

Lepcha

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

᱅	a (see Note 2)	᱅᱃	ū
᱅ᱤ	ā	᱅ᱥ	e
᱅ᱦ	i	᱅ᱧ	o
᱅ᱨ	ī	᱅ᱩ	ô
᱅ᱪ	u	᱅ᱫ	â

Consonants (see Note 3)

Gutturals		Palatals		Cerebrals		Dentals	
᱅	ka	᱅᱃	ca	᱅ᱥ	tra	᱅ᱦ	ta
᱅ᱤ	kha	᱅ᱥ	tša	᱅ᱧ	[n/a]	᱅ᱨ	tha
᱅ᱦ	ga	᱅ᱩ	cha	᱅ᱪ	dra	᱅ᱫ	da
᱅ᱨ	nga	᱅ᱫ	tsha	᱅ᱬ	thra	᱅ᱭ	na
		᱅ᱮ	ja				
		᱅ᱯ	za				
		᱅ᱰ	nya				
Labials		Semivowels		Sibilants		Aspirate	
᱅᱃	pa	᱅ᱥ	ya	᱅ᱦ	sa	᱅ᱧ	ha
᱅ᱤ	pha	᱅ᱩ	ra	᱅ᱪ	sha		
᱅ᱦ	fa	᱅ᱫ	la				
᱅ᱨ	ba	᱅ᱬ	va				
᱅ᱪ	ma	᱅ᱭ	wa				

Some Consonant Clusters

᱅᱃ᱥ	kla	᱅ᱥᱥ	bla
᱅ᱤᱥ	gla	᱅ᱦᱥ	m̥la
᱅ᱦᱥ	pla	᱅ᱧᱥ	hla
᱅ᱨᱥ	fla		

Notes

1. Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant exclude $\mathfrak{Z}$. No distinction between the two is made in romanization.

$\mathfrak{E}(\mathfrak{C})$ ka

$\mathfrak{J}\mathfrak{E}$ ki

2. $\mathfrak{Z}$ is also used as a glottal stop and $\mathfrak{E}$ is added to it in a cluster. It is romanized 'a.

$\mathfrak{Z}\mathfrak{Y}$ 'ayuk

3. The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in romanization, except when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign.

Rules of application

1. When $\mathfrak{E}$, $\mathfrak{Y}$, $\mathfrak{Z}$, $\mathfrak{D}$, $\mathfrak{N}$, $\mathfrak{C}$, $\mathfrak{J}$, and $\mathfrak{N}$ are used in the final position (i.e., preceded by a vowel but not followed by one), they assume different shapes and are used as superscripts above the preceding syllables.

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{C}}$ kak

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{C}}$ kap

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{C}}$ kang

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{C}}$ kam

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{C}}$ kat

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{C}}$ kar

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{C}}$ kan

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{C}}$ kal

2. When $\mathfrak{E}$ is added to another consonant or consonants in a cluster (i.e., without any intervening vowel), it assumes the shape $\mathfrak{Y}$ and is added to the preceding consonant or consonants.

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{Y}}$ kya

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{Y}}$ mya

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{Y}}$ klya

3. When $\mathfrak{J}$ is added to another consonant or consonants in a cluster (i.e., without any intervening vowel), it assumes the shape $\mathfrak{N}$ and is added to the preceding consonant or consonants.

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{N}}$ kra

$\mathfrak{E}^{\mathfrak{N}}$ gra