

## Gurmukhi - Wikipedia

Gurmukhī	
<span></span> <div>A handwritten <a href="#">Guru Granth Sahib</a> in Gurmukhī</div>	
Type	<a href="#">Abugida</a>
Languages	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Punjabi</li><li>Punjabi dialects</li><li>Sant Bhasha</li><li>Sindhi</li></ul></div>
Time period	16th century CE-present
Parent systems	<div><a href="#">Egyptian hieroglyphs</a><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Proto-Sinaitic alphabet</li><li>Phoenician alphabet</li><li>Aramaic alphabet</li><li>Brahmi</li><li>Gupta</li><li>Śaradā</li><li>Landā</li><li>Gurmukhī</li></ul></div>
Sister systems	<div><a href="#">Khojki</a> <a href="#">Takri</a></div>
Direction	Left-to-right
<a href="#">ISO 15924</a>	Guru, 310
Unicode alias	Gurmukhi
<a href="#">Unicode range</a>	<a href="#">U+0A00–U+0A7F</a>
<div>This article contains <a href="#">IPA phonetic symbols</a>. Without proper <a href="#">rendering support</a>, you may see <a href="#">question marks, boxes, or other symbols</a> instead of <a href="#">Unicode</a> characters. For an introductory guide on IPA symbols, see <a href="#">Help:IPA</a>.</div>	

	<a href="#">Brahmic scripts</a>
	The Brahmic script and its descendants
	Northern Brahmic( <a href="#">show</a> )
	Southern Brahmic( <a href="#">show</a> )
•	<a href="#">v</a>
•	<a href="#">t</a>
•	<a href="#">e</a>

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The primary scripture of [Sikhism](#), the [Guru Granth Sahib](#), is written in Gurmukhī, in various dialects often subsumed under the generic title [Sant Bhasha](#)<sup>[4]</sup> or *saint language*.

Modern Gurmukhī has thirty-five original letters, hence its common alternative term *pentī* or "the thirty-five,"<sup>[2]</sup> plus six additional [consonants](#),<sup>[5][6][7][8]</sup> nine [vowel diacritics](#), two diacritics for nasal sounds, one diacritic that [geminate](#)s consonants and three subscript characters.

History and development[edit]

The Gurmukhī script is generally believed to have roots in the [Proto-Sinaitic alphabet](#)<sup>[9]</sup> by way of the [Brahmi script](#),<sup>[10]</sup> which [developed](#) further into the Northwestern group ([Sharada](#), or Śāradā, and its descendants, including [Landa](#) and [Takri](#)), the Central group ([Nagari](#) and its descendants, including [Devanagari](#), [Gujarati](#) and [Modi](#)) and the Eastern group (evolved from [Siddham](#), including [Bangla](#), [Tibetan](#), and some Nepali scripts),<sup>[11]</sup> as well as several prominent [writing systems of Southeast Asia](#) and Sinhala in Sri Lanka, in addition to scripts used historically in Central Asia for extinct languages like [Saka](#) and [Tocharian](#).<sup>[11]</sup> Gurmukhi is derived from Sharada in the Northwestern group, of which it is the only major surviving member,<sup>[12]</sup> with full modern currency.<sup>[13]</sup> Notable features:

- It is an [abugida](#) in which all consonants have an inherent vowel, [/ə/](#). Diacritics, which can appear above, below, before or after the consonant they are applied to, are used to change the inherent vowel.
- When they appear at the beginning of a syllable, vowels are written as independent letters.
- To form [consonant clusters](#), Gurmukhi uniquely affixes subscript letters at the bottom of standard characters, rather than using the true conjunct symbols used by other scripts,<sup>[13]</sup> which merge parts of each letter into a distinct character of its own.
- Punjabi is a tonal language with three tones. These are indicated in writing using the formerly voiced aspirated consonants (gh, dh, bh, etc.) and the intervocalic h.<sup>[14]</sup>

