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Armenian alphabet - Wikipedia

24-30 minutes

Armenian alphabet	
Հայոց այբուբեն	
Type	Alphabet
Languages	Armenian
Creator	Mesrop Mashtots
Time period	405 to present ^[1]
Parent systems	presumably modeled on Greek ^[2] <ul style="list-style-type: none">Armenian alphabet
Child systems	Caucasian Albanian ^[3]
Sister systems	Latin Coptic Georgian Cyrillic
Direction	Left-to-right
ISO 15924	Armn, 230
Unicode alias	Armenian
Unicode range	<ul style="list-style-type: none">U+0530–U+058F ArmenianU+FB00–U+FB17 Alphabetic Pres. Forms
This article contains IPA phonetic symbols. Without proper rendering support , you may see question marks, boxes, or other symbols instead of Unicode characters. For an introductory guide on IPA symbols, see Help:IPA .	

The **Armenian alphabet** (Armenian: Հայոց գրեր, *Hayots' grer* or Հայոց այբուբեն, *Hayots' aybuben*; Eastern Armenian: [haˈjɔtsʰ ajbuˈbɛn]; Western Armenian: [haˈjɔtsʰ ajpˈu.pˈɛn]) is an [alphabetic](#) writing system used to write [Armenian](#). It was developed around 405 AD by [Mesrop Mashtots](#), an Armenian linguist and [ecclesiastical](#) leader. The system originally had 36 letters; eventually, three more were adopted. The alphabet was also in wide use in the Ottoman Empire around the 18th and 19th centuries.

The Armenian word for "alphabet" is այբուբեն (*aybuben*), named after the first two letters of the Armenian alphabet: ⵀ Armenian: այբ *ayb* and ⵁ Armenian: բեն *ben*. Armenian is written [horizontally, left-to-right](#).^[4]

Alphabet[\[edit\]](#)

Alphabet[\[edit\]](#)

