

PCRC Phonetic Keyboard Layout

The Punjabi Computing Resource Centre has extensively designed and tested a new phonetic keyboard layout in conjunction with the Punjabi Linux Team. This layout combines the advantages of Inscript and standard font based layouts while removing their limitations.

Features

- A largely phonetic layout without combined keys such as Kanna + Bindi.
- Where appropriate, statistically higher used characters are in the main key state. Lesser used characters are in the shift state.
- Dead keys to remove the need to use pre-composed independent vowels. For example:
 - ਅ + ੈ = ਐ
 - ਓ + ੋ = ਓ
- Enter a space after a dead key to get the standalone form of a character (Ura, Aira or Iri).
- Removal of all Pairin Bindi characters – a single Pairin Bindi (Nukta) key is used instead.
- Standard Latin punctuation in addition to Danda and Double Danda.
- Unicode rendering engines automatically position vowel signs (matras) and other symbols correctly. There is no need for special versions of ੂ and other words.
- Latin numbers (0-9) are available via the number pad without changing layouts.
- Pairin characters such as Pairin Rara and Pairin Haha are written using the Halant key (F) followed by the full form of the character. For example, Pairin Rara is written ੍ + ਰ.

Layout

There are keyboard layouts available for both UK and US Qwerty keyboards. They differ only in the positioning of Latin punctuation. The following examples show the US Qwerty keyboard.

'	੧	੨	੩	੪	੫	੬	੭	੮	੯	੦	-	=	Backspace
Tab	ੇ	ੌ	ੲ	ਰ	ਤ	ਯ	ੁ	ਿ	ੋ	ਪ	।	ੰ	Enter
Caps	ਅ	ਸ	ਦ	ਾ	ਗ	ਹ	ਜ	ਕ	ਲ	;	'	\	
Shift	\	ਡ	੍	ਚ	ਵ	ਬ	ਨ	ਮ	,	.	/	Shift	
Control	Alt	[S P]										Alt	Control

Normal

~	!	@	#	\$	%	^	&	*	()	_	+	Backspace
Tab	ੈ	ਥ		ੜ	ਟ		ੂ	ੀ	ੌ	ਫ	॥	ਂ	Enter
Caps	ੳ	ਠ	ਧ	੍	ਘ	ਙ	ਝ	ਫ਼	ਖ		:	"	
Shift		ਚ	ਵ	ਛ		ਭ	ਣ		<	>	?		Shift
Control	Alt	SP										Alt	Control

Shift

ੴ`				€							Rs		Backspace
Tab													Enter
Caps											:		
Shift													Shift
Control	Alt											Alt	Control

Ctrl + Alt (AltGr)

	ZWJ	ZWJ	ZWJ										Backspace
Tab													Enter
Caps													
Shift													Shift
Control	Alt											Alt	Control

Ctrl + Shift