

Typing in Gurage

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

Example: typing **selam** becomes ሰላም

Because Gurage has more sounds than English we sometimes have to adjust this rule. For example English does not have ‘፪’ and the closest similar letter would be ‘c’. In this case you should type with “Capital C”:

Example: typing **enCerebie** becomes እንጨረቤ

Notice that we needed both “ie” together to make the 5th ‘፱’ letter ‘፲’. When the letter you want to type doesn't 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 followed by a “y”:

Example: typing **yetgyekyere** becomes የትግኘረ

Example: typing **qyes** becomes ቐስ

Next, when you need to type the extra letters of Gurage like ‘ሐ’, ‘ሟ’, ‘ሩ’ you can do so by typing an extra vowel after a ‘u’:

Example: typing **mua** becomes ሟ

Example: typing **pue** becomes ፑ

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 “gebriel” to make sure we get “ርኤ” instead of ‘ራ’.

Example: typing **mel'ak** becomes መልአክ

Example: typing **m'eeraf** becomes ምዕራፍ

If an apostrophe, ' , is needed after a ሳድስ letter in your document, type it twice like:

Example: k'' to produce ክ'

The following typing tables show how to type all Amharic letters, numbers and punctuation.

An Amharic typing practice document can be downloaded from the link below:

<http://keyboards.ethiopic.org/docs/AmharicTypingPractice.docx>

Gurage Typing Table

	ግዕዝ	ካዕብ	ሣልስ	ራብዕ	ኃምስ	ሳድስ	ሳብዕ	ዘመደ ግዕዝ	ዘመደ ሣልስ	ዘመደ ራብዕ	ዘመደ ኃምስ	ዘመደ ሳድስ
h	ሐ he	ሑ hu	ሒ hi	ሓ ha	ሔ hie	ሕ h	ሐ ho	ሔ hue	ሒ hui	ሓ hua	ሔ huie	ሕ huu
hy	ሕ hye	ሑ hyu	ሒ hyi	ሓ hya	ሔ hyie	ሕ hy	ሐ hyo					
l	ለ le	ሉ lu	ሊ li	ላ la	ሌ lie	ል l	ሎ lo					
m	መ me	ሙ mu	ሚ mi	ማ ma	ሜ mie	ም m	ሞ mo	ሙ mue	ሚ mui	ሚ mua	ሜ muie	ም muu
r	ረ re	ሩ ru	ሪ ri	ራ ra	ሪ rie	ር r	ሮ ro					
s	ሰ se	ሱ su	ሲ si	ሳ sa	ሴ sie	ስ s	ሶ so					
x	ሸ xe	ሹ xu	ሺ xi	ሻ xa	ሼ xie	ሽ x	ሾ xo					
q	ቀ qe	ቁ qu	ቂ qi	ቃ qa	ቄ qie	ቅ q	ቆ qo	ቁ que	ቁ qui	ቁ qua	ቁ quie	ቅ quu
qy	ቅ qye	ቁ qyu	ቂ qyi	ቃ qya	ቄ qyie	ቅ qy	ቆ qyo					
b	በ be	ቡ bu	ቢ bi	ባ ba	ቤ bie	ብ b	ቦ bo	ቡ bue	ቢ bui	ቢ bua	ቤ buie	ብ buu
t	ተ te	ቱ tu	ቲ ti	ታ ta	ቲ tie	ት t	ቶ to					
c	ቸ ce	ቹ cu	ቺ ci	ቻ ca	ቼ cie	ች c	ቸ co					
n	ነ ne	ኑ nu	ኒ ni	ና na	ኔ nie	ን n	ኖ no					
N	ኘ Ne	ኙ Nu	ኚ Ni	ኝ Na	ኞ Nie	ኝ N	ኞ No					
e	ኦ ee	ኡ u	ኢ i	ኣ a	ኤ ie	እ e	ኦ o					
k	ከ ke	ኩ ku	ኪ ki	ካ ka	ኬ kie	ክ k	ኮ ko	ከ kue	ኪ kui	ካ kua	ኬ kuie	ክ kuu
ky	ኸ kye	ኹ kyu	ኺ kyi	ኻ kya	ኼ kyie	ኸ ky	ኹ kyo					
w	ወ we	ዡ wu	ዊ wi	ዋ wa	ዌ wie	ው w	ዎ wo					
E	ዐ Ee	ዑ U	ዒ I	ዓ A	ዔ Ie	ዕ E	ዖ O					
z	ዘ ze	ዙ zu	ዚ zi	ዛ za	ዜ zie	ዝ z	ዞ zo					

	ግዕዝ	ካዕብ	ሣልስ	ራብዕ	ኃምስ	ሳድስ	ሳብዕ	ዘመደ ግዕዝ	ዘመደ ሣልስ	ዘመደ ራብዕ	ዘመደ ኃምስ	ዘመደ ሳድስ
Z	ዝ Ze	ዞ Zu	ዛ Zi	ወ Za	ዘ Zie	ኝ Z	ዠ Zo					
y	የ ye	ዩ yu	ዪ yi	ያ ya	ይ yie	ይ y	ዮ yo					
d	ደ de	ዱ du	ዲ di	ዳ da	ዴ die	ድ d	ዶ do					
j	ጀ je	ጁ ju	ጂ ji	ጃ ja	ጄ jie	ጅ j	ጆ jo					
g	ገ ge	ጉ gu	ጊ gi	ጋ ga	ጌ gie	ግ g	ጎ go	ጐ gue	጑ gui	ጒ gua	ጓ guie	ጔ guu
gy	ኀ gye	ኁ gyu	ኂ gyi	ኃ gya	ኄ gyie	ኅ gy	ኆ gyo					
T	ጠ Te	ጡ Tu	ጢ Ti	ጣ Ta	ጤ Tie	ጥ T	ጦ To					
C	ጨ Ce	ጨ Cu	ጨ Ci	ጨ Ca	ጨ Cie	ጨ C	ጨ Co					
f	ፈ fe	ፉ fu	ፊ fi	ፋ fa	ፌ fie	ፍ f	ፎ fo	ፎ fue	ፎ fui	ፉ fua	ፉ fuie	ፍ fuu
p	ፐ pe	ፑ pu	ፒ pi	ፓ pa	ፔ pie	ፕ p	ፖ po	ፑ pue	ፑ pui	ፓ pua	ፑ puie	ፑ puu

Typing Punctuation

Ethiopic Punctuation

፡	፡፡	፡	፡	፡-	፡	፡×	፡፡
:	::	,	;	:-	,,	:+	:#

፪	፫	፬	፭
<	>	<<	>>

Keyboard Punctuation

All regular punctuation on your keyboard remains available. Most punctuation can be typed with a single keystroke as usual. Those used to input Ethiopic symbols can be entered by hitting the punctuation key two or more times until it appears.

Typing Numbers

The hash mark is used Ge'ez numbers, so #1 becomes ፩ and so on. When a '#' is needed before a number in your document, just type # twice.

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	፴፻ #10000

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