Forms	Name	Letter	Numerical
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	Classical	Reformed	Pronunciation			Pronunciation			Transliteration		value
			Classical	Eastern	Western	Classical	Eastern	Western	Classical	ISO 9985	
Ա • ա	այբ <i>ayb</i>		/ɑjb/		/ɑjpʰ/	/ɑ/			a		1
Բ • բ	բեն <i>ben</i>		/bɛn/		/pʰɛn/	/b/		/pʰ/	b		2
Գ • գ	գիմ <i>gim</i>		/gim/		/kʰim/	/g/		/kʰ/	g		3
Դ • դ	դա <i>da</i>		/da/		/tʰɑ/	/d/		/tʰ/	d		4
Ե • ե	եչ <i>yeč</i>		/jetʃʰ/			/ɛ/, word-initially /jɛ/ ⁶			e		5
Զ • զ	զա <i>za</i>		/za/			/z/			z		6
Է • է	է ¹ <i>ē</i>		/ɛː/	/ɛ/		/ɛː/	/ɛ/		ē		7
Ը • ը⁷	ըթ <i>ët'</i>		/ətʰ/			/ə/			ə	ë	8
Թ • թ	թօ <i>t'ò</i> ^[5]	թո <i>t'o</i>	/tʰo/			/tʰ/			tʰ	t'	9
Ժ • ժ	ժէ <i>žē</i>	ժե <i>že</i>	/ʒɛː/	/ʒɛ/		/ʒ/			ž		10
Ի • ի	ինի <i>ini</i>		/ini/			/i/			i		20
Լ • լ	լիւն <i>liwn</i>	լյուն <i>lyown</i>	/lyn/	/ljun/	/lyn/	/l/			l		30
Խ • խ	խէ <i>xē</i>	խե <i>xe</i>	/xɛː/	/xɛ/		/x/			x		40
Ծ • ծ	ծա <i>ča</i>		/tsɑ/		/dza/	/ts/		/dz/	c	ç	50
Կ • կ	կեն <i>ken</i>		/kɛn/		/gɛn/	/k/		/g/	k		60
Հ • հ	հօ <i>hò</i> ^[5]	հո <i>ho</i>	/ho/			/h/			h		70
Ջ • ձ	ձա <i>ja</i>		/dza/		/tsʰɑ/	/dz/		/tsʰ/	j		80
Դ • դ	դատ <i>gat</i>		/tat/	/bat/	/bad/	/t/	/b/		t	g	90
Ճ • ճ	ճէ <i>čē</i>	ճե <i>če</i>	/tʃɛː/	/tʃɛ/	/dʒɛ/	/tʃ/		/dʒ/	č	č	100
Մ • մ	մեն <i>men</i>		/mɛn/			/m/			m		200
Յ • չ	յի <i>yí</i>	չի <i>hi</i>	/ji/	/hi/		/j/	/h/ ¹ , /j/		y		300
Ն • ն	նու <i>now</i>		/nu/			/n/, /ŋ/			n		400
Շ • շ	շա <i>ša</i>		/ʃɑ/			/ʃ/			š		500
Ո • ո	ո <i>vo</i>		/ɔ/	/vɔ/		/ɔ/, word-initially /vɔ/ ²			o		600
Չ • չ	չա <i>ča</i>		/tʃʰɑ/			/tʃʰ/			čʰ	č	700
Պ • պ	պէ <i>pē</i>	պե <i>pe</i>	/pɛː/	/pɛ/	/bɛ/	/p/		/b/	p		800
Ջ • ղ	ջէ <i>jē</i>	ջե <i>je</i>	/dʒɛː/	/dʒɛ/	/tʃʰɛ/	/dʒ/		/tʃʰ/	j		900
Ր • ռ	րա <i>ra</i>		/ra/		/ra/	/r/		/r/	r		1000
Ս • ս	սէ <i>sē</i>	սե <i>se</i>	/sɛː/	/sɛ/		/s/			s		2000
Վ • վ	վւ <i>vew</i>	վեւ <i>vev</i>	/vɛv/			/v/			v		3000
Տ • տ	տիւն <i>tiwn</i>	տյուն <i>tyown</i>	/tyn/	/tjun/	/dyn/	/t/		/d/	t		4000

Ա • Է	րէ <i>rē</i>	րե <i>re</i>	/ɛ:/	/ɛ/	/ɹ/	/ɹ/	r	5000
Ջ • Ծ	ցօ <i>c'o</i> ^[5]	ցո <i>c'o</i>	/ts'o/		/tsʰ/		cʰ cʰ	6000
Ի • Լ	հիւն <i>hiwn</i>	վյուն <i>vyun</i> ⁵	/hvn/		/w/	/v/	w	7000
Փ • Զ	փիւր <i>p'iwr</i>	փյուր <i>p'yowr</i>	/pʰyɹ/	/pʰjɹ/	/pʰɹ/	/pʰ/	pʰ pʰ	8000
Բ • Բ	քէ <i>k'ē</i>	քե <i>k'e</i>	/kʰɛ:/	/kʰɛ/	/kʰ/		kʰ kʰ	9000
Օ • Օ	օ <i>ō</i> ¹		—	/o/	—	/o/	ō ò	—
Ֆ • Ֆ	ֆէ <i>fē</i>	ֆե <i>fe</i>	—	/fɛ/	—	/f/	f	—
Ո • Ո	ու <i>ow</i> ⁴		—	/u/	—	/u/	u	—
Լ	և <i>ew</i> ⁴⁸		—	/jɛv/	—	/ɛv/, word-initially /jɛv/	ew	—

Notes:

- ¹ Ա Primarily used in classical orthography; after the reform used word-initially and in some compound words.
- ² Ա Except in ու */ov/* "who" and ուրբեր */ovkʰer/* "those (people)" in Eastern Armenian.
- ³ Ա [Iranian Armenians](#) (who speak a subbranch of Eastern Armenian) pronounce this letter as [ɹ], like in Classical Armenian.^[*citation needed*]
- ⁴ Ա In classical orthography, ու and և are considered a digraph (ո + ւ) and a ligature (ե + ւ), respectively. In reformed orthography, they are separate letters of the alphabet.
- ⁵ Ա In reformed orthography, the letter ւ appears only as a component of ու. In classical orthography, the letter usually represents /v/, except in the digraph ևւ */ju/*. The spelling reform in Soviet Armenia replaced ևւ with the trigraph յւ.
- ⁶ Ա Except in the present tense of "to be": եմ */em/* "I am", ես */es/* "you are (sing.)", ենք */enkʰ/* "we are", եք */ekʰ/* "you are (pl.)", են */en/* "they are".
- ⁷ Ա The letter Է is generally used only at the start or end of a word, and so the sound /ə/ is unwritten between consonants.
- ⁸ Ա The ligature և has no majuscule form; when capitalized it is written as two letters Եւ (classical) or Եւ (reformed).

Ligatures^{[[edit](#)]}

Ancient Armenian manuscripts used many [ligatures](#). Some of the commonly used ligatures are: ամ (ա+մ), ևե (ւ+ե), ւի (ւ+ի), ւլ (ւ+լ), ւխ (ւ+խ), ւյ (ւ+յ), ւք (ւ+ք), ւփ (ւ+փ), ւց (ւ+ց), ւծ (ւ+ծ), ւճ (ւ+ճ), ւն (ւ+ն), ւշ (ւ+շ), ւղ (ւ+ղ), ւկ (ւ+կ), ւլ (ւ+լ), etc. Armenian print typefaces also include many ligatures. In the new orthography, the character և is no longer a typographical ligature, but a distinct letter, placed in the new alphabetic sequence, before "o".

Punctuation^{[[edit](#)]}

ԱՏՎ

The word [Աստված](#) *Astvat* "God" abbreviated. Only the first and last letters, and the abbreviation mark, are written.

Armenian punctuation marks include:

- [« »] The *čakertner* are used as ordinary [quotation marks](#) and they are placed like French [guillemets](#): just above the baseline (preferably vertically centered in the middle of the x-height of Armenian lowercase letters. The computer-induced use of English-style single or double quotes (vertical, diagonal or curly forms, placed above the baseline near the M-height of uppercase or tall lowercase letters and at the same level as accents) is strongly discouraged in Armenian

as they look too much like other – unrelated – Armenian punctuations.

- [,] The *storaket* is used as a [comma](#), and placed as in English.
- [`] The *boot'* (which looks like a comma-shaped reversed apostrophe) is used as a short stop, and placed in the same manner as the [semicolon](#), to indicate a pause that is longer than that of a comma, but shorter than that of a colon; in many texts it is replaced by the single opening single quote (a 6-shaped, or mirrored 9-shaped, or descending-wedge-shaped elevated comma), or by a spacing grave accent.
- [.] The *mijaket* (whose single dot on the baseline looks like a Latin full stop) is used like an ordinary [colon](#), mainly to separate two closely related (but still independent) clauses, or when a long list of items follows.
- [:] The *verjaket* (whose vertically stacked two dots look like a Latin colon) is used as the ordinary [full stop](#), and placed at the end of the sentence (many texts in Armenian replace the *verjaket* by the Latin colon as the difference is almost invisible at low resolution for normal texts, but the difference may be visible in headings and titles as the dots are often thicker to match the same optical weight as vertical strokes of letters, the dots filling the common x-height of Armenian letters).

Armenian punctuation marks used inside a word:

- [-] The *yent'amna* is used as the ordinary Armenian [hyphen](#).
- [~] The *pativ* was used as an Armenian [abbreviation](#) mark, and was placed on top of an abbreviated word to indicate that it was abbreviated. It is now obsolete.
- ['] The *apat'arts* is used as a spacing apostrophe (which looks either like a vertical stick or wedge pointing down, or as an elevated 9-shaped comma, or as a small superscript left-to-right closing parenthesis or half ring), only in Western Armenian, to indicate elision of a vowel, usually /ə/.

