

Akatab - Font Features

Akatab is an OpenType-enabled font family that supports the Tifinagh script. It includes a number of optional user-selected features that may be useful or required for particular uses or languages. This document lists all the user-selected features. These features are primarily specified using four-letter tags (e.g. 'cv17'). For more information on how to access OpenType features in specific environments and applications, see [Using Font Features](#).

Akatab also provides for a number of common features such as ligature formation, contextual substitution and diacritic positioning. It also provides right-to-left rendering of text. Most applications will make use of these features when the proper sequence of characters is entered.

This page uses web fonts (WOFF2) to demonstrate font features and should display correctly in all modern browsers. For detailed information, see [Using SIL Fonts on Web Pages](#). For a more concise example of how to use Akatab as a web font, see [Akatab Webfont Example](#).

If this document is not displaying correctly, a PDF version is also provided in the documentation/pdf folder of the release package.

User-selected feature list

Character variants

Alternate YA

Affects: U+2D30

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	•	•	cv01=0
Circle	◦	◦	cv01=1

Alternate YAF

Affects: U+2D3C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ⵢ	ⵢ	cv02=0
I-shape	ⵢ	ⵢ	cv02=1
Open top and bottom	ⵢ	ⵢ	cv02=2

Alternate YAGHH

Affects: U+2D34

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ⵧ	ⵧ	cv03=0
Round bottom	ⵧ	ⵧ	cv03=1

Alternate YAGN

Affects: U+2D50

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ⵡ	ⵡ	cv04=0
Lowered bottom stroke	ⵡ	ⵡ	cv04=1

Alternate YU (Tuareg YAW) Tuareg YAGH, YAH and YAQ (short strokes)

Affects: U+2D53 U+2D57 U+2D42 U+2D48

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	: : ⵢ ⵣ	ⵣ ⵢ : :	cv05=0
Short strokes	= = ⵢ ⵣ	ⵣ ⵢ = =	cv05=1

Alternate YAZ

Affects: U+2D63

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ⵣ	ⵣ	cv06=0
Squared	ⵣ	ⵣ	cv06=1

Alternate AHAGGAR YAZH

Affects: U+2D4B

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ⵧ	ⵧ	cv07=0
Squared	ⵧ	ⵧ	cv07=1

Alternate YAB

Affects: U+2D31

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ɑ	Ɑ	cv08=0
Rectangle style	Ɑ̐	Ɑ̐	cv08=1

Alternate YAG

Affects: U+2D33

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ɱ	Ɱ	cv09=0
Rounded top	Ɱ̐	Ɱ̐	cv09=1

Alternate YAJ

Affects: U+2D36

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ɐ	Ɐ	cv10=0
Lower dots	Ɐ̣	Ɐ̣	cv10=1

Alternate YAH (Tuareg yab)

Affects: U+2D40

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ɒ	Ɒ	cv11=0
Rectangle style	Ɒ̐	Ɒ̐	cv11=1

Alternate YASH

Affects: U+2D5B

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ⱳ	Დ	cv12=0
8 shape	ⱳ̐	Დ̐	cv12=1

Alternate YATT

Affects: U+2D5F

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	𐤄	𐤄	cv13=0
F shape	𐤅	𐤅	cv13=1

Alternate YADH

Affects: U+2D38

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	V	V	cv15=0
Rounded bottom	U	U	cv15=1



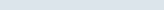
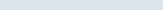
Neo-Tifinagh

Affects: 2D30 2D3C 2D4D 2D53 2D5A 2D5B 2D5C

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard	•] [∥ ∶ # € +	cv18=0
Neo-Tifinagh	◦] [∥ ∶ Ø € +	cv18=1


Alternate YAN and YAL

Affects: U+2D4D U+2D4F

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard			cv19=0
Slanted			cv19=1

Alternate punctuation

Affects: U+0021 U+002C U+002E

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard Latin	! , .	cv20=0
Decorative		cv20=1

