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Tamil script - Wikipedia

23-29 minutes

<div>Tamil</div> <div>தமிழ்</div>	
<div>தமிழ்</div>	
Type	Abugida
Languages	<div>Tamil</div> <div>Kanikkaran</div> <div>Badaga</div> <div>Irula</div> <div>Paniya</div> <div>Saurashtra</div>
Time period	c. 400 BCE – present ^[1]
Parent systems	<div>Brahmi script</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">Tamil-BrahmiGrantha ScriptTamil</div>
Sister systems	<div>Vatteluttu</div> <div>Pallava</div> <div>Kolezhuthu</div> <div>Malayanma</div>
Direction	Left-to-right
ISO 15924	Tam1, 346
Unicode alias	Tamil
Unicode range	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none">U+0B80–U+0BFF TamilU+11FC0–U+11FFE Tamil Supplement</div>
<div><div><div>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</div></div></div>	

on IPA symbols, see [Help:IPA](#).

The **Tamil script** (தமிழ் அரிச்சுவடி; *Tamiḻ ariccuvaṭi*; [təmiɻˈɐɾiːcuvaɾi]; pronunciation[ⓘ] help[ⓘ]) is an [abugida](#) script that is used by [Tamils](#) and [Tamil speakers](#) in [India](#), [Sri Lanka](#), [Malaysia](#), [Singapore](#), [Indonesia](#), and elsewhere to write the [Tamil language](#), using consonants and diacritics not represented in the Tamil alphabet.^[2] Certain minority languages such as [Saurashtra](#), [Badaga](#), [Irula](#), and [Paniya](#) are also written in the Tamil script.^[3]

Characteristics[[edit](#)]

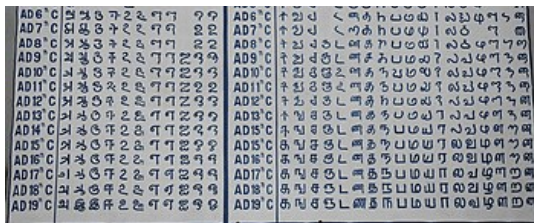
[illegible]

The Tamil script has 12 [vowels](#) (உயிர்எழுத்து; *uyireluttu*; "soul-letters"), 18 [consonants](#) (மெய்யெழுத்து; *meyyeluttu*; "body-letters") and one special character, the ஃ (ஆய்த எழுத்து; *āytha eluttu*). ஃ is called "அக்கு" *akku* and is classified in Tamil orthography as being neither a consonant nor a vowel.^[4] However, it is listed at the end of the vowel set. The script is [syllabic](#), not [alphabetic](#). The complete script, therefore, consists of the 31 letters in their independent form and an additional 216 combinant letters, for a total of 247 combinations (உயிர்மெய்யெழுத்து; *uyirmeyyeluttu*; "soul-body-letters") of a consonant and a vowel, a mute consonant, or a vowel alone. The combinant letters are formed by adding a vowel marker to the consonant. Some vowels require the basic shape of the consonant to be altered in a way that is specific to that vowel. Others are written by adding a vowel-specific suffix to the consonant, yet others a prefix, and still other vowels require adding both a prefix and a suffix to the consonant. In every case, the vowel marker is different from the standalone character for the vowel.

The Tamil script is written from left to right.

History[edit]

[illegible]



Historical evolution of Tamil writing from the earlier [Tamil Brahmi](#) near the top to the current Tamil script at bottom.



The Tamil script, like the other [Brahmic scripts](#), is thought to have evolved from the original [Brahmi script](#). The earliest inscriptions which are accepted examples of Tamil writing date to the [Ashokan](#) period. Although some inscriptions which have been dated to a much early period of 5th century BCE, have been discovered at places like [Adichanallur](#) and [Kodumanal](#) in Tamil Nadu. The script used by such inscriptions is commonly known as the [Tamil-Brahmi](#), or "Tamil script", and differs in many ways from standard Ashokan Brahmi. For example, early Tamil-Brahmi, unlike Ashokan Brahmi, had a system to distinguish between pure [consonants](#) (*m*, in this example) and consonants with an inherent [vowel](#) (*ma*, in this example). In addition, according to [Iravatham Mahadevan](#), early Tamil Brahmi used slightly different vowel markers, had extra characters to represent letters not found in [Sanskrit](#), and omitted letters for sounds not present in Tamil such as voiced consonants and aspirates. Inscriptions from the 2nd century use a later form of Tamil-Brahmi, which is substantially similar to the writing system described in the [Tolkāppiyam](#), an ancient Tamil grammar. Most notably, they used the *pulli* to suppress the inherent vowel. The Tamil letters thereafter evolved towards a more rounded form, and by the 5th or 6th century, they had reached a form called the *early vaṭṭeḷuttu*.