The following Armenian punctuation marks placed above and slightly to the right of the vowel whose tone is modified, in order to reflect intonation:

- [ˊ] The *yerkaratsman nshan* (which looks like a diagonally rising [tilde](#)) is used as an [exclamation mark](#).
- [ˋ] The *shesht* (which looks like a non-spacing [acute accent](#)) is used as an [emphasis mark](#).
- [ˆ] The *hartsakan nshan* is used as a [question mark](#).

Transliteration[[edit](#)]

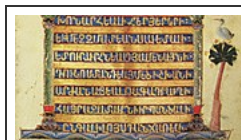
[ISO 9985](#) (1996) transliterates the Armenian alphabet for modern Armenian as follows:

ա	բ	գ	դ	ե	զ	է	թ	ժ	ի	լ	խ	ծ	կ	հ	ձ	ղ	ն	մ	
a	b	g	d	je/e	z	e	ë	t'	ž	i	l	x	ts	k	h	dz	ř	tš	m
յ	ւ	շ	ռ	ւ	պ	ջ	ւ	վ	ւ	ր	ց	ւ	փ	ք	օ	ֆ	ւ	ւ	ւ
j	n	š	vo/o	tš'	p	dž	r	s	v	t	r'	ts'	w	p'	k'	o	f	u	yew/ew

In the linguistic literature on Classical Armenian, slightly different systems are in use (in particular note that č has a different meaning).

ա	բ	գ	դ	ե	զ	է	թ	ժ	ի	լ	խ	ծ	կ	հ	ձ	ղ	ն	մ	
a	b	g	d	e	z	ê	ə	tʰ	ž	i	l	x	c	k	h	j	č	m	
յ	ւ	շ	ռ	ւ	պ	ջ	ւ	վ	ւ	ր	ց	ւ	փ	ք	օ	ւ	ւ	ֆ	
y	n	š	o	čʰ	p	ř	r	s	v	t	r	cʰ	w	pʰ	kʰ	ô	ev	u	f

History and development[[edit](#)]



History of the Armenian language
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Armenian hypothesis Proto-Armenian Classical Armenian (from 405) Middle Armenian (c. 1100 – 1700) Modern Armenian (c. 1700 – present) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastern, Western, Homshetsi (mixed)
Armenian alphabet
Romanization of Armenian
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> v t e

Possible antecedents^{[[edit](#)]}

One of the classical accounts about the existence of an Armenian alphabet before Mashtots comes from [Philo of Alexandria](#) (20 BCE – 50 CE), who in his writings notes that the work of the Greek philosopher and historian [Metrodorus of Scepsis](#) (ca. 145 BCE – 70 BCE), *On Animals*, was translated into Armenian.^{[*[citation needed](#)*]} Metrodorus was a close friend and a court historian of the Armenian emperor [Tigranes the Great](#) and also wrote his biography. A third century Roman theologian, [Hippolytus of Rome](#) (170–235 CE), in his *Chronicle*, while writing about his contemporary, Emperor [Severus Alexander](#) (reigned 208–235 CE), mentions that the Armenians are amongst those nations who have their own distinct alphabet.^{[*[citation needed](#)*]}

[Philostratus the Athenian](#), a sophist of the second and third centuries CE, wrote:

And they say that a leopardess was once caught in Pamphylia which was wearing a chain round its neck, and the chain was of gold, and on it was inscribed in Armenian lettering: "The king Arsaces to the Nysian god".^{[[6](#)]}

