



Tamil Anjal Paangu Keyboard Help

Keyboard © 2008 thamizha.com and Tavultesoft

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Overview

This keyboard is designed for the Tamil language. It is a phonetic keyboard, which means the Tamil characters are arranged according to the letters of the English keyboard. This makes it easy to use for people learning Tamil, as well as Tamil speakers. Typing follows a consonant-vowel pattern, and the keyboard is designed for use with a normal QWERTY (English) keyboard.

Most computers will automatically download a special font if needed to display this language correctly.

[Click here](#) to see other keyboard layouts for Tamil.

Using this Keyboard

Keyboard Layout

Unshifted															
`	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	-	=	Backspace		
Tab	Q	∴	ந	எ	ர	ர்	ட்	ய்	உ	இ	ஓ	ப்	[]	\
Caps Lock	A	அ	ச	ட	F	க்	ஹ்	ஜ்	க்	ல்	;	'	Enter		
Shift	Z	ழ்	ஶ்	C	V	வ்	ப்	ன்	ம்	,	.	/	Shift		
Ctrl		Alt										Alt		Ctrl	

Shift														
`	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	-	=	Backspace	
Tab	Q	ஞ்	ஏ	ற்	த்	Y	ஊ	ஈ	ஓ	P	[]	\	
Caps Lock	A	ஆ	ஸ்	D	F	G	H	J	K	ள்	;	'	Enter	
Shift	Z	ங்	C	V	B	ண்	M	,	.	/	Shift			
Ctrl		Alt										Alt		Ctrl

Quickstart

This keyboard makes typing in Tamil straightforward for anyone familiar with a normal English keyboard. Consonants and vowels are arranged on the

keyboard so that pressing an English letter displays the Tamil character which sounds closest to that letter. Some characters, however, representing sounds which do not exist in the English alphabet, are located on unused keys. Grantha consonants are also on the keyboard, and long vowels are typed by pressing the vowel key twice, or by pressing **Shift** + and the vowel key. For example, the vowel ஐ is typed by pressing **i**, while pressing **ii** or **i** produces the long vowel ஈ.

Most of the characters used in Tamil are combinations of consonants and vowels, and these do not appear on the keyboard. Combined consonant-vowel characters are entered by typing the consonant, then the vowel. To enter சா, which is a combination of ச and ஆ, type **S** then **A**, and the combinant character will automatically be displayed. Pressing Backspace once will delete only the vowel component, so the character displayed on the screen will change back to ச, and change again if a different vowel is typed.

Examples

Language	Phrase	Meaning	Type the following keys
Tamil	தமிழ்	Name of language	t h a m i z
Language	Phrase	Meaning	Type the following keys
Tamil	தமிழ் அரிச்சுவடி <	"Tamil alphabet"	t h a m i z a r i s s u v a d i

Keyboard Details

This keyboard uses a consonant-vowel order for text input, so the consonant character is always typed before the vowel, regardless of where (relative to the consonant) the vowel marker symbol appears. As syllables are typed, the characters entered are automatically converted to the appropriate consonant-vowel combinant. While only the combinant characters are displayed on screen, the consonant and vowel are both stored, so that pressing Backspace once after a combinant deletes only the vowel component. This means it is necessary to press Backspace twice to delete a combinant character. However, pressing the Delete key with the cursor in front of a combinant character removes the whole character with one keystroke.

The visible keyboard layout consists of the ten vowels அ ஆ இ ஈ உ ஊ எ ஏ ஒ ஓ (the vowels ஐ ஓ are typed with two keystrokes), the eighteen consonants க ங ச ஞ ட ண த ந ப ம ய ர ல வ ழ ள ற ன, the Grantha consonants ஸ ஜ ஹ ஶ ஷ (ஷ is typed with two keystrokes, and ஶ with three) and the Aytham ூ mark.

Consonants and Pulli Marks

Most of the consonants are arranged so that they can be typed with a single key. A few consonants which use the same English (Roman) letter as another consonant, or which have no equivalent English letter, must be typed with two keystrokes. See the [complete keyboard chart](#) for details.

This keyboard does not have a key for the Pulli mark ூ, which defines a standalone consonant. Instead, every consonant will display the Pulli mark when it is typed, and the Pulli mark will disappear when a vowel is typed. The implicit vowel அ thus needs to be typed, though it is not actually displayed when combined with a consonant.

The SRii Character ஶ

There are two ways of entering this character: **S r i i** or **S h r i i**. Currently, some browsers support one, both or neither of these entry methods. [Click here](#) if you are having difficulty entering this character.