The modern Tamil script does not, however, descend from that script. In the 6th century, the [Pallava dynasty](#) created a [new script](#) for Tamil, and the [Grantha alphabet](#) evolved from it, adding the Vaṭṭeḷuttu alphabet for sounds not found to write Sanskrit. Parallel to [Pallava script](#) a new script (Chola-Pallava script, which evolved to modern Tamil script) again emerged in Chola territory resembling the same glyph development like Pallava script, but it did not evolve from that. By the 8th century, the new scripts supplanted Vaṭṭeḷuttu in the [Chola](#) resp. Pallava kingdoms which lay in the north portion of the Tamil-speaking region. [However](#), Vaṭṭeḷuttu continued to be used in the southern portion of the Tamil-speaking region, in the [Chera](#) and [Pandyan](#) kingdoms until the 11th century, when the Pandyan kingdom was conquered by the Cholas.

With the fall of Pallava kingdom, the Chola dynasty pushed the Chola-Pallava script as the de facto script. Over the next few centuries, the Chola-Pallava script evolved into the modern Tamil script. The Grantha and its parent script influenced the Tamil script notably. The use of [palm leaves](#) as the primary medium for [writing](#) led to changes in the script. The scribe had to be careful not to pierce the leaves with the stylus while writing because a leaf with a hole was more likely to tear and decay faster. As a result, the use of the *pulli* to distinguish pure consonants became rare, with pure consonants usually being written as if the inherent vowel were present. Similarly, the vowel marker for the *kurriyal ukaram*, a half-rounded *u* which occurs at the end of some words and in the medial position in certain compound words, also fell out of use and was replaced by the marker for the simple *u*. The *pulli* did not fully reappear until the introduction of [printing](#), but the marker *kurriyal ukaram* never came back into use although the sound itself still exists and plays an important role in Tamil [prosody](#).

The forms of some of the letters were simplified in the 19th century to make the script easier to typeset. In the 20th century, the script was [simplified even further](#) in a series of reforms, which regularised the

vowel markers used with consonants by eliminating special markers and most irregular forms.

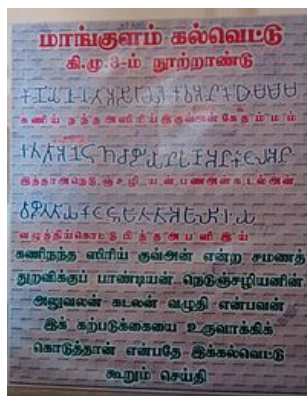
Relationship with other Indic scripts^{[[edit](#)]}

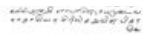
The Tamil script differs from other Brahmi-derived scripts in a number of ways. Unlike every other Brahmic script, it does not regularly represent voiced or aspirated [stop consonants](#) as these are not [phonemes](#) of the Tamil language even though voiced and fricative [allophones](#) of stops do appear in spoken Tamil. Thus the character க் *k*, for example, represents /k/ but can also be pronounced [g] or [x] based on the rules of [Tamil grammar](#). A separate set of characters appears for these sounds when the Tamil script is used to write Sanskrit or other languages.

Also unlike other Brahmi scripts, the Tamil script rarely uses [typographic ligatures](#) to represent conjunct consonants, which are far less frequent in Tamil than in other Indian languages. Where they occur, conjunct consonants are written by writing the character for the first consonant, adding the *pulli* to suppress its inherent vowel, and then writing the character for the second consonant. There are a few exceptions, namely க்ஷ *kṣa* and ஸ்ரீ *śrī*.

[ISO 15919](#) is an international standard for the transliteration of Tamil and other Indic scripts into Latin characters. It uses diacritics to map the much larger set of Brahmic consonants and vowels to the Latin script.

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





Left: *Tampiran Vanakkam* (*Doctrina Christum*) was the first book in Tamil, printed on 20 October 1578.

Right: A book in Tamil printed in 1781.

Basic consonants[\[edit\]](#)

Consonants are called the "body" (*mei*) letters. The consonants are classified into three categories: *vallinam* (hard consonants), *mellinam* (soft consonants, including all [nasals](#)), and *itayinam* (medium consonants).

There are some lexical rules for the formation of words. The *Tolkāppiyam* describes such rules. Some examples: a word cannot end in certain consonants, and cannot begin with some consonants including *r*-, *l*- and *ɭ*-; there are two consonants for the dental *n* – which one should be used depends on whether the *n* occurs at the start of the word and on the letters around it. (Historically, one *n* was pronounced as an [alveolar consonant](#), as is still true in [Malayalam](#).)

The order of the alphabet (strictly [abugida](#)) in Tamil closely matches that of the nearby languages both in location and linguistics, reflecting the common origin of their scripts from Brahmi.