According to the fifth century Armenian historian [Movses of Khoren](#), [Bardesan of Edessa](#) (154–222 CE), who founded the [Gnostic](#) current of the [Bardaisanites](#), went to the Armenian castle of [Ani](#) and there read the work of a pre-Christian Armenian priest named Voghyump, written in the Mithraic (Mehean or Mihrean lit. of Mihr or of Mithra – the Armenian national God of Light, Truth and the Sun) script of the Armenian temples in which, amongst other histories, an episode was noted of the Armenian King [Tigranes VII](#) (reigned from 144–161, and again 164–186 CE) erecting a monument on the tomb of his brother, the Mithraic High Priest of the Kingdom of Greater Armenia, Mazhan. Movses of Khoren notes that Bardesanes translated this Armenian book into Syriac (Aramaic), and later also into Greek.^{[*[citation needed](#)*]} Another important evidence for the existence of a pre-Mashtotsian alphabet is the fact that the Armenian heathen pantheon included [Tir](#), who was the Patron God of Writing and Science.^{[*[citation needed](#)*]}

A 13th century Armenian historian, [Vardan Areveltsi](#), in his *History*, notes that during the reign of the Armenian King [Leo the Magnificent](#) (reigned 1187–1219), artifacts were found bearing "Armenian inscriptions of the heathen kings of the ancient times".^{[*[citation needed](#)*]} The evidence that the Armenian scholars of the Middle Ages knew about the existence of a pre-Mashtotsian alphabet can also be found in other medieval works, including the first book composed in Mashtotsian alphabet by the pupil of Mashtots, Koriwn, in the first half of the fifth century. Koriwn notes that Mashtots was told of the existence of ancient Armenian letters which he was initially trying to integrate into his own alphabet.^{[[7](#)]}

Creation by Mashtots^{[[edit](#)]}



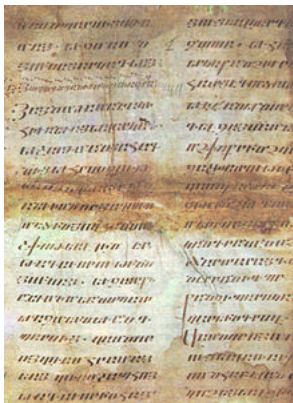
The Armenian alphabet was introduced by [Mesrop Mashtots](#) and [Isaac of Armenia](#) (Sahak Partev) in 405 CE. Medieval Armenian sources also claim that Mashtots invented the [Georgian](#) and [Caucasian Albanian](#) alphabets around the same time. However, most scholars link the creation of the Georgian script to the process of [Christianization of Iberia](#), a core Georgian kingdom of [Kartli](#).^[8] The alphabet was therefore most probably created between the conversion of Iberia under [Mirian III](#) (326 or 337) and the [Bir el Qutt inscriptions](#) of 430,^[9] contemporaneously with the Armenian alphabet.^[10] Traditionally, the following phrase translated from Solomon's [Book of Proverbs](#) is said to be the first sentence to be written down in Armenian by Mashtots:

[Հանաչել զիմաստութիւն և զխրատ. իմանալ զբանս հանճարոյ:](#)

Čanač'el zımastut'ıun yev zxrat, imanal zbans hančaroy.

To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding.

Various scripts have been credited with being the prototype for the Armenian alphabet. [Pahlavi](#) was the priestly script in Armenia before the introduction of Christianity, and [Syriac](#), along with Greek, was one of the alphabets of Christian scripture. Armenian shows some similarities to both. However, the general consensus is that Armenian is modeled after the [Greek alphabet](#), supplemented with letters from a different source or sources for Armenian sounds not found in Greek. The evidence for this is the Greek order of the Armenian alphabet; the *ow* ligature for the vowel /u/, as in Greek; and the shapes of some letters which "seem derived from a variety of cursive Greek".^[2] It has been speculated by some scholars in African studies, following Dimitri Olderogge, that the [Ge'ez script](#) had an influence on certain letter shapes,^[11] but this has not been supported by any experts in Armenian studies.