Phoenician	𐤀	𐤁	𐤂	𐤃	𐤄	𐤅	𐤆	𐤇	𐤈	𐤉	𐤊	𐤋	𐤌	𐤍	𐤎	𐤏	𐤐	𐤑	𐤒	𐤓	𐤔	𐤕	𐤖	𐤗
Aramaic	ܐ	ܒ	ܓ	ܕ	ܕܐ	ܚ	ܚܐ	ܓܐ	ܕܓܐ	ܕܐܓܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐ	ܕܐܓܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐܐ	
Brahmi	𑀀	𑀁	𑀂	𑀃	𑀄	𑀅	𑀆	𑀇	𑀈	𑀉	𑀊	𑀋	𑀌	𑀍	𑀎	𑀏	𑀐	𑀑	𑀒	𑀓	𑀔	𑀕	𑀖	𑀗
Gurmukhi	ਅ	ਬ	ਭ	ਗ	ਧ	ਢ	ੲ	ੳ	ੴ	ੵ	੶	੷	੸	੹	੺	੻	੼	੽	੾	੿	ਐ	ਓ	ਔ	ਏ
IAST	a	ba	bha	ga	dha	ḍha	e	va	ḍa	ḍa	ha	gha	ṭha	ṭha	ya	ka	ca	la	ma	na	ṇa	ṣa	o	pa
Greek	A	B	Γ	Δ	Ε	Υ	Z	H	Θ	Ι	K	Λ	M	N	Ξ	Ο	Π	Ρ	Σ	Τ	Υ	Φ	Χ	Ψ

Possible derivation of Gurmukhi from earlier writing systems,<sup>[note 1]</sup> The Greek alphabet, also descended from Phoenician, is included for comparison.

Gurmukhi evolved in cultural and historical circumstances notably different from other regional scripts,<sup>[12]</sup> for the purpose of recording scriptures of [Sikhism](#), a far less Sanskritized cultural tradition than others of the subcontinent.<sup>[12]</sup> This independence from the Sanskritic model allowed it the freedom to evolve unique orthographical features.<sup>[12]</sup> These include:

- Three basic carrier vowels, integrated into the traditional Gurmukhi character set, using the vowel markers to write independent vowels, instead of distinctly separate characters for each of these vowels as in other scripts;<sup>[14]</sup>
- a drastic reduction in the number and importance of conjunct characters<sup>[14]</sup> (similar to Brahmi, and characteristic of Northwestern abugidas as opposed to others);<sup>[13]</sup>
- a unique standard ordering of characters that somewhat diverges from the traditional *vargiya*, or Sanskritic, ordering of characters;<sup>[14]</sup>
- the omission of consonants representing sounds found in Sanskrit (e.g. sibilants like [/ʃ/](#) and [/sʱ/](#)), but naturally lost in most modern [Indo-Aryan languages](#), though such characters were often retained in their respective consonant inventories as placeholders and archaisms,<sup>[14]</sup> and the sounds frequently reintroduced through later circumstances;
- the development of distinct new letters for sounds better reflecting the vernacular language spoken during the time of its development (e.g. for [/ɽ/](#), and the sound shift that merged Sanskrit [/ʃ/](#) and [/kʰ/](#) to Punjabi [/kʰ/](#));
- a [gemination](#) diacritic, a unique feature among native subcontinental scripts,<sup>[12]</sup> which help to illustrate the preserved [Middle Indo-Aryan](#) geminates distinctive of Punjabi;<sup>[13]</sup>

and other features.



From the 10th century onwards, regional differences started to appear between the Sharada script used in Punjab, the Hill States (partly [Himachal Pradesh](#)) and [Kashmir](#). Sharada proper was eventually restricted to very limited ceremonial use in Kashmir, as it grew increasingly unsuitable for writing the [Kashmiri language](#).<sup>[15]</sup> With the last known inscription dating to 1204 C.E., the early 13th century marks a milestone in the development of Sharada.<sup>[15]</sup> The regional variety in Punjab continued to evolve from this stage through the

The [Sikh gurus](#) adopted proto-Gurmukhī to write the [Guru Granth Sahib](#), the religious scriptures of the Sikhs. The [Takri](#) alphabet developed through the *Devāṣeṣa* stage of the Sharada script from the 14th-18th centuries<sup>[15]</sup> and is found mainly in the [Hill States](#) such as [Chamba, Himachal Pradesh](#) and surrounding areas, where it is called *Chambyali*, and in [Jammu Division](#), where it is known as *Dogri*. The local Takri variants got the status of official scripts in some of the Punjab Hill States, and were used for both administrative and literary purposes until the 19th century.<sup>[15]</sup> After 1948, when [Himachal Pradesh](#) was established as an administrative unit, the local *Takri* variants were replaced by [Devanagari](#).

Meanwhile, the mercantile scripts of Punjab known as the *Laṇḍā* scripts were normally not used for literary purposes. *Landa* means alphabet "without tail",<sup>[13]</sup> implying that the script did not have vowel symbols. In Punjab, there were at least ten different scripts classified as *Laṇḍā*, *Mahajani* being the most popular. The *Laṇḍā* scripts were used for household and trade purposes. Compared to the *Laṇḍā*, Sikh Gurus favored the use of Proto-Gurmukhī, because of the difficulties involved in pronouncing words without vowel signs.

