

**About the Script Management System**

The Script Management System consists of the **Script Manager** and one or more script systems. Related components of worldwide system software include the **International Utilities Package**, the international resources, the keyboard resources, and keyboard-handling routines.

At the center of the worldwide system software, the **Script Manager** allows different script systems to be installed, maintains global data structures, supports switching keyboards between different scripts, supplies several utility routines itself, and provides a standard interface for programmatic access to script systems. The **Script Manager** routines allow you to write your application independently of the particular script in use. Since the Roman Script System is always installed in conjunction with the **Script Manager**, you can use these routines with the Roman Script System for text manipulation.

The **Script Manager** provides basic capability in each of the scripts and languages that it supports. Although TextEdit provides text-handling support when rudimentary text-handling support is adequate, you will find the **Script Manager** useful when your applications have no special knowledge of the particular script or language with which they are dealing. Applications requiring a medium level of text-handling support should use the **Script Manager** if they are targeted for non-Roman scripts and multiple countries. Sophisticated text-intensive applications targeted to a particular language or script may need to go beyond the capabilities of the **Script Manager**.

Currently, script systems are available for the Roman, Japanese, Arabic, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Hebrew, Cyrillic, Thai, and Korean scripts as well as for most scripts of India and Bangladesh, including Devanagari, Bengali, Gurmukhi, Gujarati, and others. These script systems supply fonts, ways to represent various keyboards, text collation, word breaks, and the formatting of dates, times, and numbers. Some of these script systems include special routines for handling exceedingly large character sets, which have comprehensive procedures for character input, and for handling bidirectional or contextual text. See [Representing Scripts on the Macintosh](#) for more information.