

Pāli and Sanskrit Fonts for Windows

I have decided to move completely to Unicode for Pāli. The ANSI character set fonts are long out of date, and only encourage the production of documents that cannot be read by others without time-consuming conversion, or by installing out of date fonts, thus perpetuating the use of non-standard character mappings.

Typing Pāli

I recommend assigning Control+letter for lowercase and Control+Shift+letter for Uppercase, because this is the easiest to remember and to type. Those shortcuts replaced by Pāli characters can still be accessed from the application's pull-down menus. The most common shortcuts are not needed for Pāli.

I have followed the Pāli consonant groups (*vaggas*), so Control g types ñ, while Control j types ñ̃. Other accents are typed with Control+letter: ḍ ḥ ḷ ṃ ṇ ṛ ṛ̃ ā ī ū = Control + d h l m n r t a i u. I don't recommend using Control S for ṣ or ś — you will accidentally insert stray Sanskrit characters every time you save your document! Use Control+Alt+S or Alter+S instead.

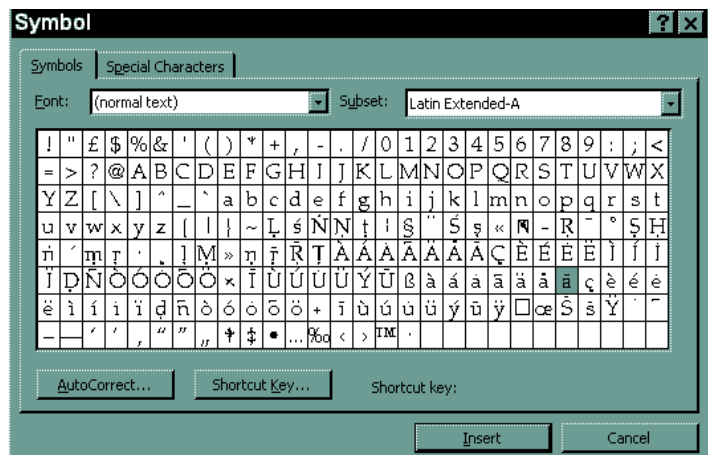
Defining Shortcut Keys in Microsoft Word

Since many people will be using Word, I will explain the process in detail. First download and install at least one of my Unicode fonts.

Select the Unicode font from the font list in a new Word document to make it the active font.

Select "Insert Symbol" from the Insert menu to bring up the dialogue box to the right. Here you will see all of the available characters in the font, including the Pāli characters.

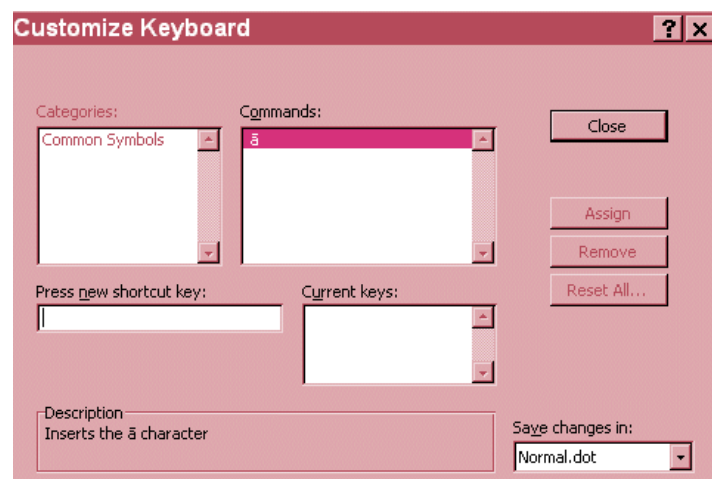
Select any of the Pāli characters: let's start with the long vowel "ā macron." Click on the Pāli character to highlight it, then on the "Shortcut Key ..." button to assign a keystroke. You will need to repeat this for all of the Pāli characters (and the Sanskrit ones if you intend to use them).



When you click on the Shortcut Key button you will get the Customize Keyboard dialogue box illustrated below on the right. To type Pāli ā macron we wish to use Control a, so with the cursor in the box labelled "Press new shortcut key" hold down Control and press 'a'. Then click on the Assign button to assign this keystroke to ā macron. Click on the Close button to return to the previous dialogue box listing all of the symbols. Repeat the same procedure for each of the accented characters that you wish to be able to type quickly. When it comes to defining keystrokes for the capital letters, you will need to hold down three keys together: e.g. Control+Shift+A.

If shortcuts are already defined for some characters such as ñ or Ñ you may wish to remove them. Select the shortcut in the Current keys field, and click on remove, though it doesn't matter if you have more than one shortcut key assigned to some letters.

Note that in the bottom right of this dialogue it warns you that the changes will be saved in Normal.dot, which is the default template for all new documents. If you don't wish to modify the keyboard for all new documents, you can create a new template called Pali.dot and save the keystrokes in there. When you wish to type in Pāli you must use the Pāli template instead of the Normal template.



If you wish to type Pāli in an old document you must “attach” the Pāli template to the current document.

Please refer to the help file for more information on working with templates.

Open Office Users can also customize the keyboard, but it is a little more difficult. See the next section for how to do this.

Users of Opera Browser can type Unicode with ease. See my [Opera tips page](#) for details.