The usage of Gurmukhī letters in the Guru Granth Sahib meant that the script developed its own orthographical rules. In the following epochs, Gurmukhī became the prime script applied for the literary writings of the Sikhs. The [Singh Sabha Movement](#) of the late 1800s, a movement to revitalize Sikh institutions which had declined during [colonial rule](#) after the fall of the [Sikh Empire](#), also advocated for the usage of the Gurmukhi script for [mass media](#), with print media publications and [Punjabi-language newspapers](#) established in the 1880s.<sup>[17]</sup> Later in the 20th century, after the struggle of the [Punjabi Suba movement](#), from the founding of modern India in the 1940s to the 1960s, the script was given the authority as the official script of the [Punjab, India](#).<sup>[2][3]</sup>

The prevalent view among Punjabi linguists is that as in the early stages the Gurmukhī letters were primarily used by the Guru's followers, [Gurmukhs](#) (literally, those who face, or follow, the Guru, as opposed to a [Manmukh](#)); the script thus came to be known as *Gurmukhī*, "[the script] of those guided by the Guru."<sup>[12]</sup> [Guru Angad](#) is credited in the Sikh tradition with the creation and standardization of Gurmukhī script from earlier [Śarādā](#)-descended scripts native to the region. It is now the standard writing script for the Punjabi language in India.<sup>[18]</sup> The original Sikh scriptures and most of the historic Sikh literature have been written in the Gurmukhī script.<sup>[18]</sup>

Alphabet[edit]

[illegible]

The Gurmukhī alphabet contains thirty-five letters (*akkhar*, plural *akkharā*). The first three are distinct because they form the basis for vowels and are not consonants (*vianjan*) like the remaining letters are, and except for the second letter *ɛra* are never used on their own. See the section on vowels for further details.

Name	Pron.(IPA)	Name	Pron.(IPA)	Name	Pron.(IPA)	Name	Pron.(IPA)	Name	Pron.(IPA)
ਚਿ	ɯ:ɾa:	ਅ	ɛ:ɾa:	ੲ	i:ɾi:	ਸ	sə:s:a:	ਹ	ha:ɦa:
ਕ	kək:a:	ਖ	kʰəkʰ:a:	ਗ	gəg:a:	ਘ	kə̀g:a:	ਙ	ŋəŋ:a:
ਚ	ʃiʌʃ:a	ਛ	ʃiʌʃʰ:a:	ਜ	ɖʒəɖʒ:a:	ਝ	ʃiʌɖʒ:a	ਞ	ɲəŋ:a
ਟ	ʈɛŋka:	ਠ	ʈʰɛʈʰ:a:	ਡ	dəɖ:a:	ਢ	ʈəɖ:a:	ਣ	ɳa:ɳa:
ਤ	ʈəʈ:a:	ਥ	ʈʰəʈʰ:a:	ਦ	dəɖ:a:	ਧ	ʈəɖ:a:	ਨ	nən:a:
ਪ	pəp:a:	ਫ	pʰəpʰ:a:	ਬ	bəb:a:	ਭ	pə̀b:a:	ਮ	məm:a:

ਯ	ਯੋ:ʌ:	ਯੋ	ਰ	ਰਾ:ʌ:	ਰੋ	ਲ	ਲੋ:ʌ:	ਲੋ	ਵ	ਵਾ:ʌ:	ਵੋ	ੜ	ੜਾ:ʌ:	ੜੋ
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The letters ਯ /ʎə:ʌ:/ and ਵ /ʋə:ʌ:/ are not used in modern Gurmukhi. They cannot begin a syllable or be placed between two consonants, and the sounds they represent occur most often as [allophones](#) of [n] before specific consonant phonemes.

The pronunciation of ਵ can vary allophonically between /ʋ/ and /w/.

- à – grave accent = tonal consonant.
  - To differentiate between consonants, the Punjabi tonal consonants kà, chà, tà, và, and pà are often transliterated in the way of the Hindi voiced aspirate consonants gha, jha, dha, and bha respectively, although Punjabi does not have these sounds.
  - Tones in Punjabi can be either rising or falling; in the pronunciation of Gurmukhī letters they are falling, hence the grave accent as opposed to the acute.

