

Lepcha Romanization Table
2012-06 June version

Lepcha

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

A	a (see Note 2)	AU	ū
Aa	ā	Ae	e
iA	i	aA	o
iA_	ī	oA	ō
Au	u	A_	ă

Consonants (see Note 3)

Gutturals		Palatals		Cerebrals		Dentals	
k	ka	c	ca	Ý;	ṭa	t	ta
K	kha	q	tsa	ū;	ṭha	T	tha
g	ga	C	cha	à;	ḍa	d	da
G	ñia	Q	tsha	è;	ḍha	n	na
		j	ja				
		z	za				
		J	ñia				
Labials		Semivowels		Sibilants		Aspirate	
p	pa	y	ya	s	śa	h	ha
P	pha	r	ra	S	sa		
f	fa	l	la				
b	ba	v	va				
m	ma	w	wa				

Some Consonant Clusters

W	kla	E	bla
x	gla	I	mla
Y	pla	H	hla
F	fla		

Lepcha Romanization Table
2012-06 June version

Notes

1. Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant exclude A. No distinction between the two is made in romanization.

ka	ka		ik	ki
----	----	--	----	----

2. A is also used as a glottal stop and y is added to it in a cluster. It is romanized 'a.

ÜXu	'ayuk
-----	-------

3. The vowel a is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in romanization, except when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign.

Rules of application

1. When k, G, t, n, p, m, r, and l are used in the final position (i.e., preceded by a vowel but not followed by one), they assume different shapes and are used as superscripts above the preceding syllables.

kX	kak		kB	kap
Vk	kañ		kM	kam
kD	kat		kR	kar
kN	kan		kL	kal

2. When y is added to another consonant or consonants in a cluster (i.e., without any intervening vowel), it assumes the shape ȳ and is added to the preceding consonant or consonants.

À	kyा		Ó	klyा
---	-----	--	---	------

3. When r is added to another consonant or consonants in a cluster (i.e., without any intervening vowel), it assumes the shape , and is added to the preceding consonant or consonants.

Ý	kra		à	gra
---	-----	--	---	-----