There are four principal calligraphic [hands](#) of the script. *Erkatagir*, or "ironclad letters", seen as Mesrop's original, was used in manuscripts from the 5th to 13th century and is still preferred for epigraphic inscriptions. *Bolorgir*, or "cursive", was invented in the 10th century and became popular in the 13th. It has been the standard printed form since the 16th century. *Notrgir*, or "minuscule", invented initially for speed, was extensively used in the Armenian diaspora in the 16th to 18th centuries, and later became popular in printing. *Sheghagir*, or "slanted writing", is now the most common form.

The earliest known example of the script's usage was a dedicatory inscription over the west door of the [church of Saint Sarkis in Tekor](#). Based on the known individuals mentioned in the inscription, it has been dated to the 480s.^[12] The earliest known surviving example of usage outside of Armenia is a mid-6th century mosaic inscription in the chapel of St Polyeuctos in Jerusalem.^[13] A papyrus discovered in 1892 at [Fayyum](#) and containing Greek words written in Armenian script has been dated on historical grounds to before the Arab conquest of Egypt, i.e. before 640, and on paleographic grounds to the 6th century and perhaps even the late 5th century. It is now in the [Bibliothèque Nationale de France](#).^[14] The earliest surviving manuscripts written in Armenian using Armenian script date from the 7th–8th century.

Certain shifts in the language were at first not reflected in the orthography. The digraph աւ (*au*) followed by a consonant used to be pronounced [au] (as in *luau*) in [Classical Armenian](#), but due to a [sound shift](#) it came to be pronounced [o], and has since the 13th century been written օ (*ō*). For example, classical աւր (*awr*, [au], "day") became pronounced [o], and is now written օր (*ōr*). (One word has kept *aw*, now pronounced /av/: աղաւնի "pigeon", and there are a few proper names still having *aw* before a consonant: Տաւրոս Taurus, Փաւստոս Faustus, etc.) For this reason, today there are native Armenian words beginning with the letter օ (*ō*) although this letter was taken from the Greek alphabet to write foreign words beginning with *o* [o].

The number and order of the letters have changed over time. In the Middle Ages, two new letters (օ [o], ֆ [f]) were introduced in order to better represent foreign sounds; this increased the number of letters from 36 to 38. From 1922 to 1924, [Soviet Armenia](#) adopted a [reformed spelling](#) of the Armenian language. The reform changed the digraph աւ and

the ligature և into two new letters, but it generally did not change the pronunciation of individual letters. Those outside of the Soviet sphere (including all Western Armenians as well as Eastern Armenians in [Iran](#)) have rejected the reformed spellings, and continue to use the [traditional Armenian orthography](#). They criticize some aspects of the reforms (see the footnotes of the chart) and allege political motives behind them.

Use for other languages[\[edit\]](#)

For about 250 years, from the early 18th century until around 1950, more than 2,000 books in the [Turkish language](#) were printed using the Armenian alphabet. Not only did Armenians read this Turkish in Armenian script, so did the non-Armenian (including the Ottoman Turkish) elite. An American correspondent in Marash in 1864 calls the alphabet "Armeno-Turkish", describing it as consisting of 31 Armenian letters and "infinitely superior" to the [Arabic](#) or [Greek alphabets](#) for rendering Turkish.^[15] This Armenian script was used alongside the Arabic script on official documents of the [Ottoman Empire](#) written in [Ottoman Turkish](#). For instance, the first [novel](#) to be written in Turkish in the Ottoman Empire was [Vartan Pasha](#)'s 1851 *[Akabi Hikayesi](#)*, written in the Armenian script. When the Armenian [Duzian family](#) managed the Ottoman mint during the reign of [Abdülmejid I](#), they kept records in Armenian script but in the Turkish language.^[*citation needed*] From the middle of the 19th century, the Armenian alphabet was also used for books written in the Kurdish language in the Ottoman Empire.