Vowels

Vowels are typed using the English vowel letters. Tamil distinguishes between short and long vowel sounds, and the keyboard is arranged so that pressing any vowel key once will produce the short vowel, while pressing it twice, or pressing **Shift** + together with the vowel key, will produce the long vowel. When typing, it is often more efficient to press the vowel key twice rather than using **Shift** + . The vowels ஐ and ஓ, which do not have equivalent single letters in English, are typed with two keystrokes as shown below.

Keystroke Examples

Note: for a complete table of characters and keystrokes, [click here](#).

The following table gives specific examples of how to input characters based on the consonant க. The Grantha consonants use the same input method. Examples of these with the consonant ஜ are also given below.

Tamil Consonants				Grantha Consonants			
Consonant	Vowel/Pulli	Combinant	Keystrokes	Consonant	Vowel/Pulli	Combinant	Keystrokes
க	ஃ	க்	g	ஜ	ஃ	ஜ்	j
	அ	க	g a		அ	ஜ	j a
	ஆ	கா	g a a		ஆ	ஜா	j a a
	இ	கி	g i		இ	ஜி	j i
	ஈ	கீ	g i i		ஈ	ஜீ	j i i
	உ	கு	g u		உ	ஜு	j u
	ஊ	கூ	g u u		ஊ	ஜூ	j u u
	எ	கெ	g e		எ	ஜெ	j e

ஏ	கே	g e e	ஏ	ஜே	j e e
ஐ	கை	g a i	ஐ	ஜை	j a i
ஓ	கொ	g o	ஓ	ஜொ	j o
ஔ	கோ	g o o	ஔ	ஜோ	j o o
ஒள	கள	g a u	ஒள	ஜள	j a u

Typing Conventions

Aside from the alternate methods of typing long vowels described above, several other conventions are incorporated in this keyboard. These are not 'rules' which must be followed, rather they are shortcuts, or ways of increasing the efficiency of typing Tamil using English (Roman) letters. These conventions may not actually reduce the number of keystrokes needed for typing characters, but by largely avoiding **Shift**+ combinations, they make typing Tamil easier and faster.

ற Consonant

The consonant ற is usually typed with **R**, while typing a lower-case **r** produces ற̣. Because ற sometimes appears twice in succession, the keyboard has been arranged so that pressing **d r** or **t r** produces ற்ற, without needing to use **Shift**+.

Similarly, because ற never appears after ன், pressing **d r** or **t r** after ன் produces ன்ற, again avoiding the use of **Shift**+.

ன் and ற் Consonants

The consonant ன் is usually typed by pressing **n**, and ற் is produced by typing **w** or **n-**. However, if **n** is pressed after a space or a carriage return, it will produce ன்.

஌, ன் and ண் Consonants

Typing **d** (஌) after ன் will change the ன் to ண் (otherwise typed with **N**). ஌ can also be entered by pressing **t**, but this will not change the ன் character.

ஞ் Consonant

This character can be entered either by typing **w** or **n j**. When ஞ் is followed by ஃ which is often typed with **c h** (though **s** is an alternate way of typing this character), the sequence **n j j** will produce ஞ்ஃ.

த் Consonant

This character can be typed using either **T** or **t h**. In some words, this character is repeated twice in succession. Typing **t t h** provides a shortcut to entering this.

English words used in Tamil

Some English words that can be written in Tamil script will not display correctly if typed exactly as they are written, as the keyboard automatically makes some of the changes listed above. To avoid this, it may be necessary to insert spaces when typing and delete these spaces afterwards.

Other Characters

This keyboard does not contain characters such as the symbols for day, month, year, etc., or the glyphs used as vowel modifiers. Some of the [alternate Tamil keyboards](#) do allow these characters to be typed.

Troubleshooting

Fonts

This keyboard allows only the standard Tamil characters, so will work with the fonts supplied with Windows. No further downloads of fonts should be required.

If the characters you type or those on the On Screen Keyboard do not appear to display correctly, please read the [KeymanWeb troubleshooting guide](#).

Problem Solving

If the preceding consonant does not change to a vowel-consonant combinant character when you type a vowel, confirm that you have not typed the first vowel அ, which identifies the consonant as the implicit-vowel consonant, or a space. Typing either of these after a consonant will prevent that consonant from changing to a combinant character.

Further Resources

Related Keyboard Layouts

Other Keyboard Layouts for the Tamil language:

[Tamil99](#)
[Suratha Bamuni \(Bamini Typewriter\)](#)
[ISIS Tamil](#)
[Inscript Tamil](#)
[Modular \(Visual Media\)](#)
[Typewriter \(Visual Media\)](#)

Other Internet Resources

[Download Anjal Keyboard for Keyman Desktop](#)

Tamil Writing System at Omniglot.com
Tamil Language at Wikipedia.org
Tamil Script at Wikipedia.org

Technical Information

System Requirements

This keyboard requires an English QWERTY hardware keyboard.

