

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

Please write as neatly and clearly as possible. Feel free to use the back side of the sheets or attach additional sheets if necessary, but if you do so please mention it in the space provided for answers.

1 Numeric Formatting

- 1.1. How do you write the number 90,876,543.21 in the Farsi language? Are there any special requirements regarding the decimal separator, the thousands separator, or the shapes of the digits? Is it possible for the digits to be grouped in groups of other than three?

٩٠'٨٧٦'٥٤٣٫٢١

The decimal separator is like a forward slash, but almost two-thirds the size and moved half its height lower.

The thousands separator is apostrophe-like or tick-like, but may take different shapes based on the style of the writer or font.

The shapes of digits 4, 5, and 6 is different from the usual Arabic shapes, as can be seen above. The digits may only be grouped in groups of three.

- 1.2. How do you write the percentage 22.5% in the Farsi language? Should the percent sign appear on the right or the left? Should there be a space between the number and the percent sign? Do you have any special considerations regarding the percent sign in the Farsi language? If yes, please describe them.

٪٢٢٫٥

The percent sign should appear on the left.

There should be no space.

The Farsi percent sign is a little different from the European percent sign; it uses Farsi zeros instead of European zeros.

- 1.3. How do you write the number 6.22E23 or -6.22×10^{23} (in scientific notation) in the Farsi language?

-٦٫٢٢×١٠^{٢٣}

- 1.4. Please spell out the following numbers in the Farsi language.

Number	Number spelled out in the Farsi language
zero	صفر
one	یک
two	دو

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

three	سه
four	چار
five	پنج
six	شش
seven	هفت
eight	هشت
nine	نه
ten	ده
eleven	يازده
twelve	دوازده
thirteen	سيزده
fourteen	چهارده
fifteen	پانزده
sixteen	شانزده
seventeen	هفده
eighteen	هجده
nineteen	نوزده
twenty	بيست
twenty-one	بيست و يك
thirty	سي
forty	چهل

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

fifty	پنجاه
sixty	شصت
seventy	هفتاد
eighty	هشتاد
ninety	نود
one hundred	صد
two hundred	دویست
three hundred	سیصد
four hundred	چهارصد
five hundred	پانصد
six hundred	ششصد
seven hundred	هفتصد
eight hundred	هشتصد
nine hundred	نهصد
one thousand	هزار
two thousand	دو هزار
one million (1,000,000)	یک میلیون
one billion (1,000,000,000)	یک میلیارد

1.5. How do you spell the number 123.45 (one hundred and twenty-three point four five) in the Farsi language?

صد و بیست و سه ممیز چهل و پنج

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

- 1.6. How do you spell the negative number –56,789 (minus fifty-six thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine) in the Farsi language?

منفی پنجاه و شش هزار و هفتصد و هشتاد و نه

2 Monetary Formatting

- 2.1. Do you know of any special symbol for the rial currency in texts written in the Farsi language? If yes, a) Is it common? b) Do you recommend its usage? c) Do you know about its historical origins? If yes, please mention them. d) Do you know about any typographical variations? If yes, please mention them.

Yes.

a. The *rial* sign was common in Farsi texts in the 1980s when typewriters were still used, but is now used with less and less frequency.

b. I don't recommend its usage.

c. The character was invented in early 1970s by the technical committee of Iranian national standard ISIRI 820:1973, Character Arrangement on Keyboards of Persian Typewriters.

d. I don't know about any important typographical variations.

- 2.2. Are there subdivisions of the rial (e.g., one-hundredth) in accounting usage? If yes, a) How many decimal places are usually given after the decimal separator? b) Does that subdivision of rial have a name? If yes, please write it here.

There was once a subdivision of rial called the *dinar* (دینار), equal to 0.01 of a rial, but it was abandoned in about 1985. Nowadays, no subdivisions of the rial are used in accounting, and the non-integral amounts are rounded to whole rials.