Tamil consonants^{[\[11\]](#)}

Consonant	ISO 15919	Category	IPA
க	<i>k</i>	vallinam	[k], [g], [x], [ɣ], [h], [ɦ]
ங	<i>ṅ</i>	mellinam	[ŋ]
ச	<i>c</i>	vallinam	[tʃ], [dʒ], [ʃ], [s], [ʒ], [z]
ஞ	<i>ñ</i>	mellinam	[ɲ]
ட	<i>ṭ</i>	vallinam	[ʈ], [ɖ], [ɽ]
ண	<i>ṇ</i>	mellinam	[ɳ]
த	<i>t</i>	vallinam	[t̪], [ɖ̪], [ʈ̪], [ʈ̪̌]
ந	<i>n</i>	mellinam	[n̪]
ப	<i>p</i>	vallinam	[p], [b], [β], [ɸ]
ம	<i>m</i>	mellinam	[m]
ய	<i>y</i>	idaiyinam	[j]
ர	<i>r</i>	idaiyinam	[r]
ல	<i>l</i>	idaiyinam	[l]
வ	<i>v</i>	idaiyinam	[v]
ழ	<i>ɻ</i>	idaiyinam	[ɭ]
ள்	<i>ɭ</i>	idaiyinam	[ɭ̪]
ற்	<i>ɽ</i>	vallinam	[ɽ], [ʈ̪̌], [ɖ̪̌]
ன்	<i>ṇ</i>	mellinam	[n̪]

Grantha consonants used in Tamil[\[edit\]](#)

The Tamil speech has incorporated many phonemes which were not part of the [Tolkāppiyam](#) classification. The letters used to write these sounds, known as **Grantha**, are used as part of Tamil. These are taught from elementary school and incorporated in the Tamil Nadu Government encoding called [Tamil All Character Encoding \(TACE16\)](#).

Grantha consonants in Tamil^[11]

Consonant	ISO 15919	IPA
ஜ்	<i>j</i>	[d͡ʒ]
ஸ்	<i>ś</i>	[ɕ], [ʃ]
ஷ்	<i>ṣ</i>	[ʂ]
ஸ்	<i>s</i>	[s]
ஹ்	<i>h</i>	[h]
க்ஷ்	<i>kṣ</i>	[kʂ]

There is also the compound ஸ்ரீ (*śrī*), equivalent to श्री in [Devanagari](#).

In recent times four combinations of Tamil basic letters are generally used to depict sounds of English letters 'f', 'z', and 'x' and the 'kh' sound in Arabic and Persian. This is helpful for writing English and Arabic names and words in Tamil. The combinations are ஃப for f, ஃஜ for z, ஃக்ஸ் for x, and ஃக் for kh. For example: asif = அசிஃப், aZaarudheen = அஃஜாருதீன், rex = ரெஃக்ஸ், [Genghis Khan](#) = கெங்கிஸ் ஃகான்.

^[*citation needed*]

There has also been effort to differentiate voiced and voiceless consonants through subscripted numbers – two, three, and four which stand for the unvoiced aspirated, voiced, voiced aspirated respectively. This was used to transcribe Sanskrit words in Sanskrit–Tamil books, as shown in the table below.^[12]^[13]

க [ka]	க ₂ [kha]	க ₃ [ga]	க ₄ [gha]
ச [ca]	ச ₂ [cha]	ஜ [ja]	ஜ [jha] ^{[1]}
ட [ta]	ட ₂ [tha]	ட ₃ [ḍa]	ட ₄ [ḍha]
த [ta]	த ₂ [tha]	த ₃ [da]	த ₄ [dha]
ப [pa]	ப ₂ [pha]	ப ₃ [ba]	ப ₄ [bha]

^[^] The letter should be underlined.

The Unicode Standard uses superscripted digits for the same purpose, as in ப² [pha], ப³ [ba], and ப⁴ [bha].^[14]

Vowels^[edit]

Vowels are also called the 'life' (*uyir*) or 'soul' letters. Together with the consonants (*mei*, which are called 'body' letters), they form compound, syllabic ([abugida](#)) letters that are called 'living' letters (*uyir mei*, i.e. letters that have both 'body' and 'soul').