In addition to these, there are six consonants in official usage,<sup>[5][6][7][8]</sup> referred to as the *navīn ʈol*<sup>[7][8]</sup> or *navīn varag*, meaning "new group," created by placing a dot (*bindi*) at the foot (*pair*) of the consonant (these are not present in the [Guru Granth Sahib](#)). These are used most often for loanwords, though not exclusively:

Name		Pron.(IPA)	Name		Pron.(IPA)	Name		Pron.(IPA)
ਸ਼	sə:ʌ: pɛ:ɾᵐ bɪndi:	/ʃə/	ਖ਼	kʰəkʰ:a: pɛ:ɾᵐ bɪndi:	/xə/	ਗ਼	gəg:a: pɛ:ɾᵐ bɪndi:	/ɣə/
ਜ਼	d͡ʒəd͡ʒ:a: pɛ:ɾᵐ bɪndi:	/zə/	ੜ	pʰəpʰ:a: pɛ:ɾᵐ bɪndi:	/ʈə/	ਲ਼	lə:a: pɛ:ɾᵐ bɪndi:	/lə/

The character ਲ਼ /l/ was only recently added to the Gurmukhī alphabet. It was not a part of the traditional orthography, as the distinctive phonological difference between 'l' and 'ʌ' was not reflected in the script. Some sources do not consider it a separate letter. Other characters, like ਞ਼ /qə/, are also on rare occasion used unofficially, chiefly for transliterating old writings in [Persian](#) and [Urdu](#), the knowledge of which is less relevant in modern times.

Subscript letters[edit]

Three "subscript" letters, called *pairī akkhar*, or "letters at the foot" are utilised in Gurmukhī: forms of ਚ(h), ਰ(r), and ਵ(v).

The subscript ਰ(r) and ਵ(v) are used to make consonant clusters and behave similarly; subjoined ਚ(h) raises tone.

Subscript letter	Original form	Usage
ਚ਼	Subjoined <span>/ɬ/</span> ਚ→ਚ਼	For example, the letter ਪ(p) with a regular ਰ(r) following it would yield the word ਪਰਾ / <span>pəɾᵐ</span> / ("but"), but with a subjoined ਰ ਰ would appear as ਪੜ / <span>pɾᵐ</span> /, resulting in a consonant cluster, as in the word ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ (/prəbʌndəkᵐ/, "managerial, administrative"), as opposed to ਪਰਬੰਧਕ / <span>pəɾᵐbʌndəkᵐ</span> /, the Punjabi form of the word used in natural speech in less formal settings (the Punjabi reflex for Sanskrit / <span>prə-</span> is / <span>pəɾ-</span> ). This subscript letter is commonly used in Punjabi, <sup>[19]</sup> not just for Sanskritized words, but also for personal names, some native dialectal words, loanwords from other languages like English, etc.
ਵ਼	Subjoined <span>/ʋ/</span> ਵ→ਵ਼	Used occasionally in <a href="#">Gurbani</a> (Sikh religious scriptures) but rare in modern usage, it is largely confined to creating the cluster / <span>svə-</span> / <sup>[19]</sup> in words borrowed from Sanskrit, the reflex of which in Punjabi is / <span>sʊ-</span> /, e.g. Sanskrit सपुनः / <span>sʋpəp.ṇə</span> /→Punjabi ਸੁਪਨਾ / <span>sʊpˈna:</span> /, "dream," cf. Hindi-Urdu / <span>səpna:</span> /. For example, ਸ਼ with a subjoined ਵ਼ would produce ਸ਼ੜ / <span>svəɾᵐ</span> -) as in the Sanskrit word स्वर्ग (/svəɾgə/, "heaven"), but followed by a regular ਵ would yield ਸ਼ਵ (səv-) as in the common word सवर्ग (/səvəɾgᵐ/, "heaven"), borrowed earlier from Sanskrit but subsequently changed. The natural Punjabi reflex, ਸੁਰਗ / <span>sʊɾəgᵐ</span> /, is also used in everyday speech.
ਹ਼	Subjoined <span>/ɦ/</span> ਹ→ਹ਼	The most common subscript, <sup>[19]</sup> this character does not create consonant clusters, but serves as part of Punjabi's characteristic tone system, indicating a raised tone. It behaves the same way in its use as the regular ਚ(h) does in non-word-initial positions. The regular ਚ(h) is pronounced at the beginning of words but not in other positions, where it instead raises the tone. The difference in usage is that the regular ਚ is used after vowels and the subscript version when there is no vowel, and is attached to consonants. For example, the regular ਚ is used after vowels as in ਮੀਂਹ (transliterated as <i>mīh</i> , to show tonality, <i>mī́</i> , "rain"). The subjoined ਚ(h) acts the same way but instead is used under consonants: ਚ(ਚ) followed by ਰ(r) yields ਚੜ ( <i>chəɾ</i> ), but not until the rising tone is introduced via a subscript ਚ(h) does it properly spell the word ਚੜ੍ਹ ( <i>chəɾ</i> , "climb").  This character's function is analogous to the <i>udāt</i> symbol (◌̣ U+0A51), which occurs in older texts and indicates a high tone.

