Keyboard: Ghana Unicode – Nkonya Phonetic variant

Introduction

This keyboard lets you type phonetic letters in Nkonya. These are the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) characters used in the pronunciations in the Nkonya dictionary. The keyboard also gives additional IPA features not in the Nkonya alphabet.

Keystrokes for the Keyboard

IPA Characters the Same as or Similar to the Nkonya Alphabet

Non-English letters in Nkonya are tped the same way as the Nkonya Alphabet keyboard. Two of the letters in the Nkonya alphabet (ɪ and ʊ) appear differently in IPA (ɪ and ʊ). IPA characters don't have upper case. Some upper case keystrokes are used to type IPA features that are not in the English or Nkonya alphabet.

Unlike with the regular Nkonya keyboard, tone marks are typed after the letter. Here are the keys in the Nkonya keyboard and the IPA characters that are produced:

[→ ɛ	x → ɪ	= → ŋ	] → ɔ	q → ʊ
a' → á	e' → é	[' → ɛ́	i' → í	x' → ɪ́
o' → ó	]' → ɔ́	u' → ú	q' → ʊ́	

Nkonya Alphabet Double letters replaced with a single IPA character

There are some sounds in Nkonya where the Nkonya alphabet uses two letters that are marked in IPA with a single letter:

ny = ɲ	Keystroke: N	E.g.: nya "to get" – Type Na to get ɲa
gy = ʤ	Keystroke: J	E.g.: gya "to get" – Type Ja to get ʤa

Sounds not marked in the Nkonya Alphabet but marked in IPA

Nkonya has a glottal stop that isn't marked in the alphabet:

ʔ	Keystroke: ?	E.g.: dɔ "to farm" – Type d]? to get dɔʔ

Sounds Marked with Diacritics in IPA

A nasalized vowel is marked in the Nkonya alphabet with n after it. In IPA it is marked with a tilde (~) over the vowel (õ):

õ	Keystroke: ~	E.g.: dan "to be mature" – Type da~? to get dã?

In addition to the high tone (ó) mentioned above, there are rising (ǒ) and falling (ô) tones in Nkonya that aren't marked in the alphabet:

ǒ	Keystroke: $	E.g.: baflɛ "pawpaw" – Type bafl[$? to get baflɛ̌?
ô	Keystroke: ˆ	E.g.: ɪdɛhɔ "It is burning" – Type xd[h]ˆ? to get ɪdɛhɔ̂?

Tones can be stacked on top of a nasalized vowel as well. Type the tilde (~) first:

ỗ	Keystroke: ~ˆ	E.g.: ɔdɛdan "He is maturing" – Type]d[da~ˆ? to get ɔdɛdã̂?

Other IPA Markings

A long vowel is marked in the Nkonya alphabet with a double vowel. In IPA it is marked with a special colon after it. The colon is two triangles (꞉) instead of two dots:

꞉	Keystroke – :	E.g.: féé "all" – Type f[': to get fé꞉

When two letters are joined together to form a single sound (E.g. kp and gb in Nkonya), IPA uses a tie bar (k͡p) over the two letters. An n in front of kp has both ŋ and m sounds and should use both ŋ and m with a tie bar in IPA ŋ͡m. For example, nkpa "life" – ŋ͡mk͡pa :

o͡o	Keystroke: %	E.g.: ɔkpa "path" – Type]k%pa to get ɔk͡pa
ŋ͡m	Keystroke: n%m	E.g.: nkpa "life" – Type =%mk%pa to get ŋ͡mk͡pa

An n in front of an f is different from both m and n. IPA uses a different letter, ɱ.

ɱ	Keystroke: M	E.g.: anfɩ "this" – Type aMfx to get aɱfɩ

t͡ʃ is used for the English "ch" sound. In Nkonya, this sound varies according to dialect. The Southern dialect "ts" should also have a tie bar:

t͡ʃ	Keystroke: t%S	E.g.: ntsu "water" (Northern) – Type nt%Su to get nt͡ʃu E.g.: kɩaɩ "dog" (Southern) – Type t%Sxax to get t͡ʃɩaɩ
t͡s	Keystroke: t%s	E.g.: ntsu "water" (Southern) – Type nt%su to get nt͡su Northern dialect pronounces "ts" as t͡ʃ

A w following a consonant uses a special raised w – ○ʷ to indicate that it modifies the consonant:

ʷ	Keystroke: W	E.g.: bwɛ "make" – Type bW[? to get bʷɛʔ

The Icon

The icon for the keyboard is: