

Spelling Manual

Eastern James Bay Cree Syllabics

2017 revision by

Anna Blacksmith

Emily Cooper

Patricia Diamond

Pearl Weistche

Greta Cheechoo

Marguerite MacKenzie

Marie-Odile Junker

based on the 2004 version by

(the late) Annie Whiskeychan

Marguerite MacKenzie, Daisy Moar, Ruth Salt, Ella Neeposh

Cree School Board

Revised March 2017

Southern Dialect

Cree Programs, Waskaganish, Quebec, Canada

© Cree School Board, 2017. All rights reserved.

ISBN 978-1-927937-63-1

ᑭᑦᑲᑦ ᓃ ᓃᑦᑲᑦ
Table of Contents

Introduction..... 3

Syllabic Chart - Eastern James Bay Cree 4

Part One: Dialect Differences 5

 1.1 The syllabic chart..... 5

 1.2 North - South differences 5

 1.3 Eastmain speakers 6

 1.4 ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ and ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ 6

 1.5 Writing ᑭ at the end of a word..... 6

 1.6 Inland and Coastal differences in pronunciation..... 7

Part Two: ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ The Use of Dots..... 8

 2.1 Dots Over a Syllabic Symbol 8

 2.2 Dots in Front of a Syllabic Symbol..... 9

Part Three: Syllabic Finals 10

 3.1 Small syllabic symbols at the end of a word 10

 3.2 No ᑭ or ᑭ in the middle of a word 11

 3.3 ᑭ and ᑭ at the end of a word..... 11

 3.4 How the small syllabic symbols change when an ending is added 13

 3.4.1 Words ending with ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ, ᑭ 13

 Animate Plural Suffix..... 13

 Locative Suffix 13

 Diminutive Suffix..... 14

 Possessive Suffix 15

 3.4.2 Words ending with ᑭ 15

 3.4.3 Words ending with ᑭ 16

 3.4.4 Some exceptions..... 16

 3.5 ᑭ and ᑭ 17

 3.6 The use of " (h) ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ 19

 3.6.1 " (h) in the middle of a word 19

 3.6.2 " at the end of a word 21

 Inanimate plural marker 21

 " (h) on expressions of time..... 22

 " (h) on habitual verbs 23

 " (h) as a marker of Imperative verbs for second person singular forms 23

 3.6.3 " (h) in the Locative suffix 24

 3.6.4 " (h) in verb suffixes..... 25

 3.7 Large syllabic symbols that sound like finals..... 26

Part Four: ᓃ, ᓃ and ᓃ 26

 4.1 ᓃ or ᓃ at the end of words 26

 4.2 ᓃ and ᓃ in the middle of a word..... 28

 4.3 Using ᓃ 28

 4.4 New spelling for ᓃᑦ and ᓃᑭᑦ, ᓃᑭᑦ and ᓃᑭᑦᓃᑦ 30

Part Five: Syllabic Symbols not to forget to write 31

5.1	Short Δ or ◁ at the beginning.....	31
5.2	Δ and Δ̇	31
5.3	·Δ ^ə at the end of a word.....	31
5.4	·◁ ^ə at the end of a word (A NEW RULE Fall 2015)	32
5.5	σ at the beginning of a word.....	32
5.6	ʀ at the beginning of a word.....	33
5.7	ʀ in the middle of a word.....	33
Part Six: Adding endings to nouns and verbs		34
6.1	Adding a suffix to nouns which end in °	34
6.2	Adding endings to nouns which end in Δ	35
6.3	Adding endings to nouns which end in J, ʁ, ʀ, ʁ̇, ʀ̇.....	35
6.4	Adding endings to verbs which end in ʁ̇, "ʁ̇, ʁ̇, ʁ̇, J, ʁ, ʀ, ʁ̇.....	36
6.5	Adding endings to verbs which end in ^ə or ^ʰ	36
Part Seven: Boundaries.....		37
7.1.	Adding a personal prefix	37
7.2	Using a preverb.....	39
7.3	Making compound words.....	41
Part Eight: New spellings as of summer 2015		44
Part Nine: Punctuation		50
9.1	ʀ<"Δ̇bσ ^ə Period.....	50
9.2	Δ̇ʰḋĴ̇·◁̇b ^ə , ə"◁̇Ĵ̇·◁̇b ^ə Comma.....	50
9.3	Question mark	50
9.4	Quotation marks	51
Part Ten: Writing Names		51
Part Eleven: Standard Roman Orthography (SRO)		52
Definition.....		52
Vowel length: hats or double vowels		52
Combination of finals		52

Introduction

People have been writing syllabics using their own style, depending on where they learned the system, which community they come from, how old they are and what pronunciation they use. This manual has been prepared to help people write the Cree syllabics in a more consistent way.

Cree Language and Culture teachers and linguists together with the Education Consultants in Cree Programs have been working toward a consistent spelling system for the Southern and for the Northern dialects for many years. The process is still ongoing and this manual is being updated periodically. There have been spelling revisions since the first Cree Lexicon was published in 1987. Subsequent publications of books and dictionaries incorporated the spelling changes, and so will the next print and online publications.

Although each Cree community in the James Bay area has its own distinct style of speaking the language, there are two main dialects of Cree with different pronunciations, so there are two main ways of spelling - Northern and Southern.