In addition to the three subjoined letters, there is a half-form of the letter Yayya, /j/ ਯ਼→ਯ਼ਾ, also used exclusively for Sanskrit borrowings, and even then rarely. Use of the subjoined /ʋ/ and conjunct /j/, already rare, is increasingly scarce in modern contexts.<sup>[1]</sup>

Vowel diacritics[edit]

To express **vowels**, Gurmukhī, as an [abugida](#), makes use of obligatory [diacritics](#) called *lagā mātarā* (plural *lagē matarē*). Gurmukhī is similar to [Brahmi](#) scripts in that all consonants are followed by an inherent 'a' sound (unless at the end of a word when the 'a' is usually dropped). This inherent vowel sound can be changed by using dependent vowel signs which attach to a bearing consonant. In some cases, dependent vowel signs cannot be used – at the beginning of a word or syllable for instance – and so an independent vowel

character is used instead.

Independent vowels are constructed using three bearer characters: *ūṛā* (ਊ), *aiṛā* (ਐ) and *īṛī* (ਏ). With the exception of *aiṛā* (which represents the vowel 'a') they are never used without additional vowel signs.

Vowel			Transcription		IPA	Closest English equivalent
Ind.	Dep.	with /k/	Name	Usage		
ਅ	(none)	ਕ	Muktā	a	[ə]	like <i>a</i> in <i>about</i>
ਆ	ੜ	ਕਾ	Kannā	ā	[aː] , [ãː]	like <i>a</i> in <i>car</i>
ਇ	ੰ	ਕਿ	Sihārī	i	[ɪ]	like <i>i</i> in <i>it</i>
ਈ	ੀ	ਕੀ	Bihārī	ī	[iː]	like <i>i</i> in <i>litre</i>
ਉ	ੁ	ਕੁ	Onkar	u	[ʊ]	like <i>u</i> in <i>put</i>
ਊ	ੂ	ਕੂ	Dulenkār	ū	[uː]	like <i>u</i> in <i>spruce</i>
ਏ	ੈ	ਕੇ	Lāvā	ē	[eː]	like <i>e</i> in <i>Chile</i>
ਐ	ੌ	ਕੌ	Dulāvā	e	[ɛː]	like <i>e</i> in <i>sell</i>
ਓ	ੌ	ਕੋ	Hōṛā	ō	[oː]	like <i>o</i> in <i>more</i>
ਔ	ੌ	ਕੌ	Kanoṛā	o	[ɔː]	like <i>o</i> in <i>off</i>

Dotted circles represent the bearer consonant. Vowels are always pronounced after the consonant they are attached to. Thus, *sihārī* is always written to the left, but pronounced after the character on the right.

Other signs[\[edit\]](#)

Nasalisation[\[edit\]](#)

*Ṭippī* ( ਟਿੱ ) and *bindī* ( ਿੰ ) are used for producing a nasal phoneme depending on the following obstruent or a nasal vowel at the end of a word. All short vowels are nasalized using *ṭippī* and all long vowels are nasalized using *bindī* except for *dulenkār* ( ਊ ), which uses *ṭippī* instead.

