

Tibetan “EWTs” Keyboard Version 2.0

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Basic philosophy: Input is using an extended Turrell Wylie Romanization scheme (EWTs*), an approach that avoids most uppercase keys and Alt- or Alt-Shift combinations during typing.

Input strings are converted into Tibetan Unicode once a vowel is typed, or when a string is terminated by a space (= tsheg).
Special rules apply for suffixes with 'a-chung, for shad after tsheg, and for Sanskrit letters.

Allowed pre-vowel combinations:

k	khw	'g	bc	gt	sd	phy	mr	gdz	rl
kw	khy	'gy	bcw	bt	brd	phyw	km	bdz	b.r
ky	khr	'gr	lc	rt	bld	phr	dm	mdz	brl
kr	mkh	rg	ch	lt	bsd	'ph	bm	'dz	l
kl	mkhy	rgy	mch	st	n	'phy	dmy	rdz	lw
dk	mkhr	lg	'ch	brt	nr	'phr	rm	sdz	sh
dky	'kh	sg	j	blt	gn	b	rmy	brdz	shw
dkr	'khy	sgy	bj	bst	bn	by	sm	w	shr
bk	'khr	sgr	mj	th	mn	br	smr	zh	gsh
bky	g	brg	'j	thr	rn	bl	smr	zhw	bsh
bkr	gy	brgy	rj	mth	sn	bh	ts	gzh	s
bk1	gr	bsg	lj	'th	snr	bhy	tsw	dzh	sr
'k	grw	bsgy	brj	d	brn	db	gts	bzh	sl
rk	gl	bsgr	ny	dw	bsn	dbv	bts	z	gs
rky	gh	ng	gny	dr	p	dbr	rts	zw	bs
lk	ghr	dng	bny	drw	py	'b	rtsw	zl	bsr
sk	dg	mng	mny	dh	pr	'by	brts	gz	bsl
sky	dgy	rng	rny	dhr	dp	'br	sts	gzl	h
skr	dgr	lng	snv	gd	dpy	rb	bsts	bz	hw
brk	bg	sng	brny	bd	dpr	lb	tsh	bzl	hr
brky	bgy	brng	bsny	md	lp	sb	tshw	'	lh
bsk	bgr	bsng	t	'd	sp	sby	mtsh	y	jn
bsky	mg	c	ty	'dr	spy	sbr	'tsh	g.y	
bskr	mgv	cr	tr	rd	spr	m	dz	r	
kh	mgr	gc	tw	ld	ph	my	dzr	rw	

Allowed vowels & post-vowel combinations:

a	am	ar	ib	is	ubs	us	em	es	om
ak	ams	al	ibs	u	um	e	ems	o	oms
ag	a'	as	im	ug	ums	eg	e'ang	og	o'am
ags	a'ang	i	ims	ugs	u'ang	egs	e'am	ogs	o'i
ang	a'ang	ig	i'am	ung	u'am	eng	e'i	ong	o'u
angs	s	igs	i'i	ungs	u'i	engs	e'u	ongs	o'o
ad	a'am	ing	i'u	ut	u'u	ed	e'ur	od	or
an	a'i	ings	i'o	ud	u'o	en	e'o	on	ol
ab	a'u	id	ir	un	ur	eb	er	ob	os
abs	a'o	in	il	ub	ul	ebs	el	obs	

*) Extended Wylie Transliteration Scheme, by Nathaniel Garson & David Germano <iris.lib.virginia.edu/tibet/tools/ewts.pdf> (slightly modified)

Additional pre-vowel / vowel / post-vowel keys (as per EWTS):

gh dh bh dz T Th D Dh N Sh A I U -i -I H M

➤ Following Chris Fynn's suggestion, compound glyphs (gh, dh, bh, Dh, kSh, I, U) are outputted as two Unicodes.

Long stacks:

Type + (plus) followed by any consonant or vowel and a space (=trigger key) to create individual subjoined glyphs. There is no limit to "stacking", but make sure to set line-spacing in your application wide enough for proper display!

Tibetan numbers and punctuation

◦ Alt-0	(space) — ¹⁾	◦ :
ᳵ Alt-1	· space or - ²⁾	ᳵ @
ᳶ Alt-2	/	ᳶ #
᳷ Alt-3	//	᳷ \$
᳸ Alt-4	᳸	᳸ %
᳹ Alt-5	᳹ ;	᳹ =
ᳺ Alt-6	ᳺ [ᳺ <
᳻ Alt-7	᳻ !	᳻ >
᳼ Alt-8	᳼]	᳼ (
᳽ Alt-9	᳽ `	᳽)

¹⁾ Type "—" (underline) when white space is needed in Tibetan context.

²⁾ Type " " (space) for intersyllabic tsheg, but "-" (hyphen) for delimiter tsheg bstar.

➤ Typing " " (space) twice removes the tsheg (which is a useful feature when you want to type non-standard syllables, long stacks, etc.). If you need to type multiple tshegs, use "-" (hyphen) instead of " " (space).

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NEW FEATURES IN VERSION 2:

- (1) **Unicode direct input:** Press backslash (\) plus Unicode hexadecimal values.

For example, \0FCA or \0fca outputs a ༄ symbol; \200C or \200c inserts a ZWNJ (zero width non-joiner).

- There is a plan to add a feature to allow input of Tibetan characters and symbols that are not in Unicode 3.0 (cf. page 14 of *Extended Wylie Transliteration Scheme*, by Nathaniel Garson & David Germano, *loc.cit.*) provided that a font becomes available that contains all these characters and symbols.

- (2) **Menus for special symbols** using backslash (\). As an alternative to Unicode direct input, the following menus can be called and individual symbols selected using numeric keys (press Backspace to delete menu):

\MENU	(all available menus)
\LOGO	(logotypes)
\ASTR	(astrological signs)
\CANT	(cantillation signs)
\SYMB	(religious symbols)
\HALF	("digits minus half")

- The menu feature can also be used in future for inputting Tibetan characters and symbols that are not in Unicode 3.0.

- (3) **Help routine** using pipe (|). At this stage, only a single lookup rule has been implemented (as a sample):

བཤེས་ | → abbr. of བཤེས་པའི་ /!tashi/

- This routine can be used in future for dictionary lookups, etc., for example, to translate English terms (input) into Tibetan terms (output).

- (4) **Toggle between Tibetan and Latin mode:** Press Esc. Change into Latin mode is marked by (>) which disappears after starting to type Latin text. Press Esc again to return to Tibetan mode (a space is inserted automatically).

- This routine is also helpful to enter Latin text into application menus, without having to switch keyboards.

- (4a) **Toggle between Tibetan and Cyrillic mode:** Press Esc twice. Change into Cyrillic mode is marked by (>>) which disappears after starting to type Cyrillic text. Press Esc again to return to Tibetan mode (a space is inserted automatically).

Special rules for input of Mongolian characters in Cyrillic script:

Alt-J (= Cyrillic O) → Θ	Alt-j (= Cyrillic o) → Ө
Alt-E (= Cyrillic Y) → Υ	Alt-e (= Cyrillic y) → Ү

- There is a plan to add more toggle modes for languages that are likely to be used in context with Tibetan, e.g. Sanskrit (both Devanagari script & Transliteration) or Traditional Mongolian. Users who are interested in additional features of this kind, or have any other suggestions, may contact the author at <linguasoft@surfeu.at>.

ཨྲ སྐྱེ་འགྲོ་ཐམས་ཅད་དགེ་བར་བྱེད་པར་གྱུར་ཅིག །