- 2.3. How do you represent the amount 12,345,678 rials in the Farsi language? How should the amount be formatted to maximize legibility (e.g., by using spaces, thousands separators, etc., between the digits)? Do you put a space between the amount and the currency symbol? Should the currency symbol appear to the left of the amount or to the right?

ریال ۱۲'۳۴۵'۶۷۸

Thousands separators should be used between the digits, in groups of three (just like normal numbers).

There should be a space between the amount and the currency sign.

The currency sign should appear at the left.

- 2.4. For accounting purposes, how do you represent *negative* rial amounts in the Farsi language? For example, please write the *negative* amount 1,234 rials in Farsi.

ریال -۱'۲۳۴

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

3 Date and Time Conventions

- 3.1. Please write down the names of the days of the week in the Farsi language. Do you know of any abbreviations for the the days of week in the Farsi language? If yes, please write them down in addition to the long form.

Day name	Day name in the Farsi language	Abbreviations (if any)
Saturday	شنبه	ش.
Sunday	یک شنبه	ی.
Monday	دوشنبه	د.
Tuesday	سه شنبه	س.
Wednesday	چهارشنبه	چ.
Thursday	پنج شنبه	پ.
Friday	جمعه	ج.

- 3.2. Which day is considered to be the first day of the week in the Farsi language?

Saturday

- 3.3. Please write down the names of Persian month names in the Farsi language. Do you know of any abbreviations for Persian month names in the Farsi language? If yes, please write them down in addition to the long form.

Month name in Iran	Month name in the Farsi language	Abbreviations (if any)
Farvardin فروردین	فروردین	
Ordibehesht اردیبهشت	اردیبهشت	
Khordad خرداد	خرداد	
Tir تیر	تیر	
Mordad مرداد	مرداد	
Shahrivar شهریور	شهریور	

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

Mehr مهر	مهر	
Aban آبان	آبان	
Azar آذر	آذر	
Dey دی	دی	
Bahman بهمن	بهمن	
Esfand اسفند	اسفند	

3.4. Please write the Persian date 30 Shahrivar 1361 (۳۰ شهریور ۱۳۶۱) in long form, short form, and in numeric format in the Farsi language:

Form	Iranian example	Farsi form (if any)
long	سه شنبه، ۳۰ شهریور ۱۳۶۱	سه شنبه، ۳۰ شهریور ۱۳۶۱
short	۳۰ شهریور ۱۳۶۱	۳۰ شهریور ۱۳۶۱
numeric	۱۳۶۱/۶/۳۰	۱۳۶۱/۶/۳۰

3.5. Please write down the names of Gregorian month names in the Farsi language. Do you know of any abbreviations for Gregorian month names in the Farsi language? If yes, please write them down in addition to the long form.

Month name	Month name in the Farsi language	Abbreviations (if any)
January	ژانویه	
February	فوریه	
March	مارس	
April	آوریل	
May	مه	
June	ژوئن	

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

July	ژوئيه	
August	اوت	
September	سپتامبر	
October	اکتبر	
November	نوامبر	
December	دسامبر	

- 3.6. Please write the Gregorian date 1982-09-21 (21 September 1982) in long form, short form, very short form, and in numeric format in the Farsi language:

Form	European English example	Farsi form (if any)
long	Tuesday, 21 September 1982	سه شنبه، ۲۱ سپتامبر ۱۹۸۲
short	21 September 1982	۲۱ سپتامبر ۱۹۸۲
very short	21 Sep 1982	
numeric	21/09/1982	۱۹۸۲/۹/۲۱

- 3.7. How do you distinguish the dates written in the Gregorian calendar from the dates in the Persian and Islamic calendars? Do you use any abbreviations for distinguishing the Persian calendar (Hejri-e Shamsi), the Lunar Islamic calendar (Hejri-e Ghamari), and the Gregorian calendar? If yes, please write them here.

