

How to Install and Use the Demotic Egyptian Input (v. 3) (Mac OS)

The Demotic Egyptian Unicode input for Mac OS is made freely available by the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri, University of California, Berkeley. It is a modification of the US Extended input for use by those who are typing transliteration of Demotic Egyptian or of Hieroglyphs (and also serves Arabic transliteration).

NOTE: Version 3 provides direct input of characters added in Unicode version 12 (called glottal a, i, u, at U+A7BA through U+A7BF). Version 2 gave the user the choice of continuing to use a number of Private Use Area (PUA) assignments made in 2005 in order to facilitate Unicode-based transliteration in Word 2004. With the acceptance in Unicode of some additional characters and the new capability in Word 2008 to use OpenType ligatures, however, the user can now avoid the use of PUA, and that is highly advisable whenever possible.

HOW TO INSTALL

[**NOTE:** if you installed an earlier version of this input, then for smoothest upgrade, **FIRST** turn off the Demotic Egyptian input in System Preferences: Keyboard: Input Sources pane, and then move the old version out of /Library/Keyboard Layouts (or out of ~/Library/Keyboard Layouts) to some other location as a backup copy; **THEN** proceed as below.]

The input is contained in “demotic.bundle” (version 3.0 dated Dec. 1, 2019). The whole bundle file is to be placed in the Keyboard Layouts folder in either the top-level Library folder (/Library/Keyboard Layouts) or the user’s own Library folder (~/Library/Keyboard Layouts). After moving or copying the bundle to one of those locations, it should be available to activate using System Preferences:Keyboard and selecting the Input Sources pane (it will be found under Other).

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HOW TO USE

When more than one input is activated, you will see an icon for the current input in the menu bar at the right end, near the day and time. The default US input has the US flag as its icon. The icon for Demotic Egyptian is a tiny view of the great pyramids. You can use this menu to select a different input with the mouse, or use a keyboard shortcut command. [If the input menu is not visible in the menu bar, open the Input menu pane of System Preferences: International and check the option to “Show input menu in menu bar.” The traditional keyboard shortcuts have been usurped in recent versions of Mac OS by Spotlight keyboard shortcuts; use the Keyboard System Preference to activate a shortcut of your choice for changing keyboards, or you can reassign the commands for Spotlight and to use the traditional ones for the input menu: shift-option-spacebar to cycle through all active keyboards, or option-spacebar to toggle between the current keyboard and the other keyboard most recently used.]

All letters and punctuation on the US keyboard retain their normal values when no modifier keys are used or when the shift key is used. So you can type normal English with the Demotic input activated.

If you continue to use the PUA code points for special letters that do not have standard Unicode code points, you must use New Athena Unicode font (version 5.006 or later is recommended). If you opt to avoid PUA and take advantage of OpenType ligatures, some but not all of the combinations will be available on system fonts or fonts supplied with MS Word.

Special features use the option key or shift and option keys together. These are “deadkeys” (enter the diacritic first, then type the main character), unless otherwise indicated.

Where two methods are listed, “strict” means the output will be in accordance with the Unicode 5.1 standard, while “PUA” means that the output will contain Private Use Area assignments

ā ū ō	type option-a, then type the vowel
î	(strict) type shift-option-8, then i
ï	(PUA) type option-i
ұ	(strict) type shift-option-8, then u

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Ⲁ	(PUA) type option-u
ⲓ (yod)	type shift-option-i (lowercase), or shift-option-/ (capital)
ⲓ ⲓ̇ (yod) ¹	(decomposed) type option-5, then i (or capital I)
ⲓ ⲓ̇ (yod)	(decomposed: alternate 1) type option-t, then i (or capital I)
ⲓ ⲓ̇ (yod)	(decomposed: alternate 2) type option-y, then i (or capital I)
ⲁ (alef)	type option-3
ⲁ (Alef)	type option-7
ⲥ (ayin)	type option-4
ⲥ (Ayin)	type option-8
ⲛⲛ̇ⲛ̇ⲛ̇	type shift-option-2, then type the letter (alternative: type the letter first, then option- period)
šŠčč	type shift-option-1, then type the letter
č	(strict) type shift-option-1, then c, then option- period

