# Typing in Gurage

ጉ

The Amharic keyboard ( ) provides *only* the letters used in Amharic. It uses a system whereby the Amharic sounds are matched to the English letters (a style called “phonetic”). You can think of how a word sounds in Amharic and then type it out with English.

Example: typing **selam** becomes ሰላም

Because Gurage has more sounds than English does, we sometimes have to adjust this rule. For example, English does not have ‘ጨ’ and the closest similar letter would be ‘c’. In this case you should type with “Capital C”:

Example: typing **enCerebie** becomes እንጨረቤ

Notice that we needed both “ie” together to make the 5th ‘በ’ letter ‘ቤ’. When the letter you want to type does not appear when you hit the similar sounding key in English, try using the capital next. If typing the capital does not work, then try hitting the key followed by a “y”:

Example: typing **yetgyekyere** becomes የትⷘⷈረ  
Example: typing **qyes** becomes ⷀስ

Next, when you need to type the extra letters of Gurage like ‘ዀ’, ‘ሟ’, ‘ᎊ’ you can do so by typing an extra vowel after a ‘u’:

Example: typing **mua** becomes ሟ

Example: typing **pue** becomes ᎌ

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'Eraf** becomes ምዕራፍ

If an apostrophe, **'**, is needed after a ሳድስ letter in your document, type it twice like:

Example: k**''** to produce ክ’

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

An Amharic typing practice document can be downloaded from the link below:

[*http://keyboards.ethiopic.org/docs/AmharicTypingPractice.docx*](http://keyboards.ethiopic.org/docs/AmharicTypingPractice.docx)