Syllabic Chart - Eastern James Bay Cree

									Finals	
	▽ e	△ i	△̇ ii	▷ u	▷̇ uu	◁ a	◁̇ aa		◦ u	" h
	▽̇ we	△̇ wi	△̇̇ wii	▷̇ wu	▷̇̇ wuu	◁̇ wa	◁̇̇ waa			
·▽̇ pwe	▽ pe	△̇ pi	△̇̇ pii	> pu	>̇ puu	< pa	<̇ paa	<̇̇ pwaa	< p	
·U̇ twe	U te	∩ ti	∩̇ tii	∪ tu	∪̇ tuu	∩̇ ta	∩̇̇ taa	·∩̇̇ twaa	∩̇ t	
·q̇ kwe	q ke	ρ ki	ρ̇ kii	ɖ ku	ɖ̇ kuu	ɓ ka	ɓ̇ kaa	·ɓ̇ kwaa	ɓ k	ɖ kw
·ŋ̇ chwe	ŋ che	ʀ chi	ʀ̇ chii	ɕ chu	ɕ̇ chuu	ʎ cha	ʎ̇ chaa	·ʎ̇ chwaa	ʎ ch	
·ŋ̇ mwe	ŋ me	ʀ mi	ʀ̇ mii	ɕ mu	ɕ̇ muu	ʎ ma	ʎ̇ maa	·ʎ̇ mwaa	ʎ m	
·ṅ nwe	ṅ ne	σ ni	σ̇ nii	ɲ nu	ɲ̇ nuu	ɳ na	ɳ̇ naa	·ɳ̇ nwaa	ɳ̇ n	
·l̇ lwe	l̇ le	ɫ li	ɫ̇ lii	ɭ lu	ɭ̇ luu	ɮ la	ɮ̇ laa	·ɮ̇ lwaa	ɮ̇ l	
·ṡ swe	ṡ se	ʃ si	ʃ̇ sii	ɣ su	ɣ̇ suu	ɥ sa	ɥ̇ saa	·ɥ̇ swaa	ɥ̇ s	
·ʃ̇ shwe	ʃ̇ she	ʃ̇ shi	ʃ̇̇ shii	ɣ̇ shu	ɣ̇̇ shuu	ɥ̇ sha	ɥ̇̇ shaa	·ɥ̇̇ shwaa	ɥ̇̇ sh	
·ẏ ywe	ẏ ye	ɣ̇ yi	ɣ̇̇ yii	ɣ̇̇ yu	ɣ̇̇̇ yuu	ɥ̇̇ ya	ɥ̇̇̇ yaa	·ɥ̇̇̇ ywaa	ɣ̇̇̇ y	
·ṙ rwe	ṙ re	ɹ̇ ri	ɹ̇̇ rii	ɹ̇̇ ru	ɹ̇̇̇ ruu	ɣ̇̇ ra	ɣ̇̇̇ raa	·ɣ̇̇̇ rwaa	ɣ̇̇̇ r	
·v̇ vwe	v̇ ve	ɹ̇̇ vi	ɹ̇̇̇ vii	ɣ̇̇̇ vu	ɣ̇̇̇̇ vuu	ɥ̇̇̇ va	ɥ̇̇̇̇ vaa	·ɥ̇̇̇̇ vwaa	ɣ̇̇̇̇ v, f, ph	
·θ̇ thwe	θ̇ the	θ̇̇ thi	θ̇̇̇ thii	θ̇̇̇ thu	θ̇̇̇̇ thuu	θ̇̇̇̇ tha	θ̇̇̇̇̇ thaa	·θ̇̇̇̇̇ thwaa	θ̇̇̇̇̇ th	

Part One: Dialect Differences

1.1 The syllabic chart

The full syllabic chart shows all the symbols that are used in writing Eastern James Bay Cree. Some symbols are used only in the Southern dialect, not in the Northern, as explained below.

1.2 North - South differences

Speakers from Wemindji, Chisasibi, Whapmagoostui, and sometimes Eastmain use \triangleleft, \triangleleft, $\dot{\triangleleft}$, $\dot{\triangleleft}$, $\dot{\triangleleft}$ instead of ∇, ∇, U, Γ, Γ, σ, γ, ν.

Southern	Northern
$\nabla\Gamma''\cdot b^a$	$\triangleleft\Gamma''\cdot b^a$
$\nabla\gamma^d$	$\triangleleft\gamma^d$
$U\cdot\nabla''\dot{\triangleleft}b^a$	$\dot{C}\cdot\triangleleft''\dot{\triangleleft}p^a$
$9a\cdot\triangleleft\triangleleft L^c$	$b\sigma\cdot\triangleleft\wedge L^c$
$\Gamma\cdot b^a$	$\dot{L}\cdot b^a$
$\Gamma\Gamma\wedge\gamma^a$	$\dot{L}L\wedge\gamma^a$
$\sigma\cdot\triangleleft^o$	$\dot{a}\cdot\triangleleft^o$
$\gamma\Gamma\gamma$	$\dot{h}\Gamma\gamma$
$\nu\nu\nu$	$\dot{h}\dot{h}\dot{h}$
γb^o	$\dot{h}b^o$

The Northern speakers do not use \triangleleft, C, b, L, a, h, h, γ but instead use \wedge, Ω, P, Γ, σ, γ, S, P.

Southern	Northern
$\triangleleft d\sigma\dot{h}^o$	$\wedge d\dot{a}\dot{h}^o$
$C''b\dot{h}^o$	$\Omega''b\dot{h}^o$
$b\triangleleft^c$	$P\wedge^c$
$L''b\nu^o$	$\Gamma''b\triangleleft^o$
$L\gamma a''\dot{\triangleleft}b^a$	$\Gamma\gamma\sigma''\dot{\triangleleft}p^a$
$a\Gamma^h$	$\sigma\dot{L}^h$
$h b^o$	γb^o
$h\nu\nu\gamma^o$	$S\cdot\triangleleft\gamma\dot{L}^o$
$\gamma''\Gamma a^t$	$P''\Gamma\sigma^t$

However, ◀ is used in both Northern and Southern dialects at the beginning of a word, and after " in some verbs.

Southern

◀ᑎ"ᑦ
 ◀ᑎᑦᑦᑦ
 ◀ᑎ"ᑦᑦ
 ▷ᑦᑦᑦ◀ᑎᑦ

Northern

◀ᑎ"ᑦᑦ
 ◀ᑎᑦᑦᑦ
 ◀ᑎ"ᑦᑦᑦ
 ▷ᑦᑦᑦ◀ᑎᑦᑦ

1.3 Eastmain speakers

In Eastmain, speakers use both Southern and Northern pronunciations since the community is on the boundary of the two dialect areas. Sometimes the two pronunciations are used in a single word, or show up in the written form.

1.4 ᑦ, ᑎ, ᑎᑦ, ᑦ, ᑦ and ᑎ, ᑎ, ᑎ, ᑎ, ᑎ

Both these sets are used in writing East Cree words. Some Inland speakers may pronounce the ᑎ, ᑎ, ᑎ, ᑎ, ᑎ as ᑦ, ᑎ, ᑎ, ᑦ, ᑦ and therefore may want to check their spelling with the dictionary.

ᑦ ᑎ ᑎ ᑦ ᑦ
 ᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑎᑎᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑦᑦ
 ᑦᑎᑎ
 ᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ

ᑎ ᑎ ᑎ ᑎ ᑎ
 ᑎᑎᑦ
 ᑎᑎᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑎᑦᑦ
 ᑎᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ

1.5 Writing ᑦ at the end of a word

There is a tendency for southern coastal speakers to pronounce ᑦ as ᑦ at the end of words. Special attention is needed when writing final ᑦ.

Write...

ᑦᑎᑎᑦᑦ
 ᑦ ᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑦ ᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑦᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ

Not...

ᑦᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑦ ᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑦ ᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ
 ᑦᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ

Part Two: ႦႢႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ The Use of Dots

2.1 Dots Over a Syllabic Symbol

A dot above a syllabic symbol marks a long vowel. The dot can be used over the **Δ** set, the **◀** set or the **▶** set. There is no dot over the **∇** set.

Short (no dot)		Long (with dot)	
i	ΔႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Δ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	ii
wi	◀ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	◀̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	wii
pi	▶ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	▶̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	pii
ti	∇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	∇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	tii
ki	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	kii
chi	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	chii
mi	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	mii
ni	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	nii
si	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	sii
shi	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	shii
u	▶ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	▶̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	uu
pu	◀ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	◀̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	puu
tu	∇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	∇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	tuu
ku	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	kuu
chu	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	chuu
mu	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	muu
nu	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	nuu
su	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	suu
shu	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	shuu
yu	ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	Ⴃ̇ႣႤႥႦႧႨႩႪႫႬႭႮႯႰႱႲႳႴႵႶႷႸႹႺႻႼႽႾႿ	yuu

Part Three: Syllabic Finals

The syllabic finals are a small version of the last column of regular size symbols on the chart. They are used mainly at the ends of words. ʰ and ʷ and ʰ are also used in the middle of words. The syllabic finals may be used alone or in a set of two or three, but no more than three in a row are used. When there are three in a row, the last one is always ʰ.

3.1 Small syllabic symbols at the end of a word

One symbol	Two symbols	Three symbols
ΓΠʰʰ		
·Δʰ	·Δʰʰ	
ΔVʰ	ΔVʰʰ	
C<	ΔDʰ<	ΔDʰ<ʰ
ʰ<	ʰ<ʰ	
▷ʰḅc	▷ʰḅcʰ	
<c	Γʰc, ·Δʰc	·Δʰcʰ
ʰb	UVʰʰcʰb	
Γʰnd	ΔΠʰd	ΔΠʰdʰ
ΔʰL	▷ΠʰLʰ	
ΔΠL	▷ULʰ	
▷C'<e	▷C'<eʰ	▷C'<eʰdʰ
ΓCʰ	ΓCʰʰ	
Δ·Δʰʰʰ	Δ·Δʰʰʰʰ	
·Δ<e	·Δʰc	·Δʰcʰ
·Δ·Δʰ	σʰb	σʰbʰ
	▷jʰb	▷jʰbʰ
	ΔΓʰd	ΔΓʰdʰ
	ĈΔʰ<	
	▷ʰʰc, ·Δʰc	·Δʰcʰ
	Γʰʰd	

3.2 No ˆ or ˚ in the middle of a word

Do not write the small syllabic finals ˆ and ˚ in words like the ones below; note however that many small symbols are used in the middle of personal names.

Write...

ˆσU"
 <σU"
 <σˆ
 ˆσU°
 σˆˆ
 σˆ"ˆˆ
 σˆ"ˆˆ
 σˆ"ˆˆ
 σˆΓVˆˆˆ
 ˆΓ<ˆ
 <ˆΓ<ˆ
 ˆΓ<ˆ

Not...

ˆσU"
 <σU"
 <σˆ
 ˆσU°
 σˆˆ
 σˆ"ˆˆ
 σˆ"ˆˆ
 σˆ"ˆˆ
 σˆΓVˆˆˆ
 ˆΓ<ˆ
 <ˆΓ<ˆ
 ˆΓ<ˆ

3.3 ˆ and ˆ at the end of a word

Only a small number of words end in ˆ ; most words end in ˆ .

ˆˆ
 ˆCˆ
 ΔˆˆCˆ
 ˆˆ
 σˆˆ
 ˆVˆ
 ˆˆˆˆ
 ˆˆˆ
 ∇ ˆˆˆˆ
 ˆˆˆ
 <ˆˆˆ
 ˆˆˆ
 ˆˆˆˆ

ˆˆ
 Γσˆˆ
 Δˆˆˆˆ
 ˆˆ
 Lˆˆ
 ˆˆˆ
 ˆˆˆˆ
 ˆˆˆˆ
 ˆˆˆˆˆˆ
 Γσˆˆ
 ˆˆ
 ˆˆˆ
 ˆˆˆˆˆ<ˆ

and many more

You must pay attention to ^d and ^b at the end of verbs.

b̄ b̄e·∇p̄"Ċ"b̄
b̄ ▷ĊL"◁"b̄

b̄ b̄e·∇p̄"ĊΓ^d
b̄ ▷ĊL"◁Γ^d

For most words ending in ^d be careful to write **Λ**, **Ŋ**, **ʃ**, **σ** and not **>**, **ɔ**, **~**, **ɹ** before final ^d.

Write...

Γ^ʃŊ^d
Γ^σΛ^d
Γ^ʃʃ^d
▷^ʃŊ^d
Δ̇^ʃ"Ŋ^d / Δ̇^σ"Ŋ^d
Γ^σʃ^d
ʃ<^ʃ"Ŋ^d
ʃ<^ʃŊ^d

Not...

Γ^ʃɔ^d
Γ^σ>^d
Γ^ʃ~^d
▷^ʃ~^d
Δ̇^ʃ"ɔ^d / Δ̇^σ"ɔ^d
Γ^σɹ^d
ʃ<^ʃ"ɔ^d
ʃ<^ʃɔ^d

Certain words, however, use **<** instead of **Λ** in the Southern dialect.

Southern

b̄r̄<^d
·Δ̇r̄<^d
▷^ʃr̄<^d
Γ̇^ʃ·∇<^d
Δ^ʃΛΓ"Ċ^d
<"Ċ"Ċ^d
e<Γ"Ċ^d

Northern

b̄ŊΛ^d
·Δ̇r̄Λ^d
▷^ʃr̄Λ^d

Δ^ʃΛΓ"Ŋ^d
<"Ċ"Ŋ^d
e<Γ"Ŋ^d

3.4 How the small syllabic symbols change when an ending is added

3.4.1 Words ending with <, ʻ, ʼ, ʽ, ʾ, ʿ, ʻ, ʼ, ʽ, ʾ, ʿ

Animate Plural Suffix

When you add this **ending**, just make the final big, then add ʼ.

Use <, ʻ, ʼ, ʽ, ʾ, ʿ, ʻ, ʼ, ʽ, ʾ, ʿ.

Singular	Plural
ʼʼ<	ʼʼ<ʼ
Δ̇ʼʼʻ / Δ̇ʼʼʽ	Δ̇ʼʼʻʼ / Δ̇ʼʼʽʼ
▷ገጐ	▷ገጐʼ
◁ገጐ	◁ገጐʼ
▽ገጐ.ጐ	▽ገጐ.ጐʼ
ጐገጐ	ጐገጐʼ
◁.ገጐ	◁.ገጐʼ

Locative Suffix

When you add the locative ending, meaning 'in, at, to, on' etc, change the small <, ʻ, ʼ, ʽ, ʾ, ʿ, ʻ, ʼ, ʽ, ʾ, ʿ to big Λ, Ω, ρ, ρ, Γ, σ, ρ, ρ.

Word	Word + Locative
ʼʼ<	ʼʼΛʼʼ
◁ጐʻ	◁ጐΩʼʼ
▷ገጐ	▷ገጐρʼʼ
◁ጐ	◁ጐρʼʼ
◁ገጐ	◁ገጐΓʼʼ
▽ገጐ.ጐ	▽ገጐ.ጐσʼʼ
ጐገጐ	ጐገጐρʼʼ
ጐጐ	ጐጐρʼʼ

Diminutive Suffix

When you add the diminutive ending you usually change the small syllabic final <, <, <, <, <, < to big <, <, <, <, <, <.

Word	Word + Diminutive
< <	< <
< <	< <
< <	< <
< <	< <
< <	< <
< <	< <

Be careful with the diminutive of words where final < changes to < or <. In addition, the following changes **may** take place <, <, <, <, <, < change to <, <, <, <, <, <, < and <, <, <, <, <, < change to <, <, <, <, <, <.

Word	Word + Diminutive
< <	< <
< <	< <
< <	< <
< <	< <
< <	< <

Another exception is the change of final < to < in a few words:

< <	< <
-----	-----

Possessive Suffix

When the possessive endings are added, little <, ƿ, ʙ, ʌ, ɥ, ɛ, ʏ, ʘ become big ʌ, Ɔ, ʙ, ɣ, ɥ, ɛ, ʏ, ʘ.

Word	Word + Possessive
ʂʂ<	σʂʂʌ ^ʌ
ɣ ^ɥ	σɣ ^ɥ Ɔ ^ɥ
<σ-ʙʙ	σ<σ-ʙʙ ^ʙ
·<ɣ	σ·<ɣ ^ɣ
ɣʙɛ	σɣ·ʙ ^ɥ σ ^ɥ
ɛɣʏ	σɛɣ ^ɥ ʏ ^ɥ
<ɣʙʘ	σ<ɣʙʘ ^ʘ

Here is a summary of how the finals will change:

	Animate Plural	Diminutive	Locative	Possessive
ʂʂ<	ʂʂ< ^ʌ	ʂʂʌ ^ʘ	ʂʂʌ ^ʘ	σʂʂʌ ^ʌ
ɣ ^ɥ	ɣ ^ɥ Ɔ ^ɥ	ɣ ^ɥ Ɔ ^ʘ	ɣ ^ɥ Ɔ ^ʘ	σɣ ^ɥ Ɔ ^ɥ
ɣʙʙ	ɣʙʙ ^ʙ	ɣʙʙ ^ʘ	ɣʙʙ ^ʘ	σɣʙ ^ɥ ʙ ^ʙ
<ɣ ^ɥ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɣ ^ɥ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɣ ^ʘ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɣ ^ʘ	
∇ɣ ^ɥ ·ʙɛ	∇ɣ ^ɥ ·ʙ ^ɥ ɛ ^ʌ	∇ɣ ^ɥ ·ʙ ^ɥ σ ^ʘ	∇ɣ ^ɥ ·ʙ ^ɥ σ ^ʘ	
ɛɣʏ	ɛɣʏ ^ʏ	ɛɣʏ ^ʘ , ɛɣʏ ^ʘ	ɛɣʏ ^ʘ	σɛɣ ^ɥ ʏ ^ʏ
<ɣʙʘ	<ɣʙʘ ^ʘ	<ɣʙʘ ^ʘ	<ɣʙʘ ^ʘ	σ<ɣʙʘ ^ʘ

3.4.2 Words ending with ɖ

The little ɖ changes to big ɖ when an ending is added.

	Animate Plural	Diminutive	Locative/ Simulative	Possessive
<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʌ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʘ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʘ	σ<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʌ
<ɣ ^ɥ ɣ ^ɥ ɖ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʌ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʘ	<ɣ ^ɥ ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʘ	σ<ɣ ^ɥ ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʌ
·<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ	·<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʌ	·<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʘ	·<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʘ	σ·<ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʌ
·ɣ ^ɥ ɖ	·ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʌ	·ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʘ	·ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʘ	σ·ɣ ^ɥ ɖ ^ʌ

3.4.3 Words ending with °

When the animate plural ending is added to a noun, the ° becomes ▶.

əV°	əV▶ ^u
lσU°	lσU▶ ^u

When the animate plural ending is added to a verb, the ° becomes ▶.

σ<°	σ<▶ ^u
ɿC·∇°	ɿC·∇▶ ^u
·<◁◁◁°	·<◁◁◁▶ ^u
dCΛ°	dCΛ▶ ^u

When the diminutive, locative or possessive ending is added to a noun, the ° is dropped.

	Diminutive	Locative/ Simulative	Possessive
əV°	əV ^u	əV ^u	σəV ^L
lσU°	lσU ^u	lσU ^u	σlσU ^L
▷rĭ°	▷rĭ ^u	▷rĭ ^u	◌rĭ ^L

If the suffix is " (h), then the ° is kept.

əV°	əV° ^h
lσU°	lσU° ^h

3.4.4 Some exceptions

Be careful of the following words where ^L becomes ^J, ^h becomes ^r and ^u becomes ^s when an ending is added.

	Animate Plural	Locative/ Simulative	Diminutive
<∩ ^L	<∩ ^J	<∩ ^J ^u	<∩ ^J ^s
Λ ^r ^L	Λ ^r ^J	Λ ^r ^J ^u	Λ ^r ^J ^s
ɿ ^h	ɿ ^r	ɿ ^r ^u	ɿ ^r ^s
·<◁◁◁ ^u	·<◁◁◁ ^s	·<◁◁◁ ^s ^u	·<◁◁◁ ^s ^s

More examples of words with these endings:

ቁበኒ	አሥረ	ጋካ	ብረት
ቁበጋጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጣ	ብረትጋራጣ
ቁበጋርጠኞች	አሥረጋራጠኞች	ጋራጋራ	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋለኛ	አሥረጋላኛ	ጋራጋላ	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጠኞች	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጠኞች	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋርጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጠኞች	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጠኞች	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጠኞች	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጠኞች	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጠኞች	ብረትጋራጠኞች
ቁበጋጠኞች	አሥረጋጠኞች	ጋራጋጠኞች	ብረትጋራጠኞች

3.5 ጎ and ግ

Here are some words with ጎ and ግ before a consonant. These sounds may be difficult to hear for some speakers, so check with the dictionary.

sch	shch	sp	shp
ታሪክ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት
ታሪካዊ	ሶሻሊስት	ስፔሻል	ሶሻሊስት

sk

ᠮᠠᠰᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠰᠠᠵᠤ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨ

shk

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

st

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

sht

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

ᠮᠠᠰᠤᠨᠠᠨᠠᠭᠤᠨ

3.6 The use of " (h) 4"4.4b^o

The " (h) symbol is a difficult one to use correctly. There are a few places where it is used predictably, mostly in grammatical endings, but otherwise, you have to train yourself to hear it when someone pronounces a word.

The " (h) symbol does not occur at the beginning of a word, except in names.

"∇ ^o ḡ	"ḡ.ḡ ^{cc}	"ḡḡ
"∇ _c ^o	"ḡḡ	"∇ḡ ^o

For certain words, the " (h) symbol may be used more often in the Inland dialect than in the Coastal dialect.