Diacritic usage	Result	Examples (IPA)
<i>Ṭippī</i> on short vowel (/ə/, /ɪ/, /ʊ/), or long vowel /uː/, before non-nasal consonant	Adds <a href="#">nasal consonant</a> at same <a href="#">place of articulation</a> as following consonant (/ns/, /ṇt/, /ŋd/, /mb/, /ŋg/, /ntʃ/ etc.)	ਗੇਸ /hənsʰ/ "goose" ਅੰਤ /əṇtʰ/ "end" ਗੋਟ /gəŋdʰ/ "knot" ਅੰਬ /əmbʰ/ "mango" ਸਿੰਘ /sɪŋgʰ/ "horn, antler" ਕੰਜੀ /kɔṇdʒi/ "key" ਗੂੜ /guːṇdʒ/ "roar" ਲੂੰਬ /luːmbʰɪ/ "fox"
<i>Bindī</i> over long vowel (/aː/, /eː/, /iː/, /oː/, /uː/, /ɛː/, /ɔː/) before non-nasal consonant not including /h/	Adds nasal consonant at same place of articulation as following consonant (/ns/, /ṇt/, /ŋd/, /mb/, /ŋg/, /ntʃ/ etc.). May also secondarily nasalize the vowel	ਕਾਂਸੀ /kaːnsiː/ "bronze" ਕੇਂਦਰ /keːṇdər/ "center, core, headquarters" ਗੁਆਂਢੀ /gʊáːŋdʱi/ "neighbor" ਕਰੌਡ /kɾɔːŋkʰ/ "crossroads, plaza" ਟ੍ਰਾਇਲ /d̪ɜːʌɳtʃ/ "trial, examination"
<i>Ṭippī</i> over <i>consonants</i> followed by long vowel /uː/ (not stand-alone vowel ਊ), at open syllable at end of word, or ending in /h/	<a href="#">Vowel nasalization</a>	ਤੂੰ /t̪uː/ "you" ਸਾਨੂੰ /saːnũː/ "to us" ਮੂੰਹ /mũːh/ "mouth"
<i>Ṭippī</i> on short vowel before nasal consonant (/ṇ/ or /m/)	<a href="#">Gemination</a> of nasal consonant. <i>Ṭippī</i> is used to geminate nasal consonants instead of <a href="#">addhak</a>	ਇੰਨਾ /ɪṇːaː/ "this much" ਕੰਮ /kəmː/ "work"
<i>Bindī</i> over long vowel (/aː/, /eː/, /iː/, /oː/, /uː/, /ɛː/, /ɔː/), at open syllable at end of word, or ending in /h/	Vowel nasalization	ਬਾਂਹ /bāːh/ "arm" ਮੈਂ /mɛː/ "I, me" ਅਸੀਂ /əsiː/ "we, us" ਤੋਂ /t̪oː/ "from" ਸਿੰਊ /sɪ.ũː/ "sew"

Older texts may follow other conventions.

Gemination[\[edit\]](#)

The use of *addhak* (ੜ) (IPA: [ˈəd̪ːəkʰ]) indicates that the following consonant is [geminate](#), meaning that the subsequent consonant is doubled or reinforced. Consonant length is distinctive in the Punjabi language and the use of this diacritic can change the meaning of a word, for example:

Without <i>addhak</i>	Transliteration	Meaning	With <i>addhak</i>	Transliteration	Meaning
ਦਸ	das	'ten'	ਦੜਸ	dass	'tell' (verb)
ਪਤਾ	patā	'aware' (of something)	ਪਤੜਾ	pattā	'leaf'
ਸਤ	sat	'essence'	ਸਤੜ	satt	'seven'
ਕਲਾ	kalā	'art'	ਕਲੜਾ	kallā	'alone' ( <a href="#">colloquialism</a> )

Vowel suppression[\[edit\]](#)



The *halant* (ੜ) character is not used when writing Punjabi in Gurmukhī. However, it may occasionally be used in Sanskritised text or in dictionaries for extra phonetic information. When it is used, it represents the suppression of the inherent vowel.

The effect of this is shown below:

ਕ – kə

ਕੜ – k

Punctuation[\[edit\]](#)

The *danda* (।) is used in Gurmukhi to mark the end of a sentence. A doubled *danda* (॥) marks the end of a verse.<sup>[[20](#)]</sup>

The *visarg* symbol (ः U+0A03) is used very occasionally in Gurmukhī. It can represent an abbreviation, as the [period](#) is used in English, though the period for abbreviation, like commas, exclamation points, and other Western punctuation, is freely used in modern Gurmukhi.<sup>[[20](#)]</sup>

Numerals[\[edit\]](#)