Tamil vowels are divided into short and long (five of each type) and two [diphthongs](#)

Tamil vowels^[1]

Independent	Vowel sign	ISO 15919	IPA
அ	N/A	<i>a</i>	[ʌ]
ஆ	ா	<i>ā</i>	[ɑː]
இ	ி	<i>i</i>	[i]
ஈ	ீ	<i>ī</i>	[iː]
உ	ு	<i>u</i>	[u], [ɯ]
ஊ	ூ	<i>ū</i>	[uː]
எ	ெ	<i>e</i>	[e]
ஏ	ே	<i>ē</i>	[eː]
ஐ	ை	<i>ai</i>	[ʌj]
ஒ	ொ	<i>o</i>	[o]
ஓ	ோ	<i>ō</i>	[oː]
ஔ	ௌ	<i>au</i>	[ʌʊ]
ஃ	N/A	<i>akh</i>	N/A

Compound form^[edit]

Using the consonant 'k' as an example:

Formation	Compound form	ISO 15919	IPA
க் + அ	க	<i>ka</i>	[kʌ]
க் + ஆ	கா	<i>kā</i>	[kɑː]
க் + இ	கி	<i>ki</i>	[ki]
க் + ஈ	கீ	<i>kī</i>	[kiː]
க் + உ	கு	<i>ku</i>	[ku], [kɯ]
க் + ஊ	கூ	<i>kū</i>	[kuː]
க் + எ	கெ	<i>ke</i>	[ke]
க் + ஏ	கே	<i>kē</i>	[keː]
க் + ஐ	கை	<i>kai</i>	[kʌj]
க் + ஒ	கொ	<i>ko</i>	[ko]
க் + ஓ	கோ	<i>kō</i>	[koː]
க் + ஔ	கௌ	<i>kau</i>	[kʌʊ]

The special letter ஃ, represented by three dots and called *āytha eḷuttu* or *akh*, is the [visarga](#). It

traditionally served a purely grammatical function, but in modern times it has come to be used as a diacritic to represent foreign sounds. For example, ஃ is used for the English sound *f*, not found in Tamil.

The long (*nedil*) vowels are about twice as long as the short (*kuril*) vowels. The [diphthongs](#) are usually pronounced about one and a half times as long as the short vowels, though some grammatical texts place them with the long (*nedil*) vowels.

As can be seen in the compound form, the vowel sign can be added to the right, left or both sides of the consonants. It can also form a [ligature](#). These rules are evolving and older use has more ligatures than modern use. What you actually see on this page depends on your font selection; for example, [Code2000](#) will show more ligatures than [Latha](#).

There are proponents of script reform who want to eliminate all ligatures and let all vowel signs appear on the right side.

Unicode encodes the character in logical order (always the consonant first), whereas legacy 8-bit encodings (such as [TSCII](#)) prefer the written order. This makes it necessary to reorder when converting from one encoding to another; it is not sufficient simply to map one set of code points to the other.

Compound table of Tamil letters[\[edit\]](#)

Brahmic scripts
The Brahmic script and its descendants
Northern Brahmic [show]
Southern Brahmic [show]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> v t e

The following table lists vowel (*uyir* or life) letters across the top and consonant (*mei* or body) letters along the side, the combination of which gives all Tamil compound (*uyirmei*) letters.

Tholkapya consonants		Vowels											
		அ a	ஆ ā	இ i	ஈ ī	உ u	ஊ ū	எ e	ஏ ē	ஐ ai	ஓ o	ஔ ō	ஔ au
க்	k	க	கா	கி	கீ	கு	கூ	கெ	கே	கை	கொ	கோ	கௌ
ங்	ṅ	ங	ஙா	நி	நீ	ஙு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
ச்	c	ச	சா	சி	சீ	சு	சூ	செ	சே	சை	சொ	சோ	சௌ
ஞ்	ñ	ஞ	ஞா	ஞி	ஞீ	ஞு	ஞூ	ஞெ	ஞே	ஞை	ஞொ	ஞோ	ஞௌ
ட்	ṭ	ட	டா	டி	டீ	டு	டூ	டெ	டே	டை	டொ	டோ	டௌ
ண்	ṇ	ண	ணா	ணி	ணீ	ணு	ணூ	ணெ	ணே	ணை	ணொ	ணோ	ணௌ
த்	t	த	தா	தி	தீ	து	தூ	தெ	தே	தை	தொ	தோ	தௌ

ந்	n	ந	நா	நி	நீ	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
ப்	p	ப	பா	பி	பீ	பு	பூ	பெ	பே	பை	பொ	போ	பௌ
ம்	m	ம	மா	மி	மீ	மு	மூ	மெ	மே	மை	மொ	மோ	மௌ
ய்	y	ய	யா	யி	யீ	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ
ர்	r	ர	ரா	ரி	ரீ	ரு	ரூ	ரெ	ரே	ரை	ரொ	ரோ	ரௌ
ல்	l	ல	லா	லி	லீ	லு	லூ	லெ	லே	லை	லொ	லோ	லௌ
வ்	v	வ	வா	வி	வீ	வு	வூ	வெ	வே	வை	வொ	வோ	வௌ
ழ்	ḷ	ழ	ழா	ழி	ழீ	ழு	ழூ	ழெ	ழே	ழை	ழொ	ழோ	ழௌ
ள்	ḷ	ள	ளா	ளி	ளீ	ளு	ளூ	ளெ	ளே	ளை	ளொ	ளோ	ளௌ
ற்	r	ற	றா	றி	றீ	று	றூ	றெ	றே	றை	றொ	றோ	றௌ
ன்	ṇ	ன	னா	னி	னீ	னு	னூ	னெ	னே	னை	னொ	னோ	னௌ

