

PICO Chord Keyboard

The keyboard can be used in place of a standard USB keyboard. You may find that a USB storage device appears when you connect the keyboard. You can ignore this.

Typing Text



You type on the keyboard by pressing down "chords". A chord is one or more keys. A key will turn red when it is pressed. **A character is registered when you release one of the keys in the chord that describes it. Release all the chord keys for character before entering the next one.** A map of all the chords is at the end of this document.

As an example, on the left the character "b" has been entered. The chord for "b" is the right hand three keys. When a letter has been registered the letter is sent as a keypress from the keyboard and appears on the alphanumeric keyboard. Text is entered using the five keys underneath the hand shown on the left. The far-left key is the control key.

Control Key

The control key is used to change the mode of the keyboard. You use it by moving your thumb slightly left to press that key. If you press and release just the control key the keyboard will change from lower case to upper case text entry. The keys will change from blue to yellow. Press and release the control key again to return the lower-case text (at which point the keys will light up blue again).

Commands

The control key can be used in conjunction with other letters to enter commands that change the mode of the keyboard and send cursor control commands from the keyboard. The chords for the commands are given at the end of this document. There are three kinds of command. Cursor control, keyboard mode and keyboard functions

Cursor control

- bak** move the cursor left. This sends a keypress that moves the cursor one position left.
- for** move the cursor right. This sends a keypress that moves the cursor one position right
- del** backspace delete. This sends a keypress that deletes the character under the cursor and moves the cursor one space to the left.

Keyboard mode

- cap** toggle the caps lock state. The keys turn either blue (caps) or yellow (lower case)
- num** enter numeric mode. The keys will turn green. You can enter numbers using the chords described in the Numbers section of the chord descriptions.
- sym** enter symbol mode. The keys will turn magenta. You can enter symbols using the chords described in the Symbols part of the chord descriptions.
- text** enter text mode. The keys will turn blue and the keyboard will be set to enter lower case text. You use this mode to exit from **num** or **sym** mode.

Keyboard functions

- help** Type help. The keyboard will type out the keyboard chord descriptions. These can be loaded into a text editor for further reference. Stop the help output by holding down any key for a few seconds
- game** Play the learning game. The keyboard will display a character for you to enter on the keyboard. After a few seconds the keys for that character will be displayed in grey. The game continues until you get a character wrong. Note that the keys may change colour, to indicate that you need to change to the appropriate text entry mode before entering your key. At the end a score is displayed. You get more points if you enter characters before the help is displayed.

Text

space

[] [] [] [] []
[] [X]

,

[X] [] [X] [X]
[] []

.

[X] [X] [X] []
[] []

A

[X] [X] [] []
[] []

B

[] [X] [X] [X]
[] []

C

[] [X] [] []
[] [X]

D

[X] [X] [] []
[] [X]

E

[X] [] [] []
[] []

F

[X] [X] [X] []
[] [X]

G

[] [] [X] [X]
[] []

H

[] [] [] [X]

[] [X]

I

[X] [] [] []
[] [X]

J

[] [] [X] [X]
[] [X]

K

[] [] [X] []
[] [X]

L

[X] [] [] [X]
[] [X]

M

[X] [X] [X] [X]
[] []

N

[] [X] [X] []
[] []

O

[] [X] [] []
[] []

P

[X] [X] [X] [X]
[] [X]

Q

[] [X] [] [X]
[] []

R

[X] [] [X] []
[] [X]

S

[] [] [X] []

[] []

T

[X] [] [X] []
[] []

U

[] [] [] [X]
[] []

V

[X] [] [] [X]
[] []

W

[X] [] [X] [X]
[] [X]

X

[] [X] [X] [X]
[] [X]

Y

[] [X] [X] []
[] [X]

Z

[] [X] [] [X]
[] [X]

Numbers

,

[X] [] [X] [X]
[] []

.

[X] [X] [X] []
[] []

0

[] [X] [] []
[] []

1

[] [] [] []
[] [X]

2

[X] [] [] []
[] [X]

3

[X] [X] [] []
[] [X]

4

[X] [X] [X] []
[] [X]

5

[X] [X] [X] [X]
[] [X]

6

[] [] [] [X]
[] []

7

[] [] [X] [X]
[] []

8

[] [X] [X] [X]
[] []

9

[X] [X] [X] [X]
[] []

Symbols

space

[] [] [] [] []
[] [x]

!

[] [x] [x] [x]
[] [x]

#

[] [] [] [] [x]
[] [x]

\$

[] [] [x] []
[] []

%

[] [x] [] [x]
[] [x]

&

[x] [] [x] []
[] [x]

(

[x] [x] [] []
[] [x]

)

[] [x] [x] [x]
[] []

*

[x] [] [x] []
[] []

+

[x] [x] [x] [x]
[] [x]

,

[x] [] [x] [x]
[] []

-

[] [x] [x] []
[] []

.

[x] [x] [x] []
[] []

/

[] [] [x] []
[] [x]

:

[x] [] [x] [x]
[] [x]

;

[] [] [x] [x]
[] [x]

<

[x] [] [] []
[] [x]

=

[x] [] [] []
[] []

>

[] [] [x] [x]
[] []

?

[] [x] [x] []
[] [x]

@

[x] [x] [] []
[] []

[

[] [x] [] []
[] [x]

\

[x] [] [] [x]
[] []

]

[] [x] [] [x]
[] []

{

[x] [x] [x] []
[] [x]

}

[x] [x] [x] [x]
[] []

Commands

Cursor

bak : Cursor left

[] [X] [X] [X]
[X] []

for : Cursor right

[X] [X] [X] []
[X] []

del : Backspace

[X] [X] [] []
[X] []

Mode

cap : Toggle CAPS lock

[] [] [] []
[X] []

num : Numeric (green)

[] [X] [X] []
[X] []

sym : Symbol (magenta)

[] [] [X] []
[X] []

text : Text (blue)

[X] [] [X] []
[X] []

Function

game : Start the game

[] [] [X] [X]
[X] []

help : Type key help

[] [] [] [X]
[X] []

Commands

<https://github.com/CrazyRobMiles/PICO-Chord-keyboard>