∇ḡ	Δḡ.ḡ ^o	Coastal
∇ḡ	Δḡ.ḡ ^{oo}	Inland

3.6.1 " (h) in the middle of a word

The " (h) is used in the middle of a word between two vowel sounds or before some consonants. Here are some examples:

Before Δ, Ḃ, ▷, ḃ, ◁, ḡ, ·ḡ

∇"∇
▷"ḃḡḡ
▷ḡ"
▷ḡ"Ḃḡ^o
ḡ"ḡ.∇ḡ^{oo}
◁"ḂḂ
σ◁"∇^o
Ḃḡ"Ḃḡ^o
Ḃ"Ḃ◁ḡ
Ḃḡ^o"Ḃḡ^o

Before Λ, Ḃ, >, ḃ, <, ḡ, ·ḡ, <

◁ḡ"
ḡḡ.ḡ"
▷"◁"ḃ
▷ḡ"
▷"Λḡḡ^o
▷ḡḡḡ"
Ḃḡ"
▷"ḡḡ
▷"◁^o
◁"ḃ
ḡ"ḡ^o

Before ᑎ, ᑎ̇, ᑏ, ᑏ̇, ᑕ, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇

ᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ

Before ᑖ, ᑖ̇, ᑕ, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇

ᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ

Before ᑖ, ᑖ̇, ᑕ, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇

ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ

Before ᑖ, ᑖ̇, ᑕ, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇, ᑕ̇

ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ

You can hear the " sound clearly when you say these pairs of words:

With " (h)

ᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ / ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ

Without " (h)

ᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ

ḷʰ	ḷ
ṽʰ	ṽ
ḍʰ	ḍ
ḷʰ	ḷʰ
ḷʰ	ḷʰ

ʰ (h) is never used before m, n, s, sh.

3.6.2 ʰ at the end of a word

At the end of a word ʰ (h) is used to mark grammatical categories such as the inanimate plural of nouns or verbs, obviative of animate nouns, locative of nouns, imperative marker of verbs, etc.

Inanimate plural marker

Nouns:

Singular

- ḍḷ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ

Plural

- ḍḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ

Verbs:

Singular

- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ

Plural

- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ
- ḷʰ

·<◁◁°

Animate obviative marker

·<◁◁°

Possessed animate nouns

"(h) is used at the end when the possessor is third person (he, she, they)

"(h) is not used at the end when the possessor is first or second person (I, you, we)

▷"Ċ·Δ"	▷"Ċ·Δ<◁"	▷"Ċ▷·<◁°
▷ḃ·Δ"	▷ḃ·Δ<◁"	▷ḃ▷·<◁°
▷ḋ°	▷ḋ<◁"	▷ḋ°·<◁°
▷U ^L "	▷UΓ<◁"	▷UΓ·<◁°
▷°ḃḋ"	▷°ḃḋ<◁"	▷°ḃḋ·<◁°
▷İİİ ^L "	▷İİİΓ<◁"	▷İİİΓ·<◁°

◌"Ċ·Δ	◌"Ċ·Δ<◁°
σḃ·Δ	σḃ·Δ<◁°
σḋ°	σḋ°<◁°
σU ^L	ΓUΓ◌/σUΓ<◁°
σ°ḃḋ ^L	Γ°ḃḋ ^L
σİİİ ^L	σİİİΓ<◁° ^L

Obviative Nouns with Transitive Animate Verbs

When a Transitive Animate Verb has two third persons, one of them adds an "(h) at the end.

<◁◌ İŋ·ŋ° σ°ḃḋ"_x
 <◁◌ ·<◁◌Γ° σ°U^h"_x
 <◁◌" ·<◁◌Γḋ σ°U^h_x
 <◁◌ <◁◌Γ° <◁◌<◁" <◁◌U^L"_x
 <◁◌ <◁◌Γ° σU^L"_x

"(h) on expressions of time

"(h) is found on expressions of time

Vḋ° İŋ^L" Δŋ◌"ḋ İ°"_x
 Γḋḋ^L İŋḃ°" Γ°>°_x
 ∇ḋḋ^L İŋḃ°" Γ°>°_x

" (h) on habitual verbs

" (h) is found on conjugation #12b to indicate a habitual or repetitive event: 'whenever...'

Conjunct Indicative Neutral (CIN) (#11)

CIN Habitual-Iterative (#12b)

∇ ḥṛḥḥḥ
 ḥ ḥṛḥḥḥ
 ḥ ḥṛḥḥḥ
 ḥṛḥḥḥḥḥ

ḥṛḥḥḥḥ
 ḥ ḥṛḥḥḥḥ
 ḥ ḥṛḥḥḥḥ
 ḥṛḥḥḥḥḥḥ

" (h) as a marker of Imperative verbs for second person singular forms

3rd person 's/he...'

2nd person singular '(you)...'

σ<°
 <ḥḥḥḥḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥḥ
 <ḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥ
 σḥḥ
 ḥḥḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ

σ<ḥ
 <ḥḥḥḥḥḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ
 <ḥḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ
 σḥḥḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ
 ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ

Note that " (h) is used for the command forms 'do it to it' and 'do it to me' but not for 'do it to him'.

	(do it to) it	(do it to) me	(do it to) him
ḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ
ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ
ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ
ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ
ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ	ḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥḥ

3.6.3 " (h) in the Locative suffix

In the locative marker for nouns and particles " (h) is used before ᵘ. Note that not all particles of location use ᵘ.

Particles:

" (h) is used

▷ᵘ
 Ḱ"ᶜᵇᵍᵘ
 ᵈᶜᵍᵘ
 ◁ᵇᵍᵘ
 Ḳᵍᵘ
 ᵈᵇᵈᵘ
 ḰᵘḶᵇᵈᵘ
 ᶜᵘḶᵇᵈᵘ
 ᵈᶜᵇᵍᵘ
 ᵈᶜᵇᵍᵘ

" (h) is not used

ᶜ▷ᵘ
 ᵘᶜ▷ᵘ
 ᵇḶᵘᵈᵘ
 ᵇᵘᶜᵘ
 ᶜᶜᵘ / ᵈᶜᵘ
 ᵘᵇᵈᵘ
 ▷ᵘᵇᶜᵈᵘ

Nouns:

Locative

ᶜḶᵘ
 ᵇᵘḶᵇᵈᵘ
 Ḷᶜᵘᵈ
 ᶜᶜᵘḶᵘ
 ᵇᵘᶜᵘ
 ᵘᵇᶜᵘḶᵘ
 ◁ᶜᵘᵈ
 ᶜᶜᵘḶᵘᵇᵘᵈᵘ
 Ḷᶜᵘᵈᵇᵘᵈᵘ

Non-locative

ᶜḶ
 ᵇᵘḶᵇᵘᵈᵘ
 Ḷᶜᵘ
 ᶜᶜᵘḶᵘ
 ᵇᵘᶜᵘ or ᵇᵘᶜᵘᵇᵘ
 ᵘᵇᶜᵘḶᵘ
 ◁ᶜᵘᵈ
 ᶜᶜᵘḶᵘᵇᵘᵈᵘ
 Ḷᶜᵘᵈᵇᵘᵈᵘ

Note that another ending which sounds exactly like the locative can be added to nouns for people and animals. This is the **simulative** suffix and it is translated as 'like a ...'.

ᵈᶜᵘ	man	ᵈᶜᵘᵘ	like a man
◁ᵇᵘᵈ	dog	◁ᵇᵘᵈᵘᵘ	like a dog

3.6.4 " (h) in verb suffixes

If a verb ends in ^l or ^a, these finals will change to " when ^l or ^b is added as a conjunct verb ending.