Grantha compound table

Grantha consonants		Vowels											
		அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஒ	ஔ	ஓள
		a	ā	i	ī	u	ū	e	ē	ai	o	ō	au
ஸ்	ś	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸௌ
ஜ்	j	ஜ	ஜா	ஜி	ஜீ	ஜு	ஜூ	ஜெ	ஜே	ஜை	ஜொ	ஜோ	ஜௌ
ஷ்	ṣ	ஷ	ஷா	ஷி	ஷீ	ஷு	ஷூ	ஷெ	ஷே	ஷை	ஷொ	ஷோ	ஷௌ
ஸ்	s	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸௌ
ஹ்	h	ஹ	ஹா	ஹி	ஹீ	ஹு	ஹூ	ஹெ	ஹே	ஹை	ஹொ	ஹோ	ஹௌ
க்ஷ்	kṣ	க்ஷ	க்ஷா	க்ஷி	க்ஷீ	க்ஷு	க்ஷூ	க்ஷெ	க்ஷே	க்ஷை	க்ஷொ	க்ஷோ	க்ஷௌ

Numerals and symbols[\[edit\]](#)

Apart from the usual numerals (from 0 to 9), Tamil also has numerals for 10, 100 and 1000. Symbols for [fraction](#) and other number-based concepts can also be found.^{[[15](#)]}

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	100	1000
௦	௧	௨	௩	௪	௫	௬	௭	௮	௯	௩௦	௩௦௦	௩௦௦௦

day	month	year	debit	credit	as above	rupee	numeral	time	quantity
௨	மீ	௩௦	பு	௬	௩௦	௩௦	௩௦	௩௦	௩௦

In Unicode[\[edit\]](#)

Tamil script was added to the [Unicode](#) Standard in October 1991 with the release of version 1.0.0. The Unicode block for Tamil is U+0B80–U+BFF. Grey areas indicate non-assigned code points. Most of the non-assigned code points are designated reserved because they are in the same relative position as

characters assigned in other South Asian script blocks that correspond to phonemes that don't exist in the Tamil script.

Efforts to unify the Grantha script with Tamil have been made^{[12][16]}; however the proposals triggered discontent by some.^{[17][18]} Eventually, considering the sensitivity involved, it was determined that the two scripts should be encoded independently, except for the numerals.^[19]

[Tamil](#)^{[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+0B8x			ஃ	ஃ		அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ				எ	ஏ
U+0B9x	ஐ		ஓ	ஔ	ஓள	க				ங	ச		ஜ		ஞ	ட
U+0BAx				ண	த				ந	ன	ப				ம	ய
U+0BBx	ர	ற	ல	ள	ழ	வ	ஸ	ஷ	ஸ	ஹ					ா	ி
U+0BCx	ீ	ூ	ை				ெ	ே	ை		ொ	ோ	ௌ	ஃ		
U+0BDx	ஔ						ௌ									
U+0BEx						ஓ	க	உ	ந	ச	ஞ	க	எ	அ	க	
U+0BFx	ய	ர	க	உ	மீ	ஹ	பு	ஹ	ஷ	நீ						

Notes

- ¹ As of Unicode version 13.0
- ² Grey areas indicate non-assigned code points

Proposals to encode characters used for [fractional](#) values in traditional [accounting](#) practices were submitted.^[20] Although discouraged by the [ICTA of Sri Lanka](#)^[21], the proposal was recognized by the Government of [Tamil Nadu](#)^[22] and were added to the Unicode Standard in March 2019 with the release of version 12.0. The Unicode block for Tamil Supplement is U+11FC0–U+11FFF:

[Tamil Supplement](#)^{[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+11FCx																
U+11FDx																
U+11FEx																
U+11FFx																

Notes

- ¹ As of Unicode version 13.0
- ² Grey areas indicate non-assigned code points

Syllabary[\[edit\]](#)

Like other South Asian scripts in Unicode, the Tamil encoding was originally derived from the [ISCII](#) standard. Both [ISCII](#) and [Unicode](#) encode Tamil as an [abugida](#). In an abugida, each basic character represents a consonant and default vowel. Consonants with a different vowel or bare consonants are represented by adding a modifier character to a base character. Each code point representing a similar phoneme is encoded in the same relative position in each South Asian script block in Unicode, including Tamil. Because Unicode represents Tamil as an abugida all the pure consonants (consonants with no associated vowel) and syllables in Tamil can be represented by combining multiple Unicode code points, as can be seen in the Unicode Tamil Syllabary below.

