

**Khmer Romanization Table**  
**2013 version**

Earlier versions: [October 2012](#), [February 2012](#), [1997](#)

**KHMER**

**Consonants**

'Aksar Mul script				'Aksar Mul script					
Full Form	Subscript	Full form	Subscript	Romanization	Full Form	Subscript	Full form	Subscript	Romanization
ក	៩	ក	៩	k	ក	៩	ក	៩	d
ខ	៩	ខ	៩	kh	ខ	៩	ខ	៩	dh
គ	៩	គ	៩	g	គ	៩	គ	៩	n
យ	ឃី	យ	ឃី	gh	យ	ឃី	យ	ឃី	p
ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ng	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ph
ច	៩	ច	៩	c	ច	៩	ច	៩	b
ឆ	៩	ឆ	៩	ch	ឆ	៩	ឆ	៩	bh
ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	j	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	m
ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	jh	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	y
ឃី	ឃី or ឃ	ឃី	ឃី or ឃ	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	r
ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	t	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	l
ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	v
ឌ	៩	ឌ	៩	ឌ	ឌ	៩	ឌ	៩	ស * <sup>1</sup>
ធម៌	ឃី	ធម៌	ឃី	ធម៌	ឃី	ឃី	ធម៌	ឃី	ស * <sup>2</sup>
ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	s
ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	h
ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	ធម៌ (l with dot below)
					ធម៌	៩	ធម៌	៩	ធម៌ (ayn + soft sign)

\* Not used since the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century and is mainly used for Pali and Sanskrit transliteration.

**Vowels**

Independent	Romanization	Independent	Romanization
ឃី	i	ឃី	!
ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ឃី
ឃី	u	ឃី	ae
ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	ai
ឃី	ឃី	ឃី	o

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ឃ	r	ឃ	au
ឃ	៥		
<i>Dependent</i>		<i>Romanization</i>	
ឃ		'a'	
ឃ		'ā'	
ឃ		'i'	
ឃ		'ī'	
ឃ		'y'	
ឃ		'īy'	
ឃ		'u'	
ឃ		'ū'	
ឃ		'ua'	
ឃ		'oe'	
ឃ		'yা	
ឃ		'ia'	
ឃ		'e'	
		<i>Dependent</i>	
ឃ		'ae'	
ឃ		'ai'	
ឃ		'o'	
ឃ		'au'	
ឃ		'um'	
ឃ		'am'	
ឃ		'ām'	
ឃ		'ah'	
ឃ		'ih'	
ឃ		'yh'	
ឃ		'uh'	
ឃ		'eh'	
ឃ		'oah'	

**Diacritical marks**

<i>Vernacular</i>	<i>Alternative</i>	<i>Romanization</i>
ឃ	ឃ	" (hard sign)
៥	៥	' (soft sign (prime))
៥		r
៥		° (circle above) (see Note 5)
៥		' (alif)
៥		' (ayn)
៥		· (dot above) (see Note 5)
៥៥		ă (breve)
៥៥		à (combining grave accent)
៥៥		á (combining acute accent)
៥៥		â (modified letter circumflex)

**Notes**

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1. In the consonant portion of this romanization table, the special character ោ shows the position of a Khmer script character below which a subscript character is written. A subscript character is always romanized after a full-form character without an intervening vowel, as in ក្រោខ្តកោ (krakhvák).
2. When ឃុ (ឃ) occurs with a subscript character, the lower element is omitted, as in ឃុ (ឃj). When ឃុ (ឃ) occurs as its own subscript, the lower element is replaced with its full form as in កឃុឃ (kaññā). Otherwise, the subscript has the form of the lower element alone, as in ឃុ (khñ).
3. When the consonant ឃ (p) is followed by the vowel ង (ā), it takes the special form ឃង.
4. The diacritics ែ and ែ are romanized as ~ and ' respectively, immediately following the consonant they modify. ែ is used only with the seven consonants ឃ, ឃុ, ឃ, ឃ, ឃុ, ឃ and ឃ. ែ is used only with ឃ, ឃុ, ឃុ and ឃុ. They change form however to ែ when accompanying vowels ង, ង, ង, and ង as in ឃុឃ (p~ī) and ឃុឃ (s~ī). Otherwise, ែ represents the vowel u as in ឃុឃ (mun).
5. The diacritics –, –, –, and – in the romanization column follow the last letter of the word in which they occur, as in ក្បុត្រីឃុ (ksatriy°); ចាែែ (cāh'); ឃោ (ta'); អាត្រីឃុ (ātmān'). Note that this uses the ring above (U+02DA) and dot above (U+02D9), not the combining ring above (U+030A) and combining dot above (U+0307) as specified in *MARC 21 Specifications for Record Structure, Character Sets, and Exchange Media*. **Alternatively:** When using MARC-8, or the MARC-8 repertoire of UTF-8, record the ring above (U+02DA) as a degree symbol (U+00B0), and omit the dot above (U+02D9) non-combining diacritic.
6. Conventional signs: ោ is romanized by repeating the preceding word or phrase; ោឃុោ is romanized as .l.; ោឃុោ is romanized as .p.; X is romanized as a hyphen ( – ); : is romanized as a colon ( : ); and ោ and ោ are romanized as a period ( . ). The signs ោ and ោ are omitted in romanization.
7. Khmer numerals are ០ (0), ១ (1), ២ (2), ៣ (3), ៤ (4), ៥ (5), ៦ (6), ៧ (7), ៨ (8), and ៩ (9).
8. Khmer words are not written separately, and spacing occurs only after longer phrases. Any word can be separated when romanizing. This also applies to Pali and Sanskrit loan-words. Other loan-words are divided according to their original language.
9. According to the *Khmer dictionary* by Chuon Nat published in 1967 (p. 1874), when ឃ is added as a subscript to ឃុ it looks like ឃឃ, is pronounced *oi*, and means *give*. The dictionary also provides another form as ឃឃ. When used it is often written as ឃឃ instead of ឃឃ. ឃ never appears alone.
10. According to the Royal Academy of Cambodia, there are 25 dependent vowels in the Khmer language. ងុ, ងុ, ងុ are listed to show the position of consonants relative to vowels with some extra signs used in Khmer spelling and writing.

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- ០០ shows the position of the consonant relative to the inherent vowel, such as ឃឃ (kak) = to freeze up; មឃឃ (mak) = to come; ិឃឃ (sak) = to peal.
- ០ is a Khmer diacritic called *Banták* that shortens the preceding vowel. It is listed in the vowel table.
- ០០ is a combined form of consonant sound and *Banták* as in ឃ០០ (kák) = to book/reserve; ិ០០ (sák) = hair.
- ០០ is a combined form of vowel and *Banták* as in ឃ០០ (kâk) = coin; ិ០០ (sâk) = tattoo.