¹ As of 2019 and New Athena Unicode 5.006, there is no need to use a decomposed version of the yod glyphs (= glottal i in Unicode version 12). Egyptological yod presents a special problem in terms of decomposed representation. Unicode refused to approve a separate character for the yod modifier used with the letter I/i and is never likely to do so. The Unicode Technical Committee (UTC) has recommended the use of an existing modifier within a OpenType ligature (the modifier may of course be drawn in some particular desired comparable shape when a precomposed glyph is created). Originally (2005), UTC suggested that the scholarly community of experts choose between U+0313 COMBINING COMMA ABOVE [^ˊ] (this is the diacritic used for the smooth breathing of polytonic Greek, among other things) or U+0357 COMBINING RIGHT HALF RING ABOVE [^ˆ]. No consensus emerged, however, and a third option was proposed, U+0486 COMBINING CYRILLIC SMOOTH BREATHING. As of 2009 the UTC accepts that there are three options and still leaves it to the scholarly community to arrive at a consensus, if they wish to. The original Demotic input provided by the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri used a PUA code point. Version 2 adopted the U+0357 code point for the modifier, but supplies the same precomposed glyph by ligature for I/i combined with either of the other two options just mentioned. Version 3 used the precomposed glyph.

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č	(PUA) type shift-option-c
HhḏDṯT	(strict) type shift-option-4, then type letter
H	(PUA) type shift-option-;
Hh	type shift-option-3, then type h or H
ṯH	type shift-option-5, then type letter
śŚ	type option-e, then type s or S
=	type option-=
· (middle dot)	type option-;
ʀ (upper left corner bracket)	type option-1
ʁ (upper right corner bracket)	type option-2

Summary of relevant option key assignments

option-1	ʀ
option-2	ʁ
option-3	ḥ
option-4	c
option-5	deadkey for yod modifier for i or I
option-semicolon	middle dot punctuation ·
option-i	PUA ḯ (but there is also a non-PUA method)
option-u	PUA Ṳ (but there is also a non-PUA method)
option-=	=
shift-option-c	PUA č
option-a	deadkey for macron (before vowel)
option-b	deadkey for breve (before vowel)
option-e	deadkey for acute
option-5	deadkey for yod modifier (before i or I)
option-t	alt. 1 deadkey for yod modifier (before i or I)
option-y	alt. 2 deadkey for yod modifier (before i or I)
shift-option-1	deadkey for caron above
shift-option-2	deadkey for dot below
shift-option-3	deadkey for breve below
shift-option-4	deadkey for macron below
shift-option-5	deadkey for caret/circumflex below

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shift-option-7	deadkey for inverted breve below (for i and u only)
option-period	dot under previous letter (but use shift-option-2 for specific letters)

ALTERNATIVE: if you prefer to enter diacritics after the letter to which they apply, this is also possible. See the keyboard charts and use the option and option-shift keys indicated by bold cell borders and the letter C (for combining character).

Characters for Ugaritic transliteration

À	Latin Capital Letter Glottal A	U+a7ba	shift-option q
à	Latin Small Letter Glottal A	U+a7bb	shift-option r
Ù	Latin Capital Letter Glottal U	U+a7be	shift-option o
ù	Latin Small Letter Glottal U	U+a7bf	shift-option 0 [zero]

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Demotic input download page:

<http://ucbclassics.dreamhosters.com/djm/demotic.html>

Home page: <http://ucbclassics.dreamhosters.com/djm/>

New Athena Unicode download page:

<http://apagreekkeys.org/NAUdownload.html>

CTP home page: <http://tebtunis.berkeley.edu>

GreekKeys home page: <http://apagreekkeys.org/>