The abbreviation “م.” (short for میلادی) is used after Gregorian dates. The abbreviation “ه.ش.” (short for هجری شمسی) is used for Persian Calendar. The abbreviation “ه.ق.” (short for هجری قمری) is used for Lunar Islamic Calendar.

- 3.8. Do you use any abbreviations for the negative or positive dates in the Gregorian calendar (such the BC/AD or BCE/CE used in English)? If yes, please write them here.

The abbreviation “م.” (short for میلادی) is used for positive Gregorian dates. The abbreviation “ق.م.” (short for قبل از میلاد) is used for negative Gregorian dates.

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

- 3.9. Do you use any abbreviations for the negative dates in the Persian or Lunar Islamic calendars? If yes, please write them here.

The abbreviation “ق.ه.” (short for هجرت از قبل) is used for negative Lunar Islamic dates.

- 3.10. Which is more commonly used in Iran, the 12-hour clock, or the 24-hour clock? Is this the same as official use? Do you have any considerations regarding the usage? If yes, please write them here.

The 12-hour clock is more common among people. But to avoid ambiguity, the official usage is the 24-hour system. I recommend using the 24-hour system because sensible Farsi equivalents for “a.m.” and “p.m.” do not exist.

- 3.11. Are there any abbreviations or short names for a.m. and p.m. in the Farsi language? If yes, please write them here. Please also write out the long names (in English, a.m. = ante meridiem, and p.m. = post meridiem).

No, there aren't. Instead of having the noon as a reference, Farsi speakers use times of the day after the time, like “nine in the morning” (نه صبح), or “two in the mid-night” (دو نیمه شب).

- 3.12. Please write the following times of day in the format common in Iran. Do you prefer the hours to be written with a leading zero or without one?

I prefer the hours without a leading zero.

Time of day	Localized time of day
15:04:30	۱۵:۰۴:۳۰
07:20:05	۷:۲۰:۰۵

- 3.13. Please write the full date and time “Tuesday, 30 Shahrivar 1361, 09:07:04” in the Farsi language.

سه شنبه، ۳۰ شهریور ۱۳۶۱، ساعت ۹:۰۷:۰۴

- 3.14. Please write the full date and time “Tuesday, 21 September 1982, 09:07:04” in the Farsi language.

سه شنبه، ۲۱ سپتامبر ۱۹۸۲، ساعت ۹:۰۷:۰۴

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

3.15. How do you write the phrase “Iran Time” or “Iran Standard Time” or in the Farsi language?

وقت رسمی ایران

3.16. How do you write the phrases “Greenwich Mean Time” and “Coordinated Universal Time” (GMT and UTC, the standard time references) in the Farsi language?

Greenwich Mean Time = “وقت گرینویچ”. I don’t know any Farsi phrase for “Coordinated Universal Time”.

4 Affirmative and Negative Answers

4.1. What are the words for “Yes” and “No” in the Farsi language? Please list all common words in written usage, especially those which could be used to answer questions in a computer interface.

Yes = آری = بلی = بله

No = خیر = نه

5 Character Set Considerations

5.1. Do you know of any character sets being used for representation of the Farsi language on computers? Please provide us with any possible references about these character sets or their history, or kindly provide such information yourself.

Historically, the most widely used character sets used for Farsi information interchange were “Iran System” (named after the inventor company), “Sina” (named after the inventor company, SinaSoft), and various modified versions of Windows codepage CP1256. There has also been many vendor-specific character sets, and sometimes even different character sets for different products of a single vendor. Worth mentioning are MacFarsi character set (by Apple) and three different character sets used in Farsi localizations of T_EX. There were also two national Iranian standards for information interchange, ISIRI 2900:1989 and ISIRI 3342:1993, but neither has been used widely. Recently, almost every vendor has been moving to Unicode, and thousands of Farsi web pages exist in UTF-8 Unicode encoding. But the majority of Farsi digital texts are still encoded in various non-standard modifications of CP1256.

