Typing in Blin

The Blin keyboard (▝▊) uses a system where the Blin sounds are matched to the English letters (a style called "phonetic"). You can think of how a word sounds in Blin and then type it out with English.

> Example: typing **selam** becomes ሰላም

Because Blin has 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 **xGKuulen** becomes ሽጛኹለን

Notice that we used capital 'K' also for 'ኹ' and we needed both "uu" together to make the 5th 'ከ' letter 'ኹ'. 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 Blin 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 ኵ

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'eeraf** becomes ምዕራፍ

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

Blin Typing Table

ቤተሰብ	ግዕዝ	ካዕብ	ሣልስ	ራብዕ	ሃምስ	ሳድስ	ሳብዕ	ዘመደ-ግዕዝ	ዘመደ-ካዕብ	ዘመደ-ሣልስ	ዘመደ-ራብዕ	ዘመደ-ሃምስ
ሆይ	ህ he	ሁ hu	ሒ hi	ሃ ha	ሔ hie	ህ h	ሆ ho					
ላዊ	ለ le	ሉ lu	ሊ li	ላ la	ሌ lie	ል l	ሎ lo				ሏ lua	
ሐዉት	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	
ሳት	ሰ se	ሱ su	ሲ si	ሳ sa	ሴ sie	ስ s	ሶ so				ሷ sua	
ርእስ	ረ re	ሩ ru	ሪ ri	ራ ra	ሬ rie	ር r	ሮ ro				ሯ rua	
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	ቌ 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	
ታው	ተ te	ቱ tu	ቲ ti	ታ ta	ቴ tie	ት t	ቶ to				ቷ tua	
ነሐስ	ነ ne	ኑ nu	ኒ ni	ና na	ኔ nie	ን n	ኖ no				ኗ nua	
አልፍ	አ aaaa	ኡ u	ኢ i	ኣ 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	ኲ 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	ዂ Kui	ዃ Kua	ዄ Kuie
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					
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	ጕ gui	ጓ gua	ጔ guie
ሸ-ገምል	ሸ Ge	ሹ Gu	ሺ Gi	ሻ Ga	ሼ Gie	ሽ G	ሾ Go	ሾ Gue	ሿ Guu	ሿ Gui	ሿ Gua	ሿ 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	
ቻ-ታው	ቸ ce	ቹ cu	ቺ ci	ቻ ca	ቼ cie	ች c	ቾ co				ቿ cua	
ኛ-ነሐስ	ኘ Ne	ኙ Nu	ኚ Ni	ኛ Na	ኜ Nie	ኝ N	ኞ No				ኟ Nua	
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	
ጸደይ	ጸ Se	ጹ Su	ጺ Si	ጻ Sa	ጼ Sie	ጽ S	ጾ So				ጿ Sua	
ጰይት	ጰ Pe	ጱ Pu	ጲ Pi	ጳ Pa	ጴ Pie	ጵ P	ጶ Po				ጷ Pua	
አፍ	ፈ fe	ፉ fu	ፊ fi	ፋ fa	ፌ fie	ፍ f	ፎ fo				ፏ fua	
ፐሳ	ፐ pe	ፑ pu	ፒ pi	ፓ pa	ፔ pie	ፕ p	ፖ po				ፗ pua	
ቬ-ቤት	ቨ ve	ቩ vu	ቪ vi	ቫ va	ቬ vie	ቭ v	ቮ vo				ቯ vua	

Consonant and Vowel Marks

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

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

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

        አቧ̇ **CTRL .** ⇒ አቧ̈ ("a<u>bba</u>a", "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:

$$123{:}456 \Rightarrow 123{,}456$$
$$12{::}50 \quad \Rightarrow 12.50$$

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).

Blin Fonts

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

ዋልድባ - ህዋእሽ

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ

ዋልድባ - ውቂያኖስ

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ

ዋልድባ - ዘላን

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ

ዋልድባ - የብሰ

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ

ዋልድባ - ይገዙ ብሥራት ጎቲክ

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ

ዋልድባ - ይገዙ ብሥራት ጎፈር

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ

ዋልድባ - ጁረት

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ

ዋልድባ - ጥንት

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ

ዋልድባ - ፋንትዋ

> ሀlሐm ... ጘ ጐ ጒ ጓ ጔ ጝ ጟ ጒ ጐ ጕ ጔ ጕ