The Unicode Vai Syllabary Keyboarding System

*by Lorna A. Priest, Non-Roman Script Initiative*

Introduction

This keyboard was developed for keyboarding the Vai Script. It is based on the old custom-encoded keyboard, but it has been updated for Unicode. The majority of the keystrokes remain the same. (One significant difference is that an "x" is used instead of an "r" for the "o" forms.) The keyboard was developed for Keyman 6.0 (or greater) on any keyboard (US, UK, French, etc). For guidelines on who can use Keyman and for downloading and installing keyboards: http://www.tavultesoft.com.

The "SIL Vai Unicode 0.5" keyboard is designed to work with any Unicode Vai font.

For complete instructions on keyboard installation and usage, go to http://scripts.sil.org/KeyboardInstallationAndUse#KM_install. For best results associate the Vai keyboard with a language such as Faroese. To select and use your keyboard click on the language icon for Faroese and if you installed the keyboard properly you will see the icon in your taskbar.

Keyboard Assignments

In the chart below, what is in the keystroke column must be typed first followed by the "vowel" in the top of the corresponding column. For example, type "pe" for ꔡ or "bhq" for ꔬ.

Vai Syllabary

Keystrokes	e	i	a	o	u	x	q
	⟨A500⟩	⟨A524⟩	⟨A549⟩	⟨A571⟩	⟨A595⟩	⟨A5BA⟩	⟨A5E1⟩
	A500	A524	A549	A571	A595	A5BA	A5E1
~							
	A501	A525	A54A	A572	A596	A5BB	A5E2
ng~							
			A54B			A5BC	A5E3
h							
	A502	A526	A54C	A573	A597	A5BD	A5E4
h~							
		A527	A54D		A598	A5BE	A5E5
w							
	A503	A528	A54E	A574	A599	A5BF	A5E6
w~							
	A504	A529	A54F	A575	A59A	A5C0	A5E7
p							
	A505	A52A	A550	A576	A59B	A5C1	A5E8
bh							
	A506	A52B	A551	A577	A59C	A5C2	A5E9
b							
	A507	A52C	A552	A578	A59D	A5C3	A5EA
mb							
	A508	A52D	A553	A579	A59E	A5C4	A5EB
kp							
	A509	A52E	A554	A57A	A59F	A5C5	A5EC
kp~							
			A555				A5ED
mgb							
	A50A	A52F	A556	A57B	A5A0	A5C6	A5EE

Keystrokes	e	i	a	o	u	x	q
gb	⊤	✳	B	⊟	⭱	△	⟋
	A50B	A530	A557	A57C	A5A1	A5C7	A5EF
gb~						△̄	⟋
						A5C8	A5F0
f	⚲	⏝	3	⭺	⚬⚬	8	⊏
	A50C	A531	A558	A57D	A5A2	A5C9	A5F1
v	⚲	⚹	⅗	⭺	⚬⚬	8	⊏
	A50D	A532	A559	A57E	A5A3	A5CA	A5F2
t	⤸	⤸	⋎	⊃⟨	⚲⠆	E	⭤
	A50E	A533	A55A	A57F	A5A4	A5CB	A5F3
th	⤸	⤸	⋎	⊃⟨	⚲⠇	⤸	⭤
	A50F	A534	A55B	A580	A5A5	A5CC	A5F4
d	⥿	⊢∘	⚇	⋔	W	Ḛ	⊠
	A510	A535	A55C	A581	A5A6	A5CD	A5F5
dh	⥿⠆	⊢∘	⚇‖	⋔	·W	⥿	⊠
	A511	A536	A55D	A582	A5A7	A5CE	A5F6
l	⥿	•	‖=	⤻	⊢	6	∴
	A512	A537	A55E	A583	A5A8	A5CF	A5F7
r	⥿	•̰	‖=	⤻	⊢	6	∴
	A513	A538	A55F	A584	A5A9	A5D0	A5F8
dl	77	⋯	⊓	卅	⊢	⚲	⦂
	A514	A539	A560	A585	A5AA	A5D1	A5F9
nd	⤷	⚶	⊓	⤻	⊢	⚲	⦂
	A515	A53A	A561	A586	A5AB	A5D2	A5FA
s	⫴	8⊦	⚭	⫴	7.7	Ⅎ	⭾
	A516	A53B	A562	A587	A5AC	A5D3	A5FB
sh	⫴	8⊦	⚭	⫴	7.7	Ⅎ	⭾
	A517	A53C	A563	A588	A5AD	A5D4	A5FC

Keystrokes	e	i	a	o	u	x	q
z							
	A518	A53D	A564	A589	A5AE	A5D5	A5FD
zh							
	A519	A53E	A565	A58A	A5AF	A5D6	A5FE
c							
	A51A	A53F	A566	A58B	A5B0	A5D7	A5FF
j							
	A51B	A540	A567	A58C	A5B1	A5D8	A600
nj							
	A51C	A541	A568	A58D	A5B2	A5D9	A601
y							
	A51D	A542	A569	A58E	A5B3	A5DA	A602
k							
	A51E	A543	A56A	A58F	A5B4	A5DB	A603
k~							
			A56B				
ng							
	A51F	A544	A56C	A590	A5B5	A5DC	A604
ngg~							
							A605
g							
	A520	A545	A56D	A591	A5B6	A5DD	A606
g~							
							A607
m							
	A521	A546	A56E	A592	A5B7	A5DE	A608
n							
	A522	A547	A56F	A593	A5B8	A5DF	A609

Keystrokes	e	i	a	o	u	x	q
ny	ꔣ	ꕈ	ꕰ	ꖔ	ꖹ	ꗠ	ꘊ
	A523	A548	A570	A594	A5B9	A5E0	A60A

Other

Keystrokes	x
	ꘋ
	A60B

Punctuation

Keystrokes	·	,	?	=	. .	, ,	??	==
	꘎	꘍	꘏	ꘌ	.	,	?	=
	A60E	A60D	A60F	A60C	002E	002C	003F	003D