Unicode Version

This keyboard complies with Unicode 5.2

Authorship

This keyboard was created by Mugunth (mugunth@gmail.com), Umar (csd_one@yahoo.com) and K. Sethu (skhome@gmail.com). For more information about keyboards produced by these developers, see <http://thamizha.com>. Tavultesoft gratefully acknowledges the contribution made by the authors in developing this keyboard and making it freely available for use with Keyman Desktop and KeymanWeb. Their effort assists in enabling people to communicate in their own language.

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Keyboard Reference Chart

The following chart lists all the characters available with this keyboard. Below each character are the keystrokes required to type it.

\ Vowels	ஃ	அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஔ	ஓ	ஔ
Consonants\		அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஔ	ஓ	ஔ
க	க்	கா	காா	கி	கிி	கு	கூ	கெ	கே	கை	கொ	கோ	கௌ
ங	ங்	ஙா	ஙாா	நி	நிி	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
ச	ச்	சா	சாா	சி	சிி	சு	சூ	செ	சே	சை	சொ	சோ	சௌ
ஞ	ஞ்	ஞா	ஞாா	நி	நிி	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
ட	ட்	டா	டாா	டி	டிி	டு	டூ	டெ	டே	டை	டொ	டோ	டௌ
ண	ண்	ணா	ணாா	ணி	ணிி	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
த	த்	தா	தாா	தி	திி	து	தூ	தெ	தே	தை	தொ	தோ	தௌ
ந	ந்	நா	நாா	நி	நிி	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
ப	ப்	பா	பாா	பி	பிி	பு	பூ	பெ	பே	பை	பொ	போ	பௌ
ம	ம்	மா	மாா	மி	மிி	மு	மூ	மெ	மே	மை	மொ	மோ	மௌ
ய	ய்	யா	யாா	யி	யிி	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ
ர	ர்	ரா	ராா	ரி	ரிி	ரு	ரூ	ரெ	ரே	ரை	ரொ	ரோ	ரௌ
ல	ல்	லா	லாா	லி	லிி	லு	லூ	லெ	லே	லை	லொ	லோ	லௌ
வ	வ்	வா	வாா	வி	விி	வு	வூ	வெ	வே	வை	வொ	வோ	வௌ
ழ	ழ்	ழா	ழாா	ழி	ழிி	ழு	ழூ	ழெ	ழே	ழை	ழொ	ழோ	ழௌ
ள	ள்	ளா	ளாா	ளி	ளிி	ளு	ளூ	ளெ	ளே	ளை	ளொ	ளோ	ளௌ

ற	ற்	ற	றா	றி	றீ	று	றூ	றெ	றே	றை	றொ	றோ	றௌ
	R	Ra	Raa	Ri	Rii	Ro	Roo	Re	Ree	Rai	Ru	Ruu	Rau
ன	ன்	ன	னா	னி	னீ	னு	னூ	னெ	னே	னை	னொ	னோ	னௌ
	n	na	naa	ni	nii	no	noo	ne	nee	nai	nu	nuu	nau

Grantha Consonants

ஜ	ஜ்	ஜ	ஜா	ஜி	ஜீ	ஜு	ஜூ	ஜெ	ஜே	ஜை	ஜொ	ஜோ	ஜௌ
	j	Ja	Jaa	Ji	Jii	Jo	Joo	Je	Jee	Jai	Ju	Juu	Jau
ஷ	ஷ்	ஷ	ஷா	ஷி	ஷீ	ஷு	ஷூ	ஷெ	ஷே	ஷை	ஷொ	ஷோ	ஷௌ
	sh	sha	shaa	shi	shii	sho	shoo	she	shee	shai	shu	shuu	shau
ஸ	ஸ்	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸௌ
	s	sa	saa	si	sii	so	soo	se	see	sai	su	suu	sau
ஹ	ஹ்	ஹ	ஹா	ஹி	ஹீ	ஹு	ஹூ	ஹெ	ஹே	ஹை	ஹொ	ஹோ	ஹௌ
	h	ha	haa	hi	hii	ho	hoo	he	hee	hai	hu	huu	hau
க்ஷ	க்ஷ்	க்ஷ	க்ஷா	க்ஷி	க்ஷீ	க்ஷு	க்ஷூ	க்ஷெ	க்ஷே	க்ஷை	க்ஷொ	க்ஷோ	க்ஷௌ
	x	xa	xaa	xi	xii	xo	xoo	xe	xee	xai	xu	xuu	xau

Other Characters

ஶ்ரீ

h	r	i
---	---	---

 ॐ

q