Independent	Conjunct
ᐱᐅᓂ ^a	▽ ᐱᐅᓂ ^{"b}
ᑕᑑᓂ ^a	▽ ᑕᑑᓂ ^{"b}
·ᐱᐱᐱᐱᑕᑕ ^l	▽ ·ᐱᐱᐱᐱᑕᑕ ^{"b}
ᐅᓂᑕ ^l	▽ ᐅᓂᑕ ^{"b}
ᑕᐱ ^a	▽ ᑕᐱ ^{"l}
ᐅᑕᑕ ^a	▽ ᐅᑕᑕ ^{"l}
ᐅᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^a	▽ ᐅᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^{"l}
ᐅᐅᐱᐱᑕᑕ ^l	▽ ᐅᐅᐱᐱᑕᑕ ^{"b}

The endings of some verbs change the final ^a to " before ^l in the plural form:

ᑕ (I)	ᑕᑕᑕ (we, but not you)
ᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^a	ᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^{"l}
ᑕ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^a	ᑕ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^{"l}
ᑕ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᑕᑕᑕ ^a	ᑕ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᑕᑕᑕ ^{"l}

Other verbs endings change the final ^a to " before ^d in the plural form:

ᑕ (you)	ᑕᑕᑕᑕ (you and I)
ᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^a	ᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^{"d}
ᑕ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^a	ᑕ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^{"d}

For Inland speakers, there is an " (h) in some endings.

	Inland	Coastal
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ	▽ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^{"l}	▽ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^l
ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ	▽ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^{"l}	▽ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ^l

Particles ending with **Δ**

◁Δ Ḳ"ṛ~CΔ օ־Δ

Nouns ending with **ṛ** or **ṛ̣**

▷Uṛ ·Δṛ ṛṛ ṛṛ̣

Particles ending with **ṛ**

Ḳṛ

The words below are more irregular than words which end in a small symbol, as the ending changes in unpredictable ways when a suffix is added. Some words drop the **Δ** and others do not when a diminutive, locative or possessive suffix is added. Pay attention to the endings, as they are very irregular. If the previous **<**, **C**, **b** is short (no dot), then change it to **<**, **C̣**, **ḅ**. Sometimes the final **Δ** changes to **·ḅ**.

	Diminutive	Locative	Possessive
◁CΔ	◁C̣̣̣	◁C̣̣̣"ṛ	σ◁C̣̣̣ṛ
▷~bCΔ	▷~bC̣̣̣	▷~bC̣̣̣"ṛ	ֿ~bC̣̣̣ṛ
ṛ<Δ	ṛ<Δ̣̣̣	ṛ<Δ̣̣̣"ṛ	σṛ<Δ̣̣̣ṛ
ṛ̣<Δ	ṛ̣<Δ̣̣̣	ṛ̣<Δ̣̣̣"ṛ	σṛ̣<Δ̣̣̣ṛ
▷ṛbΔ	▷ṛḅ̣̣	▷ṛḅ̣̣"ṛ	▷ṛḅ̣̣ṛ
▷~ḲbΔ	▷~Ḳḅ̣̣	▷~Ḳḅ̣̣"ṛ	▷~Ḳḅ̣̣ṛ
▷ṛḲḲbΔ	▷ṛḲḲḅ̣̣	▷ṛḲḲḅ̣̣"ṛ	▷ṛḲḲḅ̣̣ṛ
ṛ"ḲbΔ	ṛ"Ḳḅ̣̣	ṛ"Ḳḅ̣̣"ṛ	ṛ"Ḳḅ̣̣ṛ
·◁CΔ	·◁C̣̣̣	·◁C̣̣̣"ṛ	σ·◁C̣̣̣ṛ
▷~bCΔ	▷~bC̣̣̣	▷~bC̣̣̣"ṛ	ֿ~bC̣̣̣ṛ
ḲΔ	ḲΔ̣̣̣	ḲΔ̣̣̣"ṛ	σḲΔ̣̣̣
·Δ"ḲΔ	·Δ"Ḳḅ̣̣	·Δ"Ḳḅ̣̣"ṛ	σ·Δ"Ḳḅ̣̣ṛ, ·Δ"ḲḲΔ̣̣̣"ṛ
ṛ~Δ	ṛ~Δ̣̣̣	ṛ~Δ̣̣̣"ṛ	σṛ~Δ̣̣̣ṛ
◁Ḳ~Δ	◁Ḳ~Δ̣̣̣, ◁Ḳ~Δ̣̣̣"ṛ	◁Ḳ~Δ̣̣̣"ṛ	σCḲ~Δ̣̣̣
▷~Ḳ~Δ	▷~Ḳ~Δ̣̣̣	▷~Ḳ~Δ̣̣̣"ṛ	(not said)
▷ṛΔ	▷ṛṛ̣, ▷ṛΔ̣̣̣	▷ṛṛ̣"ṛ	ֿṛṛ̣ṛ
◁օḲΔ	◁օ·ḅ̣̣	◁օ·ḅ̣̣"ṛ	σօḲΔ̣̣̣

▷ [~] דΔ	▷ [~] .ב [~]	▷ [~] .ב [~] " [~] , ▷ [~] ד [~] " [~]	פ [~] .ב [~] [~]
◁ד"דΔ	◁ד"דΔ [~]	◁ד"דΔ" [~]	σCד"דΔ [~]
◁>Δ	◁>Δ [~]	◁>Δ" [~]	σC>Δ
JJJצ>Δ	JJJצ> [~] , JJJצ>Δ [~]	JJJצ> [~] " [~]	σJJJצ> [~] [~]
▷U"Δ	▷U"Δ [~]	▷U"Δ" [~]	פU"Δ [~]
◁Cד"דΔ	◁Cד"דΔ [~]	◁Cד"דΔ" [~]	σC◁ד"דΔ [~]

4.2 **Δ̇** and **Δ** in the middle of a word

After (h) " the long **Δ̇** is used:

Lרע"Δ̇ [~]	Lרע"Δ̇ [~] ב [~]
▷ĊL"Δ̇ [~]	▷ĊL"Δ̇ [~] ב [~]
·▽<"Δ̇ [~]	·▽<"Δ̇ [~] ב [~]
ר̇ב"Δ̇ [~]	ר̇ב"Δ̇ [~] ב [~]
İC"Δ̇ [~]	İC"Δ̇ [~] ב [~]

Some words with short **Δ** in the middle are:

◁Δ·Δ̇ [~]	יΔU	דΔ [~] ד
▽Δ·▽" [~]	◁Δז [~]	

4.3 Using **ר̇**

ר̇ is used instead of **Δ** in many words:

σ-ר̇ [~] σ	σ-ר̇ [~] σז [~] <	(Inland)
Γ4ר̇ [~]	Γ4ר̇ [~] C [~]	(words for thinking)
י [~] ר̇ [~] U [~]	י [~] ר̇ [~] C [~]	(words for stroking, brushing)
י [~] ר̇ [~] ב [~] פ [~]	י [~] ר̇ [~] ב [~]	(words for shore, edge)
י [~] ר̇ [~] U [~]	י [~] ר̇ [~] C [~]	(words for tearing)

ታ is used in some verb endings:

(ሱ)	ፊ ማረኝጭ	ፊ ልላኝጭ
(ሱ)	ፊ ማረታጭ	ፊ ልላታጭ
(ሱ)	ፊ ማረር	ፊ ልላር
	ፊ ማረታህ	ፊ ልላታህ
(ሱጭ)	ፊ ማረኝህ	ፊ ልላኝህ
(ሱጭ)	ፊ ማረታህ	ፊ ልላታህ
(ሱጭ)	ፊ ማረሩ	ፊ ልላሩ
(ሱጭ)	ፊ ማረርህ	ፊ ልላርህ
	ፊ ማረኝህ	ፊ ልላኝህ
	ፊ ማረታህ	ፊ ልላታህ
	ፊ ማረታህ	ፊ ልላታህ

Use ታ in longer words made from words which end in ረኝ:

ላገገረኝ	ላገገረታህጭ	ላገገረታህርህ
ላገገረኝ	ላገገረታህጭ	ላገገረታህርህ
ጋሩረኝ	ጋሩረታህጭ	ጋሩረታህርህ
ገገገረኝ	ገገገረታህጭ	ገገገረታህርህ
ረረኝ	ረረታህጭ	ረረታህርህ
ጋገገረኝ	ጋገገረታህጭ	ጋገገረታህርህ
ጋገገገረኝ	ጋገገገረታህጭ	ጋገገገረታህርህ
ረኝገረኝ	ረኝገረታህጭ	ረኝገረታህርህ
ርገገረኝ	ርገገረታህጭ	ርገገረታህርህ
ረገገረኝ	ረገገረታህጭ	ረገገረታህርህ

4.4 New spelling for Ć° and Ćđ°, ĆĶ and ĆĶ·∇°

Note that the words Δ"Ć° and Δ"Ćđ°, Δ"ĶĶ and Δ"ĶĶ·∇°, begin with Δ"... which is often not pronounced. Nevertheless it is written. It can be heard clearly when a prefix is added to the word or the first vowel is changed.

Write...

Δ"Ć°

Δ"Ćđ°

Δ"ĶĶ

Δ"ĶĶ·∇°

Not...

Ć°

Ćđ°

ĶĶ

ĶĶ·∇°

Part Five: Syllabic Symbols not to forget to write

5.1 Short **Δ** or **◄** at the beginning

In many words the short **Δ** or **◄** at the beginning is not pronounced in ordinary fast speech. However, you can hear it when a prefix is added to the beginning of a word. Make sure to write the **Δ** or **◄**, even when it is not audible or pronounced.

Δ [◌] ·ḅ"U [◌]	◄ḱ [◌]
Δ [◌] ◄ [◌]	◄ [◌] ḳḳ [◌]
Δ [◌] ḍU [◌]	◄ [◌] ḷḷ [◌]
Δ [◌] ḷΓ [◌]	◄ḍ [◌]
Δ [◌] ḥ.ḡ [◌]	◄ḥḥ [◌]
Δ [◌] ḥ.ḡ [◌]	◄Γḥ [◌]
Δ [◌] ◄ḍU [◌]	◄ḥḷ [◌]
Δ [◌] ◄ḍḥ [◌]	◄ḅḷ [◌] U [◌]
Δḥḷ [◌] ◄ [◌]	◄ḥḅ [◌]
	◄ḅΓ [◌]
	◄ḷ [◌] ḅ [◌]
	◄ [◌] ḳ [◌]
	◄ [◌] ḷḷḷ·Δ [◌]
	◄ [◌] ḡḷḷ·Δ [◌]

5.2 **·Δ** and **·Ḃ**

Word beginning with **·Δ** and **·Ḃ** sound alike. In order to decide which one to write, it is best to check with the dictionary.

·Δ	wi	·Ḃ	wii
·Δḱ [◌] "	calf of leg	·Ḃ·◄ [◌]	them
·Δḥ [◌]	her/his body	·Ḃ [◌] "	his wife
·Δḥ [◌]	her/his bladder	·Ḃ·◄ [◌]	his bag, load, container
·Δḥ [◌]	meat		

5.3 **·Δ[◌]** at the end of a word

A noun can be made from a verb by adding **·Δ[◌]** to a verb.

U"ḳ [◌]	U"ḳ [◌] ·Δ [◌]
◄ḥḷ [◌] ḍ [◌]	◄ḥḷ [◌] ḍ [◌] ·Δ [◌]
ḥḍḷḷ [◌]	ḥḍḷḷ [◌] ·Δ [◌]

5.4 ·Δ^c at the end of a word (A NEW RULE Fall 2015)

Words which refer to a box or container or sealed packages are now spelled with ·Δ^c at the end (and not ·Δ^c).

Δῖ<"Δḃḡ·Δ ^c	Δḥ"UΔ·Δ ^c	Δḥ"U·Δ ^c
Δῖḡ·Δ ^c	ḥ<ḥḡḥḥḡ·Δ ^c	·ḡḡḡḡḡ·Δ ^c
ḃ·ḡḃḡ·Δ ^c	ḃḥḥ·ḃḡḡ·Δ ^c	ḃḥḥ·ḡḡ·Δḡḡ·Δ ^c
Lḥḡ"ḡḥḡ·ḡḡ·Δ ^c	Lḥḡ"Δḃḡ"ḥḡ·Δ ^c	ḥ̇·Δ ^c
ḥḡḥḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡUḡ·Δ ^c
ḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	σ<ḃḡ·Δ ^c
σḥḡḡḡUḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡ·Δ ^c
ḡḡ"ḥḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡ"Δḃḡ·Δ ^c
ḡḡḡ<"ḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡḡ·Δ ^c
ḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	ḡḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	
·Δḡḡḡ·Δ ^c	·Δḡ·Δ ^c	

5.5 σ at the beginning of a word

In many words, which begin with σ, there is a tendency to write this syllabic symbol as a small. But the small symbol is only used at the end of words.

Write...

Not...

σḡḡḡḡḡ ^α	ḡḡḡḡḡ ^α
σḥḡ	ḡḥḡ
σḡḡḡḡḡ	ḡḡḡḡḡ
σḡḡ·Δῖ<ḡḡ ^α	ḡḡ·Δῖ<ḡḡ ^α
σḡḡḡḡḡ	ḡḡḡḡḡ
σḡ·Δῖḡḡḡḡ	ḡḡ·Δῖḡḡḡḡ

Some numbers are pronounced two ways, with or without σ at the beginning.

ḡḡḡḡḡ	σḡḡḡḡḡ	six
ḡḡḡḡḡ	σḡḡḡḡḡ	eight

5.6 ʀ at the beginning of a word

Often words, which are written with ʀ at the beginning, are pronounced with ʁ or ʕ. The big ʀ should still be written before ʀ, ɔ, ɕ.

Write...

ʀʀ
ʀɕ.ɔɔʀ
ʀɕɔ
ʀɕɔʀ

Not...

ʁʀ
ʁɕ.ɔɔʀ
ʕɕɔ
ʕɕɔʀ

Also before ʀ...

Write...

ʀʀ ʀʕ
ʀʀ ʀʀ

Not...

