

# Tamil Romanization Table

*Tamil*

1997 version

**Tamil**

## Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

அ	a	ஏ	e
ஆ	ā	ஏ	ē
இ	i	ஐ	ai
ஏ	ī	ஓ	o
உ	u	ஓ	ō
ஏ	ū	ஓ	au

## Consonants (see Note 2)

க	ka	ம	ma
க	ka	ய	ya
ங	ஙா	ர	ra (see Note 3)
ச	ca	ல	la
ஞ	ஞா	வ	va
ஞ	ஞா	ஞ	la
ஞ	ஞா	ஜ	ஜா
ந	நா	ஞ	ஞா
ந	நா	ந	நா
ஞ	ஞா	ந	நா

## Sanskrit Sounds

ஜ	ja	ஶ	sa
ஶ	ஶா	ஷ	ஷா
ஷ	ஷா	ஷ	ஷா

## Notes

1. Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant can be found in grammars; no distinction between the two is made in transliteration.
2. The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in romanization, with the following exceptions:
  - (a) when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign; and
  - (b) when the absence of any vowel is indicated by the superscript dot (ஃ) called *pulli*.
3. This letter has the same form as the vowel sign for *ā* appearing after a consonant. Where ambiguity arises, it is written *ா*.

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### CHARACTER MODIFIERS IN ROMANIZATION

Character Modifiers	Name	USMARC hexadecimal code
ˊ	acute	E2
ˇ	tilde	E4
ˉ	macron	E5
˙	dot above	E7
˘	dot below	F2
ˍ	underscore	F6