design