In Unicode 5.1, named sequences were added for all Tamil pure consonants and syllables. Unicode 5.1 also has a named sequence for the Tamil ligature SRI (*śrī*), ஸ்ரீ. The name of this sequence is TAMIL SYLLABLE SHRIL and is composed of the Unicode sequence U+0BB6 U+0BCD U+0BB0 U+0BC0.

Unicode Tamil Syllabary

Consonants	Vowels											
	அ 0B85	ஆ 0B86	இ 0B87	ஈ 0B88	உ 0B89	ஊ 0B8A	எ 0B8E	ஏ 0B8F	ஐ 0B90	ஓ 0B92	ஔ 0B93	ஔ 0B94
க் 0B95 0BCD	க 0B95	கா 0B95 0BBE	கி 0B95 0BBF	கீ 0B95 0BC0	கு 0B95 0BC1	கூ 0B95 0BC2	கெ 0B95 0BC6	கே 0B95 0BC7	கை 0B95 0BC8	கொ 0B95 0BCA	கோ 0B95 0BCB	கௌ 0B95 0BCC
ங் 0B99 0BCD	ங 0B99	ஙா 0B99 0BBE	ஙி 0B99 0BBF	ஙீ 0B99 0BC0	ஙு 0B99 0BC1	ஙூ 0B99 0BC2	ஙெ 0B99 0BC6	ஙே 0B99 0BC7	ஙை 0B99 0BC8	ஙொ 0B99 0BCA	ஙோ 0B99 0BCB	ஙௌ 0B99 0BCC
ச் 0B9A 0BCD	ச 0B9A	சா 0B9A 0BBE	சி 0B9A 0BBF	சீ 0B9A 0BC0	சு 0B9A 0BC1	சூ 0B9A 0BC2	செ 0B9A 0BC6	சே 0B9A 0BC7	சை 0B9A 0BC8	சொ 0B9A 0BCA	சோ 0B9A 0BCB	சௌ 0B9A 0BCC
ஞ் 0B9E 0BCD	ஞ 0B9E	ஞா 0B9E 0BBE	ஞி 0B9E 0BBF	ஞீ 0B9E 0BC0	ஞு 0B9E 0BC1	ஞூ 0B9E 0BC2	ஞெ 0B9E 0BC6	ஞே 0B9E 0BC7	ஞை 0B9E 0BC8	ஞொ 0B9E 0BCA	ஞோ 0B9E 0BCB	ஞௌ 0B9E 0BCC
ட் 0B9F 0BCD	ட 0B9F	டா 0B9F 0BBE	டி 0B9F 0BBF	டீ 0B9F 0BC0	டு 0B9F 0BC1	டூ 0B9F 0BC2	டெ 0B9F 0BC6	டே 0B9F 0BC7	டை 0B9F 0BC8	டொ 0B9F 0BCA	டோ 0B9F 0BCB	டௌ 0B9F 0BCC
ண் 0BA3 0BCD	ண 0BA3	ணா 0BA3 0BBE	ணி 0BA3 0BBF	ணீ 0BA3 0BC0	ணு 0BA3 0BC1	ணூ 0BA3 0BC2	ணெ 0BA3 0BC6	ணே 0BA3 0BC7	ணை 0BA3 0BC8	ணொ 0BA3 0BCA	ணோ 0BA3 0BCB	ணௌ 0BA3 0BCC
த் 0BA4 0BCD	த 0BA4	தா 0BA4 0BBE	தி 0BA4 0BBF	தீ 0BA4 0BC0	து 0BA4 0BC1	தூ 0BA4 0BC2	தெ 0BA4 0BC6	தே 0BA4 0BC7	தை 0BA4 0BC8	தொ 0BA4 0BCA	தோ 0BA4 0BCB	தௌ 0BA4 0BCC
ந் 0BA8 0BCD	ந 0BA8	நா 0BA8 0BBE	நி 0BA8 0BBF	நீ 0BA8 0BC0	நு 0BA8 0BC1	நூ 0BA8 0BC2	நெ 0BA8 0BC6	நே 0BA8 0BC7	நை 0BA8 0BC8	நொ 0BA8 0BCA	நோ 0BA8 0BCB	நௌ 0BA8 0BCC