Alternate YO

Affects: U+2D67

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	--		cv21=0
Dots	..		cv21=1

Ligature variants

Alternate YAB YAT

Affects: U+2D31 U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	⊖+	+⊖	cv31=0
Interior T	⊕	⊕	cv31=1

Alternate YAR YAT

Affects: U+2D54 U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	○+	+○	cv32=0
Large interior T	⊕	⊕	cv32=1
Small interior T	⊕	⊕	cv32=2









Alternate YAS YAT

Affects: U+2D59 U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	⊙+	+⊙	cv33=0
Large interior T lower dot	⊕	⊕	cv33=1
Small interior T	⊕	⊕	cv33=2
Large interior T upper dot	⊕	⊕	cv33=3

Alternate YAM YAT

Affects: U+2D4E U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard			cv34=0
Mid exterior T			cv34=1
Low interior T			cv34=2
Center T			cv34=3

Alternate YAF YAT

Affects: U+2D3C U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	᳚᳚	᳚᳚	cv35=0
Single bar, middle exterior T	᳚᳚	᳚᳚	cv02=1
Double bar, middle exterior T	᳚᳚	᳚᳚	cv35=1
Single bar, middle interior T	᳚᳚	᳚᳚	cv35=2
Open top & bottom, interior T	᳚᳚	᳚᳚	cv02=2

Alternate YAN TUAREG YAK

Affects: U+2D4F U+2D3E

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	↑	↑	cv36=0
Double cluster dots	↕	↕	cv36=1

Alternate YAN YAT

Affects: U+2D4F U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	⌈	⌊	cv37=0
Side bar	┌	└	cv37=1
Top bar	⌞	⌟	cv37=2

Alternate YAL YAT

Affects: U+2D4D U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	+	+	cv38=0
Internal T			cv38=1
Middle bar	‡	‡	cv38=2
X shape	X	X	cv38=3

Alternate YU YAT (WT)

Affects: U+2D53 U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	÷	÷	cv39=0
Left short strokes	÷	÷	cv05=1
Tall T, left dots	÷	÷	cv39=1
Tall T, cross dots	÷	÷	cv39=2

Alternate TUAREG YAZH YAT

Affects: U+2D4C U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	‡	+‡	cv40=0
Mid exterior T	‡	+‡	cv40=1
Center T	‡	‡	cv40=2

Alternate YAN YAD

Affects: U+2D4F U+2D37

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	↑	↑	cv41=0
Up down pointers	↕	↕	cv41=1

Alternate YAN YAF

Affects: U+2D4F U+2D3C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ƶ	Ƶ	cv42=0
Top and bottom bars	ƶ	ƶ	cv42=1
No bars	Ʒ	Ʒ	cv02=2

Alternate YAN YAJ

Affects: U+2D4F U+2D36

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ƹ	ƹ	cv43=0
Top and bottom dots	ƺ	ƺ	cv43=1

Alternate YAN YAS

Affects: U+2D4F U+2D59

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ƻ	ƻ	cv44=0
Interior YAN	Ƽ	Ƽ	cv44=1

Alternate YAN TUAREG YAZH

Affects: U+2D4F U+2D4C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ƽ	ƽ	cv45=0
Exterior circles	ƿ	ƿ	cv45=1

Alternate YAR TUAREG YAK

Affects: U+2D54 U+2D3E

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ƿ	ƿ	cv46=0
Double cluster dots	ƿ̣	ƿ̣	cv46=1

Alternate YASH TUAREG YAK

Affects: U+2D5B U+2D3E

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ქ	Ქ	cv47=0
Double cluster dots	Ქ̣̣	Ქ̣̣	cv47=1
8 shape	Ქ̸	Ქ̸	cv12=1
8 shape, double cluster dots	Ქ̸̣̣	Ქ̸̣̣	cv47=2

Alternate YASH YAT

Affects: U+2D5B U+2D5C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ქ̣	Ქ̣	cv48=0
Internal T	Ქ̣̣	Ქ̣̣	cv48=1