<div>Numeral systems</div>
<div> <div>0123456789</div> <div>੦੧੨੩੪੫੬੭੮੯</div> <div>ⅠⅡⅢⅣⅤⅥⅦⅧⅨⅩ</div> <div>ௐ௑௒௓௔௕௖ௗ௘௙௚௛௜௝௞௟௠௡௢௣௤௥௦௧௨௩௪௫௶௷௸௹௺</div> <div>〇一二三四五六七八九</div> </div>
<div>Hindu–Arabic numeral system</div>
<div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Western Arabic</a></li> <li><a href="#">Eastern Arabic</a></li> <li><a href="#">Bengali</a></li> <li><a href="#">Devanagari</a></li> <li><a href="#">Gurmukhi</a></li> <li><a href="#">Sinhala</a></li> <li><a href="#">Tamil</a></li> <li><a href="#">Balinese</a></li> <li><a href="#">Burmese</a></li> <li><a href="#">Dzongkha</a></li> <li><a href="#">Gujarati</a></li> <li><a href="#">Javanese</a></li> <li><a href="#">Khmer</a></li> <li><a href="#">Lao</a></li> <li><a href="#">Mongolian</a></li> <li><a href="#">Thai</a></li></ul> </div>

East Asian
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Chinese</a></li> <li><a href="#">Suzhou</a></li> <li><a href="#">Hokkien</a></li> <li><a href="#">Japanese</a></li> <li><a href="#">Korean</a></li> <li><a href="#">Vietnamese</a></li> <li><a href="#">Tangut</a></li> <li><i><a href="#">Counting rods</a></i></li></ul>
Alphabetic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Abjad</a></li> <li><a href="#">Armenian</a></li> <li><a href="#">Āryabhaṭa</a></li> <li><a href="#">Cyrillic</a></li> <li><a href="#">Ge'ez</a></li> <li><a href="#">Georgian</a></li> <li><a href="#">Greek</a></li> <li><a href="#">Hebrew</a></li> <li><a href="#">Roman</a></li></ul>
Former
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Aegean</a></li> <li><a href="#">Attic</a></li> <li><a href="#">Babylonian</a></li> <li><a href="#">Brahmi</a></li> <li><a href="#">Chuvash</a></li> <li><a href="#">Egyptian</a></li> <li><a href="#">Etruscan</a></li> <li><a href="#">Glagolitic</a></li> <li><a href="#">Inuit</a></li> <li><a href="#">Kharosthi</a></li> <li><a href="#">Mayan</a></li> <li><a href="#">Muisca</a></li> <li><a href="#">Quipu</a></li> <li><i><a href="#">Prehistoric</a></i></li></ul>
<a href="#">Positional systems</a> by <a href="#">base</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">2</a></li> <li><a href="#">3</a></li> <li><a href="#">4</a></li> <li><a href="#">5</a></li> <li><a href="#">6</a></li> <li><a href="#">8</a></li> <li><a href="#">10</a></li> <li><a href="#">12</a></li> <li><a href="#">16</a></li> <li><a href="#">20</a></li> <li><a href="#">60</a></li></ul>
<a href="#">Non-standard positional numeral systems</a>

<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Bijective numeration</a> (1)</li><li><a href="#">Signed-digit representation</a> (Balanced ternary)</li><li><a href="#">mixed</a> (factorial)</li><li><a href="#">negative</a></li><li><a href="#">Complex-base system</a> (2i)</li><li><a href="#">Non-integer representation</a> (φ)</li><li><a href="#">Asymmetric numeral systems</a></li></ul></div>
<div><a href="#">List of numeral systems</a></div>
<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>v</li><li>t</li><li>e</li></ul></div>

Gurmukhī has its own set of digits, used exactly as in other versions of the [Hindu-Arabic numeral system](#). These are used extensively in older texts. In modern contexts, they are sometimes replaced by standard [Western Arabic numerals](#).

Numeral	Name, IPA	Simple Transliteration	Number
੦	ਸਿਫਰ [sɪfəɾʰ]	sifar	zero
੧	ਇੱਕ [ɪkːʰ]	ikk	one
੨	ਦੋ [dʰoː]	do	two
੩	ਤਿੰਨ [tɪnːʰ]	tinn*	three
੪	ਚਾਰ [tʃaɾʰ]	chār	four
੫	ਪੰਜ [pəɳd͡ʒʰ]	panj	five
੬	ਛੇ [tʃʰeː]	chhe	six
੭	ਸੱਤ [səʈːʰ]	satt	seven
੮	ਅੱਠ [əʈːʰ]	aṭṭh	eight
੯	ਨੌ [nɔː]	naum	nine
੧੦	ਦਸ [d̪əsʰ]	das	ten

<sup>\*</sup>In some Punjabi dialects, the word for three is *trai*,<sup>[21]</sup> (IPA: [tɾɛː]) spelled ਤ੍ਰੈ in Gurmukhī.

Unicode[edit]

Gurmukhī script was added to the [Unicode](#) Standard in October, 1991 with the release of version 1.0. Many sites still use proprietary fonts that convert Latin ASCII codes to Gurmukhī [glyphs](#).

