

Typing in Ge'ez

The Ge'ez keyboard (📄) provides only the letters used in the Ge'ez languages. It uses a system whereby the Ge'ez sounds are matched to English letters (a style called “phonetic”). You can think of how a word sounds in Ge'ez and then type it out with English.

Example: typing selam becomes ሰላም

Because Ge'ez has more sounds than English we sometimes have to adjust this rule. For example English does not have ‘ ጠ’ and the closest similar letter would be ‘t’. In this case you should type with “capital T”:

Example: typing qTqaTie becomes ቅጥቃጤ

Notice that we needed both “ie” together to make the 5th ‘ ጠ’ letter ‘ ጤ’. When the letter you want to type does not appear when you hit the similar sounding key in English, try using the capital next. If typing the capital does not work, then try hitting the key two times:

Example: typing sselam becomes ሠላም

Example: typing SSeHey becomes ፀሐይ

Next, when you need to type the extra letters of Ge'ez like ሊ, ሢ, ኳ you can do so by typing an extra vowel after a ‘u’:

Example: typing mua becomes ሢጸ

Example: typing guie becomes ኳ

Finally, we must introduce a special rule for ' (apostrophe). Some words are spelt with a ሳድስ (6th) letter followed by a vowel, like ርኤ in ገብርኤል. We use the apostrophe here to type “gebr'iel” to make sure we get “ርኤ” instead of ‘ሬ’.

Example: typing mel'ak becomes ሙልአክ

Example: typing m'eeraf becomes ምዕራፍ

We also use the hash mark for English numbers, so #1 becomes 1 and so on. If a # is needed in your document just type # twice. This works for other punctuation as well, typing ‘;’ once produces ፤’ and a second time gives English ‘;’. The typing table shows how to type all Ge'ez letters, numbers and punctuation.

Ge'ez Typing Table

ቤተሰብ	ግዕዝ	ካዕብ	ሣልስ	ራብዕ	ኃምስ	ሳድስ	ሳብዕ	- ዘመድ ግዕዝ	- ዘመድ ካዕብ	- ዘመድ ሣልስ	- ዘመድ ራብዕ	- ዘመድ ኃምስ
ሆይ	ሀ he	ሁ hu	ሂ hi	ሃ ha	ሄ hie	ህ h	ሆ ho					
ላዊ	ለ le	ሉ lu	ሊ li	ላ la	ሌ lie	ል l	ሎ lo				ሊ lua	
ሐውት	ሐ He	ሑ Hu	ሒ Hi	ሐ Ha	ሔ Hie	ሕ H	ሐ Ho				ሒ Hua	
ማይ	መ me	ሙ mu	ሚ mi	ማ ma	ሜ mie	ም m	ሞ mo				ሚ mua	
ሠውት	ሠ sse	ሡ ssu	ሢ ssi	ሠ ssa	ሢ ssie	ሥ ss	ሦ sso				ሢ ssua	
ርእስ	ረ re	ሩ ru	ሪ ri	ራ ra	ሪ rie	ር r	ሮ ro				ሪ rua	
ሳት	ሰ se	ሱ su	ሲ si	ሰ sa	ሲ sie	ሰ s	ሶ so				ሲ sua	
ቃፍ	ቀ qe	ቁ qu	ቂ qi	ቃ qa	ቄ qie	ቅ q	ቆ qo	ቄ que	ቅ qui	ቅ quu	ቆ qua	ቆ quie
ቤት	በ be	ቡ bu	ቢ bi	ባ ba	ቤ bie	ብ b	ቦ bo				ቢ bua	
ታው	ተ te	ቱ tu	ቲ ti	ታ ta	ቲ tie	ት t	ቶ to				ቲ tua	
ኀረም	ኀ hhe	ኁ hhu	ኂ hhi	ኃ hha	ኄ hhie	ኅ hh	ኆ hho	ኆ hue	ኆ hui	ኆ huu	ኆ hua	ኆ huie
ነሐስ	ነ ne	ኑ nu	ኒ ni	ና na	ኔ nie	ን n	ኖ no				ኒ nua	
አልፍ	አ a	ሁ u	ኢ i	ኣ ea	ኤ ie	እ e	ኦ o					
ካፍ	ከ ke	ኩ ku	ኪ ki	ካ ka	ኬ kie	ክ k	ኮ ko	ኮ kue	ኮ kui	ኮ kuu	ኮ kua	ኮ kuie
ወዌ	ወ we	ዉ wu	ዊ wi	ወ wa	ዊ wie	ወ w	ወ wo					
ዐይን	ዐ A / aaa	ዑ Au / uu	ዒ Ai / ii	ዐ Aa / aa	ዒ Aie / iie	ዐ Ae / ee	ዐ Ao / oo					
ዘይ	ዘ ze	ዘ zu	ዘ zi	ዘ za	ዘ zie	ዘ z	ዘ zo				ዘ zua	
የመነ	የ ye	የ yu	የ yi	የ ya	የ yie	የ y	የ yo					

