Typing in Tigrinya (Eritrean Conventions)

The Tigrinya keyboard (ተ) provides *only* the letters used in modern Eritrean Tigrinya.

It uses a system whereby the Tigrinya sounds are matched to the English letters (a style called "phonetic"). You can think of how a word sounds in Tigrinya and then type it out with English.

      Example: typing **selamat** becomes ሰላማት

Because Tigrinya has more sounds than English does, we sometimes have to adjust this rule. For example English does not have 'ጸ' or 'ቐ' and the closest similar letters would be 's' and 'q' respectively. In this case you should type with "capital S" and "capital Q":

      Example: typing **SbuQ** becomes ጽቡቐ

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 **aarbi** becomes ዓርቢ

Next, when you need to type the extra letters of Tigrinya like ሏ፡ ሟ፡ ኧ you can do so by typing an extra vowel after a 'u':

      Example: typing **mua** becomes ሟ
      Example: typing **guie** becomes ጔ

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 **wag'u** becomes ዋግኡ
      Example: typing **T'uum** becomes ጥዑም

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

Tigrinya Typing Table

ቤተሰብ	ግዕዝ	ካዕብ	ሣልስ	ራብዕ	ኃምስ	ሳድስ	ሳብዕ	ዘመደ-ግዕዝ	ዘመደ-ካዕብ	ዘመደ-ሣልስ	ዘመደ-ራብዕ	ዘመደ-ኃምስ
ሀይ	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				ሏ lua	
ሐውት	ሐ He	ሑ Hu	ሒ Hi	ሓ Ha	ሔ Hie	ሕ H	ሖ Ho				ሗ Hua	
ማይ	መ me	ሙ mu	ሚ mi	ማ ma	ሜ mie	ም m	ሞ mo				ሟ mua	
ርእስ	ረ re	ሩ ru	ሪ ri	ራ ra	ሬ rie	ር r	ሮ ro				ሯ rua	
ሳት	ሰ se	ሱ su	ሲ si	ሳ sa	ሴ sie	ስ s	ሶ so				ሷ sua	
ሻ-ሳት	ሸ xe	ሹ xu	ሺ xi	ሻ xa	ሼ xie	ሽ x	ሾ xo				ሿ xua	
ቃፍ	ቀ qe	ቁ qu	ቂ qi	ቃ qa	ቄ qie	ቅ q	ቆ qo	ቈ que	ቍ quu	ቍ qui	ቋ qua	ቌ quie
ቓ-ቃፍ	ቖ Qe	ቚ Qu	ቒ Qi	ቓ Qa	ቔ Qie	ቕ Q	ቖ Qo	ቘ Que	ቝ Quu	ቝ Qui	ቛ Qua	ቜ Quie
ቤት	በ be	ቡ bu	ቢ bi	ባ ba	ቤ bie	ብ b	ቦ bo				ቧ bua	
ቬ-ቤት	ቨ ve	ቩ vu	ቪ vi	ቫ va	ቬ vie	ቭ v	ቮ vo				ቯ vua	
ታው	ተ te	ቱ tu	ቲ ti	ታ ta	ቴ tie	ት t	ቶ to				ቷ tua	
ቻ-ታው	ቸ ce	ቹ cu	ቺ ci	ቻ ca	ቼ cie	ች c	ቾ co				ቿ cua	
ነሐስ	ነ ne	ኑ nu	ኒ ni	ና na	ኔ nie	ን n	ኖ no				ኗ nua	
ኛ-ነሐስ	ኘ Ne	ኙ Nu	ኚ Ni	ኛ Na	ኜ Nie	ኝ N	ኞ No				ኟ Nua	
አልፍ	አ aa	ኡ u	ኢ i	አ a	ኤ ie	እ e	ኦ o					
ካፍ	ከ ke	ኩ ku	ኪ ki	ካ ka	ኬ kie	ክ k	ኮ ko	ኰ kue	ኵ kuu	ኵ kui	ኳ kua	ኴ kuie
ኻ-ካፍ	ኸ Ke	ኹ Ku	ኺ Ki	ኻ Ka	ኼ Kie	ኽ K	ኾ Ko	ዀ Kue	ዅ Kuu	ዅ Kui	ዃ Kua	ዄ Kuie
ወዌ	ወ we	ዉ wu	ዊ wi	ዋ wa	ዌ wie	ው w	ዎ wo					

	ዐ A	ዑ Au / U	ዒ Ai / I	ዓ Aa	ዔ Aie / Ie	ዕ Ae / E	ዖ Ao / O					
ዐይን												
ዘይ	ዘ ze	ዙ zu	ዚ zi	ዛ za	ዜ zie	ዝ z	ዞ zo				ዟ zua	
ዠ-ዘይ	ዠ Ze	ዡ Zu	ዢ Zi	ዣ Za	ዤ Zie	ዥ Z	ዦ Zo				ዧ Zua	
የመነ	የ ye	ዩ yu	ዪ yi	ያ ya	ዬ yie	ይ y	ዮ yo					
ድንት	ደ de	ዱ du	ዲ di	ዳ da	ዴ die	ድ d	ዶ do				ዷ dua	
ጅ-ድንት	ጀ je	ጁ ju	ጂ ji	ጃ ja	ጄ jie	ጅ j	ጆ jo				ጇ jua	
ገምል	ገ ge	ጉ gu	ጊ gi	ጋ ga	ጌ gie	ግ g	ጎ go	ጐ gue	ጒ guu	ጒ gui	ጓ gua	ጔ guie
ጠይት	ጠ Te	ጡ Tu	ጢ Ti	ጣ Ta	ጤ Tie	ጥ T	ጦ To				ጧ Tua	
ጭ-ጠይት	ጨ Ce	ጩ Cu	ጪ Ci	ጫ Ca	ጬ Cie	ጭ C	ጮ Co				ጯ Cua	
ጰይት	ጸ Pe	ጱ Pu	ጲ Pi	ጳ Pa	ጴ Pie	ጵ P	ጶ Po				ጷ Pua	
ጸደይ	ጸ Se	ጹ Su	ጺ Si	ጻ Sa	ጼ Sie	ጽ S	ጾ So				ጿ Sua	
አፍ	ፈ fe	ፉ fu	ፊ fi	ፋ fa	ፌ fie	ፍ f	ፎ fo				ፏ fua	
ፕሳ	ፐ pe	ፑ pu	ፒ pi	ፓ pa	ፔ pie	ፕ p	ፖ po				ፗ pua	

Consonant and Vowel Marks

Dots can be added above letters to indicate a stressed vowel or consonant using "**CTRL + .** ". For example:

ኣባ **CTRL .** ⇒ ኣባ́ ("ab<u>aa</u>", "a" is stressed)

ኣባ́ **CTRL .** ⇒ ኣ̈ባ ("a<u>bb</u>a", "b" is stressed)

ኣ̈ባ **CTRL .** ⇒ ኣ̈ባ́ ("a<u>bbaa</u>", "b" and "a" are stressed)

Typing Punctuation

Ethiopic Punctuation

፣	፨	፤	፥	፦	፧	፠	※	፨
,	::	;	;;	:-	,,	??	:+	:#

Period, '.' may also be used to enter '፨'. When a number follows '፣' and '፨' they will change back to their Latin form automatically. For example:

123፣456 ⇒ 123,456
12፨50   ⇒ 12.50

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

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

The "connected" style of Ethiopic numerals can be created by changing the font from "Abyssinica SIL" to "Abyssinica SIL (Connected)" as seen in the following table:

Abyssinica SIL	Abyssinica SIL (Connected)
፲፱፻፸፫	፲፱፻፸፫