The Unicode block for Gurmukhī is U+0A00–U+0A7F:

<a href="#">Gurmukhi</a> <sup>[1][2]</sup>																
<a href="#">Official Unicode Consortium code chart</a> (PDF)																
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
U+0A0x		ੰ		ੳ	ਅ	ਆ	ਇ	ਈ	ਉ	ਊ						ਏ
U+0A1x	ਐ			ੳ	ਕ	ਖ	ਗ	ਘ	ਙ	ਚ	ਛ	ਜ	ਝ	ਞ	ਟ	
U+0A2x	ਠ	ਡ	ਢ	ਣ	ਤ	ਥ	ਦ	ਧ	ਨ		ਪ	ਫ	ਬ	ਭ	ਮ	ਯ
U+0A3x	ਰ		ਲ	ਲ਼	ਵ	ਸ਼		ਸ	ਹ						ੜ	ਫ਼
U+0A4x	ੰ	ੰ					ੰ	ੰ			ੰ	ੰ	ੰ			
U+0A5x		੍ਰ								ਖ਼	ਗ਼	ਜ਼	ਝ਼	ਞ਼		
U+0A6x						੦	੧	੨	੩	੪	੫	੬	੭	੮	੯	
U+0A7x	ੰ	ੰ	ੲ	ੳ	ੲ	ੲ										

Notes

1.<sup>^</sup> As of Unicode version 13.0

2.<sup>^</sup> Grey areas indicate non-assigned code points

Digitization of Gurmukhī manuscripts[edit]



ਗੁਰਮੁਖੀ	ਉਅਦਸਰ
ਕ ਖ ਗ ਘ ਙ	ਕ ਖ ਗ ਘ ਙ
ਚ ਛ ਜ ਝ ਞ	ਚ ਛ ਜ ਝ ਞ
ਟ ਠ ਡ ਢ ਣ	ਟ ਠ ਡ ਢ ਣ
ਤ ਥ ਦ ਧ ਨ	ਤ ਥ ਦ ਧ ਨ
ਪ ਫ ਬ ਭ ਮ	ਪ ਫ ਬ ਭ ਮ
ਯ ਰ ਲ ਵ ਤ	ਯ ਰ ਲ ਵ ਤ
ਸ਼ ਖ਼ ਞ਼	ਸ਼ ਖ਼ ਞ਼
ਜ਼ ਝ਼ ਞ਼	ਜ਼ ਝ਼ ਞ਼

Gurmukhi can be digitally rendered in a variety of fonts. The [Dukandar](#) font, left, is meant to resemble informal Punjabi handwriting.

[Panjab Digital Library](#)<sup>[22]</sup> has taken up digitization of all available manuscripts of Gurmukhī Script. The script has been in formal use since the 1500s, and a lot of literature written within this time period is still traceable. Panjab Digital Library has digitized over 5 million pages from different manuscripts and most of them are available online.

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## See also[edit]

- [Punjabi Braille](#)
- [Shahmukhi alphabet](#)

## Notes[edit]

- ↑ The Gurmukhi character ਖ [kha] may have been originally derived from the Brahmi character denoting [ṣa], as the Sanskrit sounds /ṣa/ and /kʰa/ merged into /kʰa/ in Punjabi. Any phonemic contrast was lost, with no distinct character for [ṣa] remaining.

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Page 5. "The language of the hymns recorded in the Adi Granth has been called *Sant Bhasha*, a kind of lingua franca used by the medieval saint-poets of northern India. But the broad range of contributors to the text produced a complex mix of regional dialects."

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"When we go through the hymns and compositions of the Guru written in *Sant Bhasha* (saint-language), it appears that some Indian saint of 16th century..."

Nirmal Dass, *Songs of the Saints from the Adi Granth*. SUNY Press, 2000. *ISBN 0-7914-4683-2*, *ISBN 978-0-7914-4683-6*. Page 13.

"Any attempt at translating songs from the Adi Granth certainly involves working not with one language, but several, along with dialectal differences. The languages used by the saints range from Sanskrit; regional Prakrits; western, eastern and southern Apabhramsa; and Sahiskriti. More particularly, we find sant bhasha, Marathi, Old Hindi, central and Lehndi Panjabi, Sgettland Persian. There are also many dialects deployed, such as Purbi Marwari, Bangru, Dakhni, Malwai, and Awadhi."

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#### External links[edit]



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