

Kurdish Romanization Table

2002 version

Kurdish

Kurdish

(in Perso-Arabic Script)

Letters of the Alphabet

Consonants

Initial	Medial	Final	Alone	Romanization
ء	ء	ء	ء	' (alif)
ب	ب	ب	ب	b
پ	پ	پ	پ	p
ت	ت	ت	ت	t
ج	ج	ج	ج	j
چ	چ	چ	چ	ch
ح	ح	ح	ح	h
خ	خ	خ	خ	kh
د	د	د	د	d
ر	ر	ر	ر	r
ز	ز	ز	ز	z
ژ	ژ	ژ	ژ	zh
س	س	س	س	s
ش	ش	ش	ش	sh
ص	ص	ص	ص	ṣ
ع	ع	ع	ع	' (ayn)
غ	غ	غ	غ	gh
ف	ف	ف	ف	f
ڤ	ڤ	ڤ	ڤ	v
ق	ق	ق	ق	q
ک	ک	ک	ک	k
گ	گ	گ	گ	g
ل	ل	ل	ل	l
م	م	م	م	m
ن	ن	ن	ن	n
و	و	و	و	w
ه	ه	ه	ه	h
ی	ی	ی	ی	y

Vowels

Initial	Medial	Final	Alone	Romanization
ه	ه	ه	ه	a
ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
و	و	و	و	u
وو	وو	وو	وو	ū
-	-	-	-	i
یی	یی	یی	یی	ī

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RULES OF APPLICATION

1. When **ی** represents the *idafah*, romanize it as *-i* following a consonant and as *-y* following a vowel. Attach this romanization to that of the preceding word.
2. Romanize the conjunction **و** as *wa*.
3. Romanize the particles **بە** and **لە** as *ba-* and *la-*. Attach this romanization to that of the following word.
4. Romanize the *zhēr* (unwritten vowel) as *i*.
5. Use the single prime (') in the following situations:
 - (a) To separate two letters representing two distinct consonantal sounds, when the combination might otherwise be read as a digraph;
 - (b) To mark the use of a letter in its final form when it occurs in the middle of a word.
6. For the romanization of Kurdish dialectal variants bearing diacritics (e.g., **ز̤**), use the romanization of the letter without the diacritic.
7. Romanize foreign words occurring in a Kurdish context and written in Kurdish letters according to the present tables and rules.

SPECIAL CHARACTERS AND CHARACTER MODIFIERS IN ROMANIZATION

<i>Special character</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>USMARC hexadecimal code</i>
'	soft sign (prime)	A7
’	alif	AE
‘	ayn	BO
<i>Character modifiers</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>USMARC hexadecimal code</i>
◌̄	macron	E5
◌̣	dot below	F2