The Armenian script was also used by Turkish-speaking assimilated Armenians between the 1840s and 1890s. Constantinople was the main center of Armenian-scripted Turkish press. This portion of the Armenian press declined in the early twentieth century but continued until the [Armenian Genocide](#) of 1915.^[16]

In areas inhabited by both Armenians and [Assyrians](#), Syriac texts were occasionally written in the Armenian script, although the opposite phenomenon, Armenian texts written in [Serto](#), the Western Syriac script, is more common.^[17]

The [Kipchak](#)-speaking Armenian Christians of [Podolia](#) and [Galicia](#) used an Armenian alphabet to produce an extensive amount of literature between 1524 and 1669.^[18]

The Armenian script, along with the [Georgian](#), was used by the poet [Sayat-Nova](#) in his Armenian poems.^[19]

An Armenian alphabet was an official script for the [Kurdish language](#) in 1921–1928 in [Soviet Armenia](#).^[20]

Character encodings[\[edit\]](#)

The Armenian alphabet was added to the Unicode Standard in version 1.0, in October 1991. It is assigned the range U+0530–058F. Five Armenian [ligatures](#) are encoded in the "Alphabetic presentation forms" block (code point range U+FB13–FB17).

On 15 June 2011, the Unicode Technical Committee (UTC) accepted the [Armenian dram sign](#) for inclusion in the future versions of the Unicode Standard and assigned a code for the sign – U+058F (֏). In 2012 the sign was finally adopted in the Armenian block of ISO and Unicode international standards.^[21]

The [Armenian eternity sign](#), since 2013, a designated point in Unicode U+058D (Փ – RIGHT-FACING ARMENIAN ETERNITY SIGN) and another for its left-facing variant: U+058E (Ք – LEFT-FACING ARMENIAN ETERNITY SIGN).^[22]

Armenian ^{[1][2]} Official Unicode Consortium code chart (PDF)																
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
U+053x		Ա	Բ	Գ	Դ	Ե	Զ	Է	Ը	Թ	Ժ	Ի	Լ	Խ	Վ	Կ
U+054x	Հ	Ձ	Ղ	Ճ	Մ	Յ	Ն	Շ	Ո	Պ	Ջ	Դ	Ս	Վ	Շ	Տ
U+055x	Ր	Ց	Դ	Փ	Ք	Օ	Ֆ			Ս	Շ	Շ	Շ	Շ	Շ	
U+056x	Ձ	Ա	Բ	Գ	Դ	Ե	Զ	Է	Ը	Թ	Ժ	Ի	Լ	Խ	Վ	Կ
U+057x	Հ	Ձ	Ղ	Ճ	Մ	Յ	Ն	Շ	Ո	Պ	Ջ	Դ	Ս	Վ	Շ	Տ
U+058x	Ր	Ց	Դ	Փ	Ք	Օ	Ֆ	Տ	Ր	Ց	Տ	Տ	Տ	Տ	Տ	Տ

Notes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As of Unicode version 13.0 Grey areas indicate non-assigned code points 															
Armenian subset of Alphabetic Presentation Forms ^[1] Official Unicode Consortium code chart (PDF)															
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E
U+FB1x															
Notes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As of Unicode version 13.0 															

Legacy[\[edit\]](#)

ArmSCII[\[edit\]](#)

ArmSCII is a [character encoding](#) developed between 1991 and 1999. ArmSCII was popular on the [Windows 9x](#) operating systems. With the development of the [Unicode](#) standard and its availability on modern operating systems, it has been rendered obsolete.

Arasan-compatible[\[edit\]](#)

Arasan-compatible fonts are based on the encoding of the original Arasan font by Hrant Papazian (he started encoding in use since 1986), which simply replaces the Latin characters (among others) of the [ASCII](#) encoding with Armenian ones. For example, the ASCII code for the Latin character ⟨A⟩ (65) represents the Armenian character ⟨Ա⟩.