ப 0BAA 0BCD	ப	பா	பி	பீ	பு	பூ	பெ	பே	பை	பொ	போ	பெள
	0BAA	0BAA 0BBE	0BAA 0BBF	0BAA 0BC0	0BAA 0BC1	0BAA 0BC2	0BAA 0BC6	0BAA 0BC7	0BAA 0BC8	0BAA 0BCA	0BAA 0BCB	0BAA 0BCC
ம் 0BAE 0BCD	ம	மா	மி	மீ	மு	மூ	மெ	மே	மை	மொ	மோ	மௌ
	0BAE	0BAE 0BBE	0BAE 0BBF	0BAE 0BC0	0BAE 0BC1	0BAE 0BC2	0BAE 0BC6	0BAE 0BC7	0BAE 0BC8	0BAE 0BCA	0BAE 0BCB	0BAE 0BCC
ய் 0BAF 0BCD	ய	யா	யி	யீ	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ
	0BAF	0BAF 0BBE	0BAF 0BBF	0BAF 0BC0	0BAF 0BC1	0BAF 0BC2	0BAF 0BC6	0BAF 0BC7	0BAF 0BC8	0BAF 0BCA	0BAF 0BCB	0BAF 0BCC
ர் 0BB0 0BCD	ர	ரா	ரி	ரீ	ரு	ரூ	ரெ	ரே	ரை	ரொ	ரோ	ரௌ
	0BB0	0BB0 0BBE	0BB0 0BBF	0BB0 0BC0	0BB0 0BC1	0BB0 0BC2	0BB0 0BC6	0BB0 0BC7	0BB0 0BC8	0BB0 0BCA	0BB0 0BCB	0BB0 0BCC
ல் 0BB2 0BCD	ல	லா	லி	லீ	லு	லூ	லெ	லே	லை	லொ	லோ	லௌ
	0BB2	0BB2 0BBE	0BB2 0BBF	0BB2 0BC0	0BB2 0BC1	0BB2 0BC2	0BB2 0BC6	0BB2 0BC7	0BB2 0BC8	0BB2 0BCA	0BB2 0BCB	0BB2 0BCC
வ் 0BB5 0BCD	வ	வா	வி	வீ	வு	வூ	வெ	வே	வை	வொ	வோ	வௌ
	0BB5	0BB5 0BBE	0BB5 0BBF	0BB5 0BC0	0BB5 0BC1	0BB5 0BC2	0BB5 0BC6	0BB5 0BC7	0BB5 0BC8	0BB5 0BCA	0BB5 0BCB	0BB5 0BCC
ழ் 0BB4 0BCD	ழ	ழா	ழி	ழீ	ழு	ழூ	ழெ	ழே	ழை	ழொ	ழோ	ழௌ
	0BB4	0BB4 0BBE	0BB4 0BBF	0BB4 0BC0	0BB4 0BC1	0BB4 0BC2	0BB4 0BC6	0BB4 0BC7	0BB4 0BC8	0BB4 0BCA	0BB4 0BCB	0BB4 0BCC
ள் 0BB3 0BCD	ள	ளா	ளி	ளீ	ளு	ளூ	ளெ	ளே	ளை	ளொ	ளோ	ளௌ
	0BB3	0BB3 0BBE	0BB3 0BBF	0BB3 0BC0	0BB3 0BC1	0BB3 0BC2	0BB3 0BC6	0BB3 0BC7	0BB3 0BC8	0BB3 0BCA	0BB3 0BCB	0BB3 0BCC
ற் 0BB1 0BCD	ற	றா	றி	றீ	று	றூ	றெ	றே	றை	றொ	றோ	றௌ
	0BB1	0BB1 0BBE	0BB1 0BBF	0BB1 0BC0	0BB1 0BC1	0BB1 0BC2	0BB1 0BC6	0BB1 0BC7	0BB1 0BC8	0BB1 0BCA	0BB1 0BCB	0BB1 0BCC
ன் 0BA9 0BCD	ன	னா	னி	னீ	னு	னூ	னெ	னே	னை	னொ	னோ	னௌ
	0BA9	0BA9 0BBE	0BA9 0BBF	0BA9 0BC0	0BA9 0BC1	0BA9 0BC2	0BA9 0BC6	0BA9 0BC7	0BA9 0BC8	0BA9 0BCA	0BA9 0BCB	0BA9 0BCC
ஸ் 0BB6 0BCD	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸௌ
	0BB6	0BB6 0BBE	0BB6 0BBF	0BB6 0BC0	0BB6 0BC1	0BB6 0BC2	0BB6 0BC6	0BB6 0BC7	0BB6 0BC8	0BB6 0BCA	0BB6 0BCB	0BB6 0BCC
ஜ் 0B9C 0BCD	ஜ	ஜா	ஜி	ஜீ	ஜு	ஜூ	ஜெ	ஜே	ஜை	ஜொ	ஜோ	ஜௌ
	0B9C	0B9C 0BBE	0B9C 0BBF	0B9C 0BC0	0B9C 0BC1	0B9C 0BC2	0B9C 0BC6	0B9C 0BC7	0B9C 0BC8	0B9C 0BCA	0B9C 0BCB	0B9C 0BCC
ஷ் 0BB7 0BCD	ஷ	ஷா	ஷி	ஷீ	ஷு	ஷூ	ஷெ	ஷே	ஷை	ஷொ	ஷோ	ஷௌ
	0BB7	0BB7 0BBE	0BB7 0BBF	0BB7 0BC0	0BB7 0BC1	0BB7 0BC2	0BB7 0BC6	0BB7 0BC7	0BB7 0BC8	0BB7 0BCA	0BB7 0BCB	0BB7 0BCC
ஸ் 0BB8	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸௌ
	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8	0BB8

