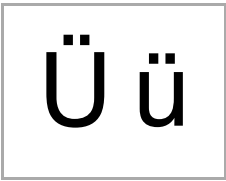


Ü, or **ü**, is a character that typically represents a close front rounded vowel [y]. It is classified as a separate letter in several extended Latin alphabets (including Azeri, Estonian, Hungarian and Turkish), but as the letter U with an umlaut/diaeresis in others such as Catalan, French, Galician, German, Occitan and Spanish. Although not a part of their alphabet, it also appears in languages such as Swedish when retained in foreign names and words, and Swedish spells said letter and sound in domestic words solely as Y. A small number of Dutch words also use this as a diaeresis.



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U-umlaut

A glyph, U with umlaut, appears in the German alphabet. It represents the umlauted form of *u*, which results in the same sound as the [y]. It can also represent [ʏ]. The letter is collated together with *U*, or as *UE*. In languages that have adopted German names or spellings, such as Swedish, the letter also occurs. It is however not a part of these languages' alphabets. In Swedish the letter is called *tyskt y* which means *German y*.

In other languages that do not have the letter as part of the regular alphabet or in limited character sets such as ASCII, U-umlaut is frequently replaced with the two-letter combination "**ue**". Software for optical character recognition sometimes sees it falsely as *ii*.

<i>Ŧ</i>	=	Ä	<i>ʝ</i>	=	ä
<i>Ɔ</i>	=	Ö	<i>ɔ</i>	=	ö
<i>ʝ</i>	=	Ü	<i>ʝ</i>	=	ü

Johann Martin Schleyer proposed alternative forms for Ü and ü (Ɑ and Ɱ, respectively) in Volapük but they were rarely used.

Letter Ü

The letter **Ü** is present in the Hungarian, French, Turkish, Uyghur Latin, Estonian, Azeri, Turkmen, Crimean Tatar, Kazakh Latin and Tatar Latin alphabets, where it represents a close front rounded vowel [y]. It is considered a distinct letter, collated separately, not a simple modification of U or Y, and is distinct from *UE*.

In the Swedish and Finnish alphabets *ü* is alphabetized as *y*.

This same letter appears in the Chinese Romanisations pinyin, Wade-Giles, and the German-based Lessing-Othmer, where it represents the same sound [y]: 綠/lü (green) or 女/nü (female). Standard Mandarin Chinese pronunciation has both the sounds [y] and [u]. Pinyin only uses "Ü" to represent [y] after the letters "L" or "N" to avoid confusion with words such as 路/lu (road) and 怒/nu (anger). Words such as 玉/yu (jade) or 句/ju (sentence) are pronounced with [y], but are not spelled with "Ü". Although Wade-Giles and Lessing use *Ü* in all situations. As the letter "Ü" is missing on most keyboards and the letter "V" is not present in standard Mandarin pinyin, the letter "V" is used on most computer Chinese input methods to enter the letter "Ü". As a result, romanisation of Chinese with the letter "V" representing the Ü sound is sometimes found. However, Ü sound should be officially represented by "yu" in Pinyin when it's difficult to enter Ü. For example, the surname Lü (吕) would be written as "Lyu" in the passports.^[1]

U-diaeresis

Several languages use diaeresis over the letter **U** to show that the letter is pronounced in its regular way, without dropping out, building diphthongs with neighbours, etc.

In Spanish, it is used to distinguish between "gue"/"güe" [ge]/[gwe] and "gui"/"güi" [gi]/[gwi]: *nicaragüense* ("Nicaraguan"), *pingüino* ("penguin").

Similarly in Catalan, "gue~güe" are [ge]~[gwe], "gui~güi" are [gi]~[gwi], "que~qüe" are [ke]~[kwe] and "qui~qüi" are [ki]~[kwi], as in *aigües*, *pingüins*, *qüestió*, *adeqüi*. Also, *ü* is used to mark that vowel pairs that normally would form a diphthong must be pronounced as separate syllables, examples: *Raül*, *diürn*.

