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Burmese script - Wikipedia

5-6 minutes

This article is about the script in general. For the script applied specifically to Burmese, see [Burmese alphabet](#).

Burmese	
မြန်မာအက္ခရာ	
Type	Abugida
Languages	Burmese, Shan, Mon, Karen, others.
Time period	11th century - present
Parent systems	<div> <div>Proto-Sinaitic alphabet</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Phoenician alphabetAramaic alphabetBrahmi scriptKadamba or Pallava alphabetPyu or MonBurmese </div>
Child systems	Burmese , Mon , Sgaw Karen , Shan
Direction	Left-to-right
ISO 15924	Mymr , 350
Unicode alias	Myanmar
Unicode range	<div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">U+1000–U+109F Myanmar </div>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U+AA60–U+AA7F Myanmar Extended-A U+A9E0–U+A9FF Myanmar Extended-B
Brahmic scripts	
The Brahmic script and its descendants	
Northern Brahmic [show]	
Southern Brahmic [show]	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> v t e 	

The **Burmese script** is the basis of the alphabets used for modern [Burmese](#), [Mon](#), [Shan](#) and [Karen](#).^[1]

Languages[\[edit\]](#)

An adaptation of the [Old Mon script](#), the Burmese script was originally used to write the [Mon](#). In modern times, besides being used to write the Burmese language, it has been adapted for use in writing other [languages of Burma](#), most notably [Shan](#), [Mon](#) (using a version of the script more similar to that used for Burmese than the original Old Mon script) and the [S'gaw Karen language](#). It is also used for the [liturgical languages](#) of [Pali](#) and [Sanskrit](#).^[2]

Unicode[\[edit\]](#)

The Burmese script was added to the [Unicode](#) Standard in September, 1999 with the release of version 3.0. Additional characters were added in subsequent releases.

Until 2005, most Burmese language websites used an image-based, dynamically-generated method to display Burmese [characters](#), often in [GIF](#) or [JPEG](#). At the end of 2005, the [Burmese](#) NLP Research Lab announced a Myanmar [OpenType](#) font named Myanmar1. This [font](#) contains not only [Unicode](#) code points and [glyphs](#) but also the OpenType Layout (OTL) logic and rules. Their research center is based in Myanmar ICT Park, [Yangon](#).

Padauk, which was produced by [SIL International](#), is Unicode-compliant. Initially, it required a [Graphite](#) engine, though now OpenType tables for Windows are in the current version of this font. Since the release of the Unicode 5.1 Standard on 4 April 2008, three Unicode 5.1 compliant fonts have been available under public license, including Myanmar3, Padauk and Parabaik.^[3]

Many Burmese font makers have created Burmese fonts including Win Innwa, CE Font, Myazedi, [Zawgyi](#), Ponnya, Mandalay. It is important to note that these Burmese fonts are not Unicode compliant, because they use unallocated code points (including those for the Latin script) in the Burmese block to manually deal with shaping—that would normally be done by a [complex text layout](#) engine—and they are not yet supported by [Microsoft](#) and other major [software](#) vendors. However, there are few Burmese language websites that have switched to Unicode rendering, with many websites continuing^[when?] to use a pseudo-Unicode font called Zawgyi (which uses codepoints allocated for minority languages and does not efficiently render diacritics, such as the size of *ya-yit*) or the GIF/JPG display method.

Burmese Support in Microsoft Windows 8^[edit]

[Windows 8](#) includes a Unicode-compliant Burmese font named "Myanmar Text". Windows 8 also includes a Burmese keyboard layout.^[4]^[*citation needed*]. Due to the popularity of the font in this OS, [Microsoft](#) kept its support in [Windows 10](#).

Blocks^[edit]

The Unicode block called *Myanmar* is U+1000–U+109F. It was added to the Unicode Standard in September 1999 with the release of version 3.0:

Myanmar ^[1] Official Unicode Consortium code chart (PDF)																
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
U+100x	က	ခ	ဂ	ဃ	င	စ	ဆ	ဇ	ဈ	ည	ဉ	ဋ	ဌ	ဍ	ဎ	ဏ
U+101x	တ	ထ	ဒ	ဓ	န	ပ	ဖ	ဗ	ဘ	မ	ယ	ရ	လ	ဝ	သ	တ
U+102x	ဠ	အ	ဓ	ဣ	ဤ	ဥ	ဦ	ဧ	ဨ	ဩ	ဪ	ါ	ာ	ိ	ီ	ု

U+103x	ူ	ေ	ဲ	ီ	ဝ	်	ံ	့	း	ၢ	်	ၣ	ြ	ွ	ှ	သ
U+104x	ဝ	၁	၂	၃	၄	၅	၆	၇	၈	၉	၊	။	၌	၍	၎	၏
U+105x	စ	တ	ပ	ဗ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ	ဇ
U+106x	၉	၉	၀	၁	၂	၃	၄	၅	၆	၇	၈	၉	၀	၁	၂	၃
U+107x	ယု	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ	ိ
U+108x	ဆ	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎	၎
U+109x	၀	၁	၂	၃	၄	၅	၆	၇	၈	၉	၀	၁	၂	၃	၄	၅

Notes

1. [^] As of Unicode version 13.0

The Unicode block called *Myanmar Extended-A* is U+AA60–U+AA7F. It was added to the Unicode Standard in October 2009 with the release of version 5.2:

Myanmar Extended-A^[1] Official Unicode Consortium code chart (PDF)																
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
U+AA6x	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က	က
U+AA7x	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ	ံ

Notes

1. [^] As of Unicode version 13.0

The Unicode called *Myanmar Extended-B* is U+A9E0–U+A9FF. It was added to the Unicode Standard in June 2014 with the release of version 7.0:

Myanmar Extended-B^{[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+A9Ex	ခ	ဆ	သ	ဆ	ဆ	်	်	ှ	ှ	က	လ	လ	လ	တ	တ	က

U+A9Fx	၀	၁	၂	၃	၄	၅	၆	၇	၈	၉	၁၀	၁၁	၁၂	၁၃	၁၄	၁၅
Notes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> [^] As of Unicode version 13.0 [^] Grey area indicates non-assigned code point 																

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

See also^{[[edit](#)]}

- [Burmese alphabet](#)
- [Burmese numerals](#)
- [Old Mon script](#)
- [Pyu script](#)
- [S'gaw Karen alphabet](#)
- [Tai Tham script](#)