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

- 5.2. Do you know of any letters outside the Farsi alphabet which are used in Farsi language texts, loanwords, or personal names (for instance, TEH MARBUTA, ﺓ)? If yes, please list all such letters here and estimate their frequency in Farsi texts.

The following letters, although usually not listed in the Farsi alphabet, are very common in both Farsi words and loanwords: آ, اُ, اِ, اَ (specially in initial and medial form, as اُ). TEH MARBUTA (ﺓ) is used in a few words (like دائرةالمعارف) and its use in such words is mandatory. Some authors who have proposed orthographic reforms have also been using ي in their orthographies.

6 Use of Special Characters

- 6.1. Which symbols does the Farsi language use for quotation marks? Please write “Iran” in quotation marks in the Farsi language.

Guillemets: «ایران» or «ایران».

The guillemets may either be round or sharp depending on the font, but usually the round ones are preferred.

- 6.2. Please list the punctuation marks used in the Farsi language along with their names and use. (Compare them with a similar symbol in the English language if that will help.)

The European punctuation marks full stop, colon, exclamation mark, en dash, em dash, solidus (forward slash), parentheses, and square brackets have the same usage as in the English language. The Farsi inter-word hyphen appears a little lower than the English hyphen, to go with the height of the flat letters of Farsi. There are also three punctuation marks that are mirrored or rotated shapes of English punctuation marks: ، ، ، . These are also used in the same way as their English counter-parts.

- 6.3. Do you know of any special Koranic annotation marks used in Korans published in Iran? If yes, please list them here.

Currently, Korans published in Iran use the same annotation marks as those in Saudi Arabia. There were various classes of annotation marks used until the 1980s, but they have all disappeared recently. There is some research undergoing by Iranian Center for Publication of Koran (مرکز طبع و نشر قرآن کریم) to invent new symbols better suited for Iranian readers.

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

7 Character Rendition

- 7.1. Do you know of any special rendering requirement of letters of the Farsi alphabet (such as different forms of HEH or YEH)? If yes, please describe them here.

The Farsi YEH (ی) is different from the Arabic YEH (ي) as it is dotless in final and isolated forms. Some authors use both forms of YEH in their published works (as mentioned above in the answer to question 5.2).

8 Personal Names Rules

- 8.1. How does one address men and women in the Farsi language? (We refer to the equivalent of “Mr” or “Ms” in English, or the suffixes “-san” or “-sama” in Japanese.) Please fill the following form with their equivalents in Farsi. You may leave the box empty if the phrase is not common in addressing people. Please provide an example of a complete name with title in each case.

Title	Farsi translation (if any)	Example
(Gender-neutral title)		
Mr	آقای	آقای بهداد اسفهد
Ms	خانم	خانم الناز سربز
Mrs		
Miss		

- 8.2. In some languages, the way people’s names are used can be unique. Sometimes the personal name precedes the surname, sometimes the reverse. Often patronymics or birthplaces are found as elements of names. And some people have only a single name. What practice or practices are used in the Farsi language?

Farsi speakers living in Iran usually have a first name given to them at birth, and a family name which is inherited from their father or mother. Sometimes the first name or the family name have multiple parts, but these are clearly distinguished as parts of the first name or the last name. A very long name may be (the family name is underlined):

سید بهداد اسفهد میرحسینزاده سرابی

which can be transliterated as “Seyyed Behdād-e Esfahbod-e Mīr-hoseyn-zāde-ye Sarābī”.

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

9 Coding of National Entities

9.1. How do you write the word “Farsi” in the Farsi language?

فارسی

9.2. How do you write the word “Iran” in the Farsi language?

ایران

9.3. How do you write the word “Iranian rial” (the monetary unit) in the Farsi language?

ریال ایران

9.4. Please name the most authoritative monolingual dictionary of the Farsi language.

The nine-volume Mo’in Persian Dictionary (فرهنگِ فارسی معین), published in the 1970s by Amir Kabir, Tehran.