ʕʀ ʀʕ
ʕʀ ʀʀ

5.7 ʀ in the middle of a word...

Write...

·Vʀʕ
·Δʀʕ
<ʀʕ
bʀʕ

Not...

·Vʕ
·Δʕ
<ʕ
bʕ

Part Six: Adding endings to nouns and verbs

6.1 Adding a suffix to nouns which end in °

When a diminutive, locative or possessive suffix is added to most words that end in °, the ° is dropped (see also section 3.4.3 above).

	Diminutive	Locative/Simulative	Possessive
ǎV°	ǎV ^ˆ	ǎV ^{ˆˆ}	σǎV ^ˆ
Δ ^ˆ ·q°	Δ ^ˆ ·q ^ˆ	Δ ^ˆ ·q ^{ˆˆ}	σC ^ˆ ·q ^ˆ
▷rĭ°	▷rĭ ^ˆ	▷rĭ ^{ˆˆ}	ǎrĭ ^ˆ
·Δ ^ˆ ŝǎ°	·Δ ^ˆ ŝǎ ^ˆ	·Δ ^ˆ ŝǎ ^{ˆˆ}	σ·Δ ^ˆ ŝǎ ^ˆ
▷ ^ˆ bŋ°	▷ ^ˆ bŋ ^ˆ	▷ ^ˆ bŋ ^{ˆˆ}	ǎ ^ˆ bŋ ^ˆ
ǎŋ°	ǎŋ ^ˆ / ǎŋ▷ ^ˆ	ǎŋ ^{ˆˆ}	σǎŋ ^ˆ
Λ ^ˆ ŋ°	Λ ^ˆ ŋ ^ˆ	Λ ^ˆ ŋ ^{ˆˆ}	σΛ ^ˆ ŋ ^ˆ
ĭσU°	ĭσU ^ˆ	ĭσU ^{ˆˆ}	σĭσU ^ˆ
Δ ^ˆ ŋdU°	Δ ^ˆ ŋdU ^ˆ	Δ ^ˆ ŋdU ^{ˆˆ}	σŋ ^ˆ dU ^ˆ
ǎb°	ǎb ^ˆ	ǎb ^{ˆˆ}	σǎb ^ˆ
V<°	V< ^ˆ	V< ^{ˆˆ}	σV< ^ˆ
ŋŋŋ°	ŋŋŋ ^ˆ	ŋŋŋ ^{ˆˆ}	σŋŋŋ ^ˆ

Exceptions...

	Diminutive	Locative/Simulative	Possessive
·<°	·<▷ ^ˆ	·<▷ ^{ˆˆ}	σ·<▷ ^ˆ
<Δ ^ˆ "dǎ°	<Δ ^ˆ "dǎ▷ ^ˆ	<Δ ^ˆ "dǎ ^{ˆˆ}	σC ^ˆ Δ ^ˆ "dǎ ^ˆ

Note: The ° is changed to ▷ when the animate plural ending is added (see also section 3.4.3 above).

ǎV°	ǎV▷ ^ˆ
ŋŋŋ°	ŋŋŋ▷ ^ˆ
Δ ^ˆ ·q°	Δ ^ˆ ·q▷ ^ˆ

6.2 Adding endings to nouns which end in Δ

When the noun ends in Δ, often the Δ is dropped.

	Diminutive	Locative/ Simulative	Possessive
◁▷Δ	◁▷Δ ^ς /◁▷ ^ς	◁▷ ^ϛ	σ▷Δ/σ▷Δ
◁Λ~Δ	◁Λ~Δ ^ς	◁Λ~ ^ϛ	σ◁Λ~Δ
·Δ̇̇>Δ	·Δ̇̇>Δ ^ς /·Δ̇̇> ^ς	·Δ̇̇> ^ϛ	σ·Δ̇̇>Δ

Be careful of the following words where **d** becomes **·ḃ** (or does not):

	Diminutive	Locative/ Simulative	Possessive
◁e d Δ	◁e·ḃ ^ς	◁e·ḃ ^ϛ	σe d Δ
·Δ̇" d Δ	·Δ̇"·ḃ ^ς	·Δ̇"·ḃ ^ϛ	σ·Δ̇"·ḃ ^ϛ
▷ ^ς d Δ	▷ ^ς ·ḃ ^ς	▷ ^ς ·ḃ ^ϛ	▷ ^ς ·ḃ ^ϛ
▷d" C ^ς d Δ	▷d" C ^ς ·ḃ ^ς	▷d" C ^ς ·ḃ ^ϛ	σd" C ^ς d Δ

6.3 Adding endings to nouns which end in J, ~, ρ, ρ̇, ρ̇̇

When a suffix for the diminutive, locative, or possessive is added to these words, the syllabic changes from ~ to ρ̇, ρ to ρ̇, J to ρ̇̇ and ρ̇̇̇ to ρ̇̇̇̇.

	Diminutive	Locative/ Simulative	Possessive
ΛJ	Λρ̇ ^ς	Λρ̇ ^ϛ	σΛρ̇ ^ϛ
Λ~	Λρ̇ ^ς	Λρ̇ ^ϛ	σΛρ̇ ^ϛ
·Δ̇ΛJ	·Δ̇Λρ̇ ^ς	·Δ̇Λρ̇ ^ϛ	σ·Δ̇Λρ̇ ^ϛ
ḅ"ḅJ	ḅ"ḅρ̇ ^ς	ḅ"ḅρ̇ ^ϛ	σḅ"ḅρ̇ ^ϛ
▷"▷Γρ̇	▷"▷Γρ̇ ^ς	▷"▷Γρ̇ ^ϛ	σ▷"▷Γρ̇ ^ϛ
ρ̇̇̇C L ρ̇̇̇	ρ̇̇̇C L ρ̇̇̇ ^ς	ρ̇̇̇C L ρ̇̇̇ ^ϛ	σρ̇̇̇C L ρ̇̇̇ ^ϛ
L"ρ̇~	L"ρ̇ ^ς	L"ρ̇ ^ϛ	σL"ρ̇ ^ϛ
ρ̇̇̇̇ρ̇̇̇	ρ̇̇̇̇̇ρ̇̇̇ ^ς	ρ̇̇̇̇̇ρ̇̇̇ ^ϛ	σρ̇̇̇̇̇ρ̇̇̇ ^ϛ
·◁̇ ^ς q ρ̇̇̇̇	·◁̇ ^ς q ρ̇̇̇̇ ^ς	·◁̇ ^ς q ρ̇̇̇̇ ^ϛ	σ·◁̇ ^ς q ρ̇̇̇̇ ^ϛ

·ḳ·ḳ ^h q ^h ṣ	·ḳ·ḳ ^h q ^h ṣ ^h	·ḳ·ḳ ^h q ^h ṣ ^h ^l	σ·ḳ·ḳ ^h q ^h ṣ ^h ^l
ḳḳ ^h	ḳḳ ^h ^h	ḳḳ ^h ^h ^l	σḳḳ ^h ^l
ḳḳ ^h ḳ	ḳḳ