Stylistic sets

Alternate YA

Affects: U+2D30

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	•	•	ss01=0
Circle	◦	◦	ss01=1

Alternate YAF

Affects: U+2D3C

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ლ	Ლ	ss02=0
I-shape	Ლ̣	Ლ̣	ss02=1
Open top and bottom	Ლ̣̣	Ლ̣̣	ss14=1

Alternate YAGHH

Affects: U+2D34

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	⧵	⧵	ss03=0
Round bottom	⧶	⧶	ss03=1

Alternate YAGN

Affects: U+2D50

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	𐤔	𐤔	ss04=0
Lowered bottom stroke	𐤕	𐤕	ss04=1

Alternate YU (Tuareg YAW) Tuareg YAGH, YAH and YAQ (short strokes)

Affects: U+2D53 U+2D57 U+2D42 U+2D48

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	: : ⋮ ⋯	⋯ ⋮ ⋮ :	ss05=0
Short strokes	= ≡ ≡ ⋯	⋯ ≡ ≡ =	ss05=1

Alternate YAZ

Affects: U+2D63

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	𐤊	𐤊	ss06=0
Squared	𐤊	𐤊	ss06=1

Alternate Ahaggar YAZH

Affects: U+2D4B

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	𐤆	𐤆	ss07=0
Squared	𐤆	𐤆	ss07=1

Alternate YAB

Affects: U+2D31

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ɑ	Ɑ	ss08=0
Rectangle style	Ɑ	Ɑ	ss08=1

Alternate YAG

Affects: U+2D33

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ɱ	Ɱ	ss09=0
Rounded top	Ɱ	Ɱ	ss09=1

Alternate YAJ

Affects: U+2D36

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ɐ	Ɐ	ss10=0
Lower dots	Ɐ	Ɐ	ss10=1

Alternate YAH (Tuareg yab)

Affects: U+2D40

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ɒ	Ɒ	ss11=0
Rectangle style	Ɒ	Ɒ	ss11=1

Alternate YASH

Affects: U+2D5B

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	ⱱ	ⱱ	ss12=0
8 shape	ⱱ	ⱱ	ss12=1

Alternate YATT

Affects: U+2D5F

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ǝ	Ლ	ss13=0
F shape	F	Ლ	ss13=1

Alternate YADH

Affects: U+2D38

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ლ	Ლ	ss15=0
Rounded bottom	Ლ	Ლ	ss15=1

Neo-Tifinagh

Affects: 2D30 2D3C 2D4D 2D53 2D5A 2D5B 2D5C

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard	• Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ	ss18=0
Neo-Tifinagh	• Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ	ss18=1

Alternate YAN and YAL

Affects: U+2D4D U+2D4F

Feature	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
Standard	Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ	Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ	ss19=0
Slanted	Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ	Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ Ლ	ss19=1

Alternate punctuation

Affects: U+0021 U+002C U+002E

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard Latin	! , .	ss20=0
Decorative	! , .	ss20=1

Using language system tags

Unfortunately, the UI needed to access the language-specific behavior is not yet present in many applications. LibreOffice and Microsoft Word 2016 support language-specific behavior for ????. Microsoft Word 2019, but not LibreOffice, supports language-specific behavior for ????. Neither application provides

support for the ??? languages. Some Harfbuzz-based apps, e.g., XeTeX, can access language-specific behavior. In the past, it was not always possible to override language-specific behavior in cases where the language-specific variants were undesirable but, as of version ???, the font now supports this possibility.