# Legacy Gurage Typing Table

|  | ግዕዝ | ካዕብ | ሣልስ | ራብዕ | ኃምስ | ሳድስ | ሳብዕ | ዘመደ ግዕዝ | ዘመደሣልስ | ዘመደራብዕ | ዘመደ ኃምስ | ዘመደ  ሳድስ |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **h** | ኸ he | ኹ hu | ኺ hi | ኻ ha | ኼ hie | ኽ h | ኾ ho | ዀ hue | ዂ hui | ዃ hua | ዄ huie | ዅ huu |
| **hy** | ⷐ  hye | ⷑ  hyu | ⷒ  hyi | ⷓ  hya | ⷔ  hyie | ⷕ  hy | ⷖ  hyo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **l** | ለ le | ሉ lu | ሊ li | ላ la | ሌ lie | ል l | ሎ lo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **m** | መ me | ሙ mu | ሚ mi | ማ ma | ሜ mie | ም m | ሞ mo | ᎀ  mue | ᎁ  mui | ሟ mua | ᎂ  muie | ᎃ  muu |
| **r** | ረ re | ሩ ru | ሪ ri | ራ ra | ሬ rie | ር r | ሮ ro |  |  |  |  |  |
| **s** | ሰ se | ሱ su | ሲ si | ሳ sa | ሴ sie | ስ s | ሶ so |  |  |  |  |  |
| **x** | ሸ xe | ሹ xu | ሺ xi | ሻ xa | ሼ xie | ሽ x | ሾ xo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **q** | ቀ qe | ቁ qu | ቂ qi | ቃ qa | ቄ qie | ቅ q | ቆ qo | ቈ que | ቊ qui | ቋ qua | ቌ quie | ቍ quu |
| **qy** | ⷀ qye | ⷁ qyu | ⷂ qyi | ⷃ qya | ⷄ qyie | ⷅ qy | ⷆ qyo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **b** | በ be | ቡ bu | ቢ bi | ባ ba | ቤ bie | ብ b | ቦ bo | ᎄ  bue | ᎅ  bui | ቧ bua | ᎆ  buie | ᎇ  Buu |
| **t** | ተ te | ቱ tu | ቲ ti | ታ ta | ቴ tie | ት t | ቶ to |  |  |  |  |  |
| **c** | ቸ ce | ቹ cu | ቺ ci | ቻ ca | ቼ cie | ች c | ቾ co |  |  |  |  |  |
| **n** | ነ ne | ኑ nu | ኒ ni | ና na | ኔ nie | ን n | ኖ no |  |  |  |  |  |
| **N** | ኘ Ne | ኙ Nu | ኚ Ni | ኛ Na | ኜ Nie | ኝ N | ኞ No |  |  |  |  |  |
| **e** | ኧ e | ኡ u | ኢ i | ኣ a | ኤ ie | እ ee | ኦ o |  |  |  |  |  |
| **k** | ከ ke | ኩ ku | ኪ ki | ካ ka | ኬ kie | ክ k | ኮ ko | ኰ kue | ኲ kui | ኳ kua | ኴ kuie | ኵ kuu |
| **ky** | ⷈ kye | ⷉ kyu | ⷊ kyi | ⷋ kya | ⷌ kyie | ⷍ ky | ⷎ kyo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **w** | ወ we | ዉ wu | ዊ wi | ዋ wa | ዌ wie | ው w | ዎ wo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **A** | ዐ A | ዑ Au / U | ዒ Ai / I | ዓ Aa | ዔ Aie / Ie | ዕ Ae / E | ዖ Ao / O |  |  |  |  |  |
| **z** | ዘ ze | ዙ zu | ዚ zi | ዛ za | ዜ zie | ዝ z | ዞ zo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Z** | ዠ Ze | ዡ Zu | ዢ Zi | ዣ Za | ዤ Zie | ዥ Z | ዦ Zo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **y** | የ ye | ዩ yu | ዪ yi | ያ ya | ዬ yie | ይ y | ዮ yo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **d** | ደ de | ዱ du | ዲ di | ዳ da | ዴ die | ድ d | ዶ do |  |  |  |  |  |
| **j** | ጀ je | ጁ ju | ጂ ji | ጃ ja | ጄ jie | ጅ j | ጆ jo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **g** | ገ ge | ጉ gu | ጊ gi | ጋ ga | ጌ gie | ግ g | ጎ go | ጐ gue | ጒ gui | ጓ gua | ጔ guie | ጕ guu |
| **gy** | ⷘ gye | ⷙ gyu | ⷚ  gyi | ⷛ gya | ⷜ gyie | ⷝ gy | ⷞ gyo |  |  |  |  |  |
| **T** | ጠ Te | ጡ Tu | ጢ Ti | ጣ Ta | ጤ Tie | ጥ T | ጦ To |  |  |  |  |  |
| **C** | ጨ Ce | ጩ Cu | ጪ Ci | ጫ Ca | ጬ Cie | ጭ C | ጮ Co |  |  |  |  |  |
| **f** | ፈ fe | ፉ fu | ፊ fi | ፋ fa | ፌ fie | ፍ f | ፎ fo | ᎈ  fue | ᎉ  fui | ፏ fua | ᎊ  fuie | ᎋ  fuu |
| **p** | ፐ pe | ፑ pu | ፒ pi | ፓ pa | ፔ pie | ፕ p | ፖ po | ᎌ  pue | ᎍ  pui | ፗ pua | ᎎ  puie | ᎏ  puu |

**Consonant and Vowel Marks**

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

ኣባ **CTRL .** ⇒ ኣባ፞ (“abaa”, “a” is stressed)  
 ኣባ፞ **CTRL .** ⇒ ኣባ፟ (“abba”, “b” is stressed)  
 ኣባ፟ **CTRL .** ⇒ ኣባ፝ (“abbaa”, “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 ⇒ 123,456   
12።50 ⇒ 12.50  
12፡50 ⇒ 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 #1 | ፪ #2 | ፫ #3 | ፬ #4 | ፭ #5 | ፮ #6 | ፯ #7 | ፰ #8 | ፱ #9 |  |  |  |
| ፲ #10 | ፳ #20 | ፴ #30 | ፵ #40 | ፶ #50 | ፷ #60 | ፸ #70 | ፹ #80 | ፺ #90 | ፻ #100 | ፲፻ #1000 | ፼ #10000 |

Numeral composition will continue as 0s are entered up to ፼፼ (100,000,000).