ድንት	ደ de	ዱ du	ዲ di	ዳ da	ዴ die	ድ d	ዶ do				ዱ dua	
ገጭል	ገ ge	ጉ gu	ጊ gi	ጋ ga	ጌ gie	ግ g	ጎ go	ጐ gue	጑ gui	ጒ guu	ጓ gua	ጔ guie
ጠይት	ጠ Te	ጡ Tu	ጢ Ti	ጣ Ta	ጤ Tie	ጥ T	ጦ To				ጧ Tua	
ጳይት	ጳ Pe	ጴ Pu	ጵ Pi	ጶ Pa	ጷ Pie	ጸ P	ጹ Po				ጺ Pua	
ጸደይ	ጸ Se	ጹ Su	ጺ Si	ጻ Sa	ጼ Sie	ጽ S	ጾ So				ጿ Sua	
ፀጳ	ፀ SSe	ፁ SSu	ፊ SSi	ፋ SSa	ፍ SSie	ፎ SS	ፌ SSo					
ኦፍ	ፈ fe	ፉ fu	ፋ fi	ፊ fa	ፍ fie	ፎ f	ፌ fo				ፎ fua	
ፕሳ	ፕ pe	ፑ pu	ፒ pi	ፓ pa	ፔ pie	ፕ p	ፖ po				ፕ pua	

Special Note

- The keystroke of ‘x’ is added for the ‘ጎ’ family in agreement with classic Ge’ez phonology and modern transliteration conventions.
- The keystroke of ‘D’ is added for the ‘ፀ’ family in agreement with classic Ge’ez phonology.

Typing Punctuation

Ethiopic Punctuation

፡	፡፡	፡-	✱	፡፡	፡፡	፡፡	፡፡	፡፡	፡፡
፡	፡፡	፡-	፡+	፡#	,	„	;	?	?

Latin Punctuation

፡	,	;	?	'	#
፡፡፡፡	,,,	;;	??	'	#

Typing Numbers

Ethiopic Numerals

፩ 1	፪ 2	፫ 3	፬ 4	፭ 5	፮ 6	፯ 7	፰ 8	፱ 9			
፲ 10	፳ 20	፴ 30	፵ 40	፶ 50	፷ 60	፸ 70	፹ 80	፺ 90	፻ 100	፳፻ 1000	፻፻፻ 10000

Numeral composition will continue as 0s are entered up to ፻፻፻፻(100,000,000).

Western Digits

Western numbers may be typed with a '#' mark followed by the desired digit 1-9.

1 #1	2 #2	3 #3	4 #4	5 #5	6 #6	7 #7	8 #8	9 #9
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Typing Zaima Qirts (የዜማቅርጽ፡)

ይዘት	ጎጲር፡ ርክርክ	ርክርክ	ቁርጥ	ደረት	ድፋት	ጭረት	ቅናት	ሒደት	ደረት፡ ሒደት
.	:	:	ኮ	ሀ	ፍ	ጋ	ጋ	—	ፈ
_1	_2	_3	_4	_5	_6	_7	_8	_9	_0

Other Letters

Only the letters used in the Ge'ez language may be typed with this keyboard. To type additional Ethiopic letters used by other languages, please download a keyboard for the language needed or the language-neutral keyboard that supports composition of all Ethiopic symbols found in Unicode 4.1