9.5. Please name the most authoritative bilingual dictionaries from English to Farsi and from Farsi to English (or any other major language of the world).

Farsi to English: S. Haim. 2001. *English-Persian Persian-English Dictionary (in one volume)*. Farhang Moaser Publishers, Tehran. ISBN 964-5545-38-2.

English to Farsi: Mohammad Reza Bateni. 2001. *Farhang Moaser English-Persian Dictionary*, second edition. Farhang Moaser Publishers, Tehran. ISBN 964-5545-61-7.

9.6. Please name the most authoritative reference about the grammar of the Farsi language in the Farsi language itself.

The most authoritative reference is Mohammad Reza Bateni, *Description of the Grammatical Structure of the Persian Language* (توصیفِ ساختمانِ دستوریِ زبانِ فارسی), originally published in 1969, Amir Kabir, Tehran, 1995.

9.7. Please name the most authoritative reference about the grammar of the Farsi language in English (or any other major language of the world).

I don’t know of any such authoritative reference.

9.8. Do you know of any government-approved or authoritative reference (such as a national standard) specifying a standard orthography for the Farsi language? If yes, please mention it.

Iranian Academy of Persian Language and Literature (فرهنگستانِ زبان و ادبِ فارسی), the language authority of Government of Islamic Republic of Iran, recently published an orthography booklet titled “شیوه‌ی خطِ فارسی” (ISBN 964-7531-13-3) in 2002. It is still far from being adopted widely.

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

10 Keyboard Layout

10.1. Do you know about any common keyboard layouts used for the Farsi language? Do you recommend any specific one? If yes, please fill the following form with your recommendation:

The most common keyboard layouts are the Microsoft Farsi layout and SinaSoft's Zarnegar layout, both based on ISIRI 2901:1988 (which was based on two-character-per-letter technologies of 1980s). The newer version of that standard, based on modern one-character-per-letter character sets, was published in 1994 and is much superior to that. The ISIRI 2901:1994 layout follows:

Zero Width Joiner

/	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	-	=		
→	۱	۲	۳	۴	۵	۶	۷	۸	۹	۰	-	=	←	
	q	w	e	r	t	y	u	i	o	p	[]		
NORMAL	→	چ	ج	ح	خ	ه	ع	غ	ف	ق	ث	ص	ض	↵
	a	s	d	f	g	h	j	k	l	:	'	\		
	⌵	گ	ک	م	ن	ت	ا	ل	ب	ی	س	ش	⌵	
	'	z	x	c	v	b	n	m	,	.	/		⌵	
	⌵		ظ	ط	ز	ر	ذ	>	پ	و	.	/	⌵	

-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	-	+	
	!	/	'	کد	%	x	‘	*	()	-	+	←
	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	O	P	{	}	
SHIFTED	→	°	۹	≡	≡	۹	۹	۹	۹	۹	[]	↵
	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	:	"		
	⌵	ؤ	ئ	ی	ل	ا	آ	ة	«	»	:	؛	
	-	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M	<	>	?		⌵
	⌵		ک	ژ					ء	<	>	؟	⌵

Zero Width Non-Joiner

Also, Shift+Space should output Zero Width Non-Joiner.

Computer Locale Requirements of Afghanistan

- 10.2. Do you have any concerns about special letters, symbols, or characters that should be on a Farsi keyboard layout but usually are not? If yes, please mention them here.

The combining Hamza (U+0654) and the Superscript Alef (U+0670) are not on the ISIRI 2901:1994 layout which creates some problems entering Farsi texts. Microsoft Farsi layout has many more missing characters, most notably the Pseudo-space (U+200C) and Persian decimal separator (U+066B).

11 Other References

- 11.1. Do you know of any government-approved, or authoritative references (such as a national standard) that specify answers to some of the questions above? If yes, please name them.

No.

Thank you for your participation in this survey.