Defining Shortcut Keys in Open Office

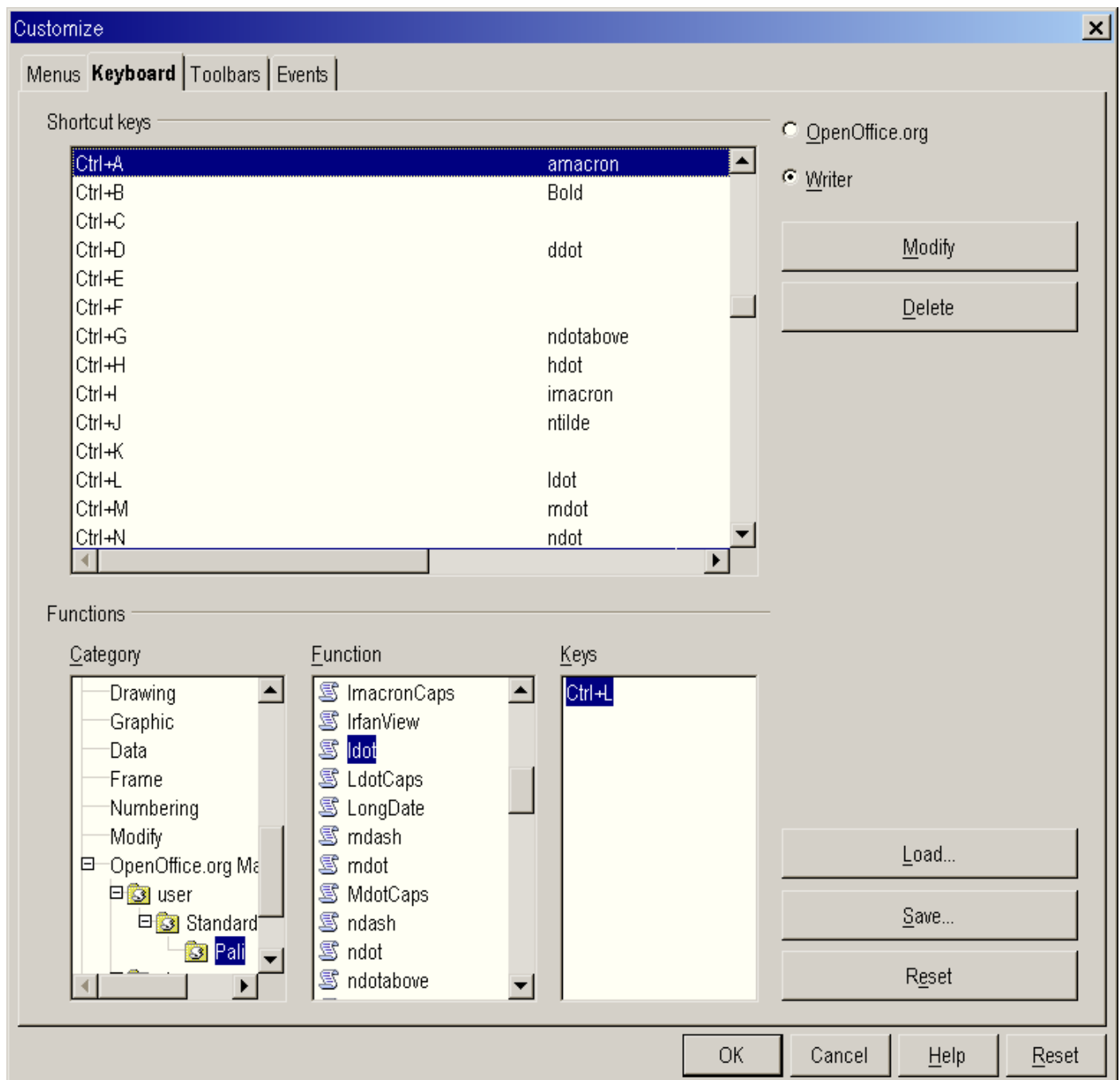
I used Open Office 2.02 to prepare this document.

The first stage is to record a series of macros, one to insert each Pāli character. Tools, Macro, Record Macro, Insert Special Character, stop recording, name the macro, and repeat for each character. These macros will all be saved in Module1. Each macro will contain two lines to define the font:

```
args1(1).Name = "FontName"
```

```
args1(1).Value = "Guru"
```

These lines are not wanted. From the Tools menu, Macros, Organize, OpenOffice.org Basic, Edit to edit the user



ē ĩ ħ ō ŷ Š š Ñ ñ ù ú ü
 1/3 2/3 1/5 2/5 3/5 4/5 1/6 5/6 1/8 3/8 5/8 7/8
 £ ₣ ₧ € № √ ∫ Δ ∑ ≈ ≤ ≥
 ← ↑ ↗ ↯ ↶ ↷ ↺ ∠ ∧ ⊥ ⌨
 ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨ ⑩ 🏠 🏡
 ■ □ ◻ ▨ ▩ ▲ △ ▴ ▵ ☉ 🏠 🏡
 ☀️ 🌥️ ☂️ ❄️ ☔ 📞 ☕ ☠️ ☢️ 🌙 🚫 🕒
 ☯️ 🛕 🌙 👑 🏰 ♟️ 🐎 🧑 ♻️ ♿ ⚙️
 ⚛️ 🌿 ⚠️ ♻️ ♻️ ✝️ 🎵 🙏 📌 📌 🖐️