Language list

Tamasheq (TAQ)

Affects: U+2D30

Language	Sample	Sample right-to-left	Feature setting
default	ɿ ɛ ɛ ɿ ɥ ɛ ɔ+ ɛ̃ ɛ̃	ḡ +⊕ ʁ ɥ ɿ ɥ ʁ ɿ ɛ̃	
Tamasheq	ɿ ʁ ɸ ɥ ɥ ʁ ⊕ ḡ ʁ	ḡ +⊕ ʁ ɥ ɥ ɥ ʁ ɿ ʁ	lang='taq'

Tahaggart (THV)

Affects: U+2D30

Language	Sample	Feature setting
default	--	
Tahaggart	“	lang='thv'

Tawallammat (TTQ)

Affects: U+2D30

Language	Sample	Sample slant variants	Feature setting
default	J J̸ I+ C̸ Æ Ĩ ⊖ † O+ €+	' ' '' '	
Tawallammat	H H̸ X E J̸ Ĩ̇ ⊙ † ⊕ €	N NI NI NI	lang='ttq'

Common features list

The Akatab fonts contain logic that uses features to render certain glyphs and sequences properly. This logic processes the sequence of glyphs and produces the proper visual representation.

The sections below show the use of some formatting characters, notably the TIFINAGH CONSONANT JOINER (U+2D7F) and RIGHT-TO-LEFT OVERRIDE (U+202E). A recommended keyboard for Tifinagh characters and these special characters can be downloaded at the [Keyman Tuareg Tifinagh keyboard](#) web site.

Contextual shaping

Two Tifinagh characters, TIFINAGH LETTER YAL (U+2D4D) and TIFINAGH LETTER YAN (U+2D4F), could cause ambiguity when they appear next to each other. To prevent uncertainty, the second character in the

|| | || || || || ||

Ligature formation

$\Theta + \rightarrow \Theta^+$	$\text{I} \wedge \rightarrow \uparrow$	$\text{I} \times \rightarrow \times$	$\text{C} \div \rightarrow \ddot{\text{C}}$
$\text{O} + \rightarrow \text{O}^+$	$\text{I} \vee \rightarrow \downarrow$	$\text{I} \ddot{\text{Y}} \rightarrow \ddot{\text{Y}}$	$\text{I} \text{C} \rightarrow \text{C}$
$\text{O} \div \rightarrow \ddot{\text{O}}$	$\text{C} + \rightarrow \text{C}_4$	$\ddot{\text{Y}} + \rightarrow \ddot{\text{Y}}$	$\text{C} + \rightarrow \text{C}^+$
$\text{O} + \rightarrow \text{O}^+$	$\text{I} \text{C} \rightarrow \text{H}$	$\text{I} \div \rightarrow \dot{\text{I}}$	$\div + \rightarrow \div$
$\text{O} \div \rightarrow \ddot{\text{O}}$	$\text{C} + \rightarrow \text{C}_4$	$\text{I} + \rightarrow \text{I}^+$	$\# + \rightarrow \#^+$
$\text{I} \text{O} \rightarrow \text{O}^+$	$\leq + \rightarrow \leq$	$\text{I} \div \rightarrow \ddot{\text{I}}$	$\text{X} + \rightarrow \text{X}^+$
$\text{O} + \rightarrow \text{O}^+$	$\times + \rightarrow \times^+$	$\text{I} + \rightarrow \text{I}^+$	$\text{X} + \rightarrow \text{X}^+$

Akatab biconsonant ligature examples

Right-to-left Tifinagh

1. U+202E (RIGHT-TO-LEFT OVERRIDE) for right-to-left Tifinagh
The text that follows will be right-to-left. Additionally, the directionality of characters is changed to right-to-left.
2. U+202C (POP DIRECTIONAL FORMATTING) to revert direction for Tifinagh text
The text that follows reverts to the direction of the text before the previous U+202E character.

Akatab examples

$$\Theta|++ + \Theta \cdot ||^1 : O + \ddot{::}| + \lceil \Sigma$$
$$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}] + i\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{O} : i\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{O} + i\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{O}$$

01++ +0:11' :0 +i:1+ [Σ ≧] +1:i+ 0: '11:0+ ++10

This guide is from the [Akatab project](#) version 4 and is copyright © 2010-2024 SIL Global.