# Typing in Ethiopian Agew Languages

ጘ

The Awngi, Khimtanga and Qimant keyboard ( \_) uses a system where the Agew sounds are matched to the English letters (a style called “phonetic”). You can think of how a word sounds in Agew and then type it out with English.

Example: typing **selam** becomes ሰላም

Because Agew languages have more sounds than English does, we sometimes have to adjust this rule. For example, English does not have ‘ጘ’ and the closest similar letter would be ‘g’. In this case, you should type with “capital G”:

Example: typing KmTaGe becomes ኽምጣጘ

Notice that we used capital ‘K’ also for ‘ኽ’ and we needed both “uu” together to make the 5th ‘ኸ’ letter ‘ዅ’. When the letter you want to type does not appear when you hit the similar sounding key in English, try using the capital next.

Next, when you need to type the extra letters of Agew like ሏ, ሟ, or ኵ you can do so by typing an extra vowel after a ‘u’:

Example: typing **mua** becomes ሟ

Example: typing **Kuu** becomes ዅ

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 መልአክ  
Example: typing **m'Eraf** becomes ምዕራፍ

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

# Agew Typing Table

| ቤተሰብ | ግዕዝ | ካዕብ | ሣልስ | ራብዕ | ኃምስ | ሳድስ | ሳብዕ | ዘመደ- ግዕዝ | ዘመደ- ካዕብ | ዘመደ- ሣልስ | ዘመደ- ራብዕ | ዘመደ- 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 |  |  |  | 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 |  |
| ሠውት | ሠ sse | ሡ ssu | ሢ ssi | ሣ ssa | ሤ ssie | ሥ ss | ሦ sso |  |  |  | ሧ ssua |  |
| 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 | ቊ qui | ቋ qua | ቌ quie |
| ቓ-ቃፍ | ቐ  Qe | ቑ  Qu | ቒ  Qi | ቓ  Qa | ቔ  Qie | ቕ  Q | ቖ  Qo | ቘ  Que | ቝ  Quu | ቚ  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 |  |
| ኀርም | ኀ hhe | ኁ hhu | ኂ hhi | ኃ hha | ኄ hhie | ኅ hh | ኆ hho | ኈ hue | ኍ huu | ኊ hui | ኋ hua | ኌ huie |
| 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 a | ኡ u | ኢ i | ኣ aa | 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 | ኲ kui | ኳ kua | ኴ kuie |
| ኻ-ካፍ | ኸ Ke | ኹ Ku | ኺ Ki | ኻ Ka | ኼ Kie | ኽ K | ኾ Ko |  |  |  |  |  |
| ወዌ | ወ we | ዉ wu | ዊ wi | ዋ wa | ዌ wie | ው w | ዎ wo |  |  |  |  |  |
| ዐይን | ዐ A | ዑ Au / U | ዒ Ai / I | ዓ Aa | ዔ Aie / Aie | ዕ Ae / E | ዖ Ao / O |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 | ጕ guu | ጒ gui | ጓ gua | ጔ guie |
| ጘ-ገምል | ጘ  Ge | ጙ  Gu | ጚ  Gi | ጛ  Ga | ጜ  Gie | ጝ  G | ጞ  Go | ⶓ  Gue | ⶖ  Guu | ⶔ  Gui | ጟ  Gua | ⶕ  Guie |
| ጠይት | ጠ Te | ጡ Tu | ጢ Ti | ጣ Ta | ጤ Tie | ጥ T | ጦ To |  |  |  | ጧ Tua |  |
| ጨ-ጠይት | ጨ Ce | ጩ Cu | ጪ Ci | ጫ Ca | ጬ Cie | ጭ C | ጮ Co |  |  |  | ጯ Cua |  |
| ጰይት | ጰ 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 |  |
| ፀጳ | ፀ SSe | ፁ SSu | ፂ SSi | ፃ SSa | ፄ SSie | ፅ SS | ፆ SSo |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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:

አባ **CTRL .** ⇒ አባ፞ (“abaa”, “a” is stressed)  
 አባ፞ **CTRL .** ⇒ አባ፟ (“abba”, “b” is stressed)  
 አባ፟ **CTRL .** ⇒ አባ፝ (“abbaa”, “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  
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 #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 | ፲፻ #1000 | ፼ #10000 |

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** |
| ፲፱፻፹፫ | ፲፱፻፹፫ |

**Agew Fonts**

The “Waldba” font collection is installed with the desktop keyboard (Windows and Mac) and provides many styles for the Agew letters. Examples are shown below:

ዋልድባ - ህዋእሽ

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ

ዋልድባ - ውቂያኖስ

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ

### ዋልድባ - ዘላን

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ

ዋልድባ - የብሰ

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ

ዋልድባ - ይገዙ ብሥራት ጎቲክ

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ

ዋልድባ - ይገዙ ብሥራት ጎፈር

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ

ዋልድባ - ጅረት

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ

ዋልድባ - ጥንት

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ

ዋልድባ - ፋንትዋ

### ሀለሐመ … ጘ ጙ ጚ ጛ ጜ ጝ ጞ ጟ ⶓ ⶔ ⶕ ⶖ