0BCD		0BBE	0BBF	0BC0	0BC1	0BC2	0BC6	0BC7	0BC8	0BCA	0BCB	0BCC
ஹ்	ஹ	ஹா	ஹி	ஹீ	ஹு	ஹு	ஹெ	ஹே	ஹை	ஹொ	ஹோ	ஹௌ
0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9	0BB9
0BCD		0BBE	0BBF	0BC0	0BC1	0BC2	0BC6	0BC7	0BC8	0BCA	0BCB	0BCC
சுடி	சுடி	சுடிா	சுடிி	சுடிீ	சுடிு	சுடிு	சுடிெ	சுடிே	சுடிை	சுடிொ	சுடிோ	சுடிௌ
0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95	0B95
0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD	0BCD
0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7	0BB7
0BCD		0BBE	0BBF	0BC0	0BC1	0BC2	0BC6	0BC7	0BC8	0BCA	0BCB	0BCC

Programmatic access[\[edit\]](#)

- Tamil script can be manipulated using the [Python](#) library called **open-Tamil**.^{[[23](#)]}
- There is an windows open source application is available called [AnyTaFont2UTF8](#) using C#.

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

Notes[\[edit\]](#)

- ↑ Rajan, K. (December 2001). "Territorial Division as Gleaned from Memorial Stones". *East and West. Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente (IsIAO)*. **51** (3/4): 363. *JSTOR* [29757518](#). (table showing Tamil in row for the 601–800 period)
- ↑ Allen, Julie (2006), *The Unicode 5.0 Standard* (5 ed.), Upper Saddle River, NJ: Addison-Wesley, *ISBN* [0-321-48091-0](#) at p. 324
- ↑ Lewis, M. Paul, ed. (2009), *Ethnologue: Languages of the World* (16th ed.), Dallas, Tex.: SIL International, retrieved 28 August 2009
- ↑ University of Madras Tamil Lexicon, page 148: "அலியெழுத்து.[*aliyeluttu* n *ali-y-e-luttu* . < அலி¹ +. 1. The letter ஃ, as being regarded as neither a vowel nor a consonant; ஆய்தம். (வெண்பாப். முதன்மொ. 6, உரை.) 2. Consonants; மெய்யெழுத்து. (பிங்.)."]
- ^ *Jump up to: **a** **b*** Sharma, Shriramana. (2010a). *Proposal to encode characters for Extended Tamil*.
- ↑ Sharma, Shriramana. (2010c). *Follow-up #2 to Extended Tamil proposal*.
- ↑ Unicode Consortium (2019). Tamil. In *The Unicode Standard Version 12.0* (pp. 489-498).
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- ↑ Sharma, Shriramana. (2010b). *Follow-up to Extended Tamil proposal L2/10-256R*.
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- ↑ Government of India. (2010). *Unicode Standard for Grantha Script*.
- ↑ Sharma, Shriramana. (2012). *Proposal to encode Tamil fractions and symbols*.
- ↑ ICTA of Sri Lanka. (2014). *Comments on the Proposals to Encode Tamil Symbols and Fractions*.

15. [△] [Government of Tamil Nadu](#). (2017). *[Finalized proposal to encode Tamil fractions and symbols](#)*.
16. [△] *["Open-Tamil 0.65 : Python Package Index"](#)*.

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

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- Steever, Sanford B. (1996), "Tamil Writing", in Bright, William; Daniels, Peter T. (eds.), *[The World's Writing Systems](#)*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. [426–430](#), [ISBN 0-19-507993-0](#)

External links^{[\[edit\]](#)}

 Media related to [Tamil script](#) at Wikimedia Commons

- [Tamil Alphabet & Basics](#) (PDF)^{[\[link expired\]](#)}
- [Phonetics of spoken Tamil](#)
- [Unicode Chart](#) - For Tamil ([PDF](#))
- [TACE 16](#) (PDF)
- [Learn Tamil](#)
- [Tamil Letters](#)
- [Tamil Unicode Keyboard](#)