In French, the diaeresis appears over the "u" only very rarely, in some uncommon words, *capharnaüm* [-ɑɔm] ('shambles'), *Capharnaüm*/*Capernaüm* [-ɑɔm] or *Emmaüs* [-ays]. After the 1990 spelling reforms, it is applied to a few more words, like *aigüe* (formerly *aiguë*), *ambigüe* (formerly *ambiguë*) and *argüer* [aʁgɥe] (formerly without the diaeresis).

Usage in phonetic alphabets

In the Rheinische Dokumenta, a phonetic alphabet for many West Central German, the Low Rhenish, and few related vernacular languages, "ü" represents a range from [y] to [ʏ].

Typography

Historically the unique letter *Ů* and U-diaeresis were written as a *U* with two dots above the letter. U-umlaut was written as a *U* with a small *e* written above: this minute *e* degenerated to two vertical bars in medieval handwritings. In most later handwritings these bars in turn nearly became dots.

In modern typography there was insufficient space on typewriters and later computer keyboards to allow for both a U-with-dots (also representing *Ů*) and a U-with-bars. Since they looked near-identical the two glyphs were combined, which was also done in computer character encodings such as ISO 8859-1. As a result, there was no way to differentiate between the three different characters. While Unicode theoretically provides a solution, this is almost never used.

Computing codes

Character	Ü		ü	
Unicode name	LATIN CAPITAL LETTER U WITH DIAERESIS		LATIN SMALL LETTER U WITH DIAERESIS	
Encodings	decimal	hex	decimal	hex
<u>Unicode</u>	220	U+00DC	252	U+00FC
<u>UTF-8</u>	195 156	C3 9C	195 188	C3 BC
<u>Numeric character reference</u>	Ü	Ü	ü	ü
<u>Named character reference</u>	Ü		ü	
<u>EBCDIC family</u>	252	FC	220	DC
<u>ISO 8859-1/3/4/9/10/14/15/16</u>	220	DC	252	FC
<u>CP437</u>	154	9A	129	81
<u>Code page 10029</u>	134	86	159	9F

Keyboarding

The methods available for entering <Ü> and <ü> from the keyboard depend on the operating system, the keyboard layout, and the application.

- Microsoft Windows – some keyboard layouts feature separate keys for <Ü>
 - Using the Swiss French keyboard, <ü> can be entered by typing ⇧ Shift + È
 - Using the US International layout, <ü> can be entered by typing AltGR + Y
- Microsoft Windows: with the Number Lock on, hold down the Alt key while typing on the numeric keypad the decimal value of the code point from the active DOS/OEM code page *without* a leading zero, then release the Alt key; i.e. Alt + 1 + 5 + 4 for <Ů> and Alt + 1 + 2 + 9 for <ü>
- Microsoft Windows: with the Number Lock on, hold down the Alt key while typing on the numeric keypad the decimal value of the code point from the active ANSI code page *with* a leading zero, then release the Alt key; i.e. Alt + 0 + 2 + 2 + 0 for <Ü> and Alt + 0 + 2 + 5 + 2 for <ü>
- Microsoft Word for Windows: type Ctrl + : followed by ⇧ Shift + U for <Ü> or Ctrl + : then U for <ü>
- macOS with an English keyboard layout (Australian, British, or U.S.): type ⌘ Option + U followed by ⇧ Shift + U for <Ü> or ⌘ Option + U and then U for <ü> or by keeping the U key pressed and then typing 2
- In GTK-based GUI-Applications, Ctrl + ⇧ Shift + U followed by the Hex-Code and ↵ Enter
- On systems with a Compose key, Compose, followed by " and ⇧ Shift + U for <Ü>, and Compose, ", U for <ü>

See also

- Umlaut (diacritic)
- Ў ў : Cyrillic letter U with diaeresis

References

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