While Arasan-compatible fonts were popular among many users on [Windows 9x](#), the encoding has been deprecated by the Unicode standard.

Keyboard layouts[\[edit\]](#)

The standard Eastern and Western Armenian keyboards are based on the layout of the font Arasan. These keyboard layouts are mostly phonetic, and allow direct access to every character in the alphabet. Because there are more characters in the Armenian alphabet (39) than in Latin (26), some Armenian characters appear on non-alphabetic keys on a conventional [QWERTY](#) keyboard (for example, շ maps to ,).

~	1	2	3	3	4	9	ւ	()	Օ	Դ	Ժ	←
`	:	ձ	յ	՝	,	-	.	«	»	օ	դ	ժ	
↕	հ	Ի	Է	Ր	Տ	Ե	Ը	Ի	Ո	Պ	Չ	Ջ	↵
	հ	Լ	Է	ր	տ	ե	ը	ի	ո	պ	չ	ջ	
Caps Lock	Ա	Ս	Դ	Ֆ	Ք	Հ	Ճ	Կ	Լ	Ք	Փ	Ն	
	ա	ս	դ	ֆ	ք	հ	ճ	կ	լ	ք	փ	ն	
⬆	զ	ց	գ	վ	բ	ն	ւ	շ	ղ	ծ	ժ	⬆	
	զ	ց	գ	վ	բ	ն	ւ	շ	ղ	ծ	ժ		
Ctrl	Win Key	Alt							Alt Gr	Win Key	Menu	Ctrl	
~	1	2	3	3	4	9	ւ	()	Օ	Դ	Ժ	←
`	:	ձ	յ	՝	,	-	.	«	»	օ	դ	ժ	
↕	հ	Ի	Է	Ր	Տ	Ե	Ը	Ի	Ո	Պ	Չ	Ջ	↵
	հ	Լ	Է	ր	տ	ե	ը	ի	ո	պ	չ	ջ	
Caps Lock	Ա	Ս	Դ	Ֆ	Ք	Հ	Ճ	Կ	Լ	Ք	Փ	Ն	
	ա	ս	դ	ֆ	ք	հ	ճ	կ	լ	ք	փ	ն	
⬆	զ	ց	գ	վ	բ	ն	ւ	շ	ղ	ծ	ժ	⬆	
	զ	ց	գ	վ	բ	ն	ւ	շ	ղ	ծ	ժ		

Ctrl	Win Key	Alt		Alt Gr	Win Key	Menu	Ctrl
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[Western Armenian](#) keyboard layout. It differs from the Eastern layout in that the pairs լ-լ, բ-ւ, ք-կ, and դ-ւ are reversed.

See also[\[edit\]](#)

- [Armenian braille](#)
- [Armenian calendar](#)
- [Armenian numerals](#)
- [ArmSCII](#) (single-byte encodings of the Armenian alphabet, also discusses [ISO 10585](#) and the mapping to Unicode)
- [Classical Armenian orthography](#)
- [Reformed Armenian orthography](#)
- [Romanization of Armenian](#) (includes [ISO 9985](#))

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External links[edit]

- [Armenotype](#) – site about Armenian typeface design and typography.
- [Armenian Apostolic \(Orthodox\) Church Library Online \(in English, Armenian, and Russian\)](#)

Information on Armenian character set encoding.

Armenian Phonetic Keyboard Layout

- [Phonetic Keyboard Layout for Eastern Armenian](#)

Armenian Transliteration

- [English / French script to Armenian Transliteration](#) Hayadar.com – Online, Latin to Armenian transliteration engine.
- [Latin-Armenian Transliteration](#) Converts Latin letters into Armenian and vice versa. Supports multiple transliteration tables and spell checking.
- [Transliteration schemes for the Armenian alphabet](#) (transliteration.eki.ee)

Armenian Orthography converters

- [Nayiri.com](#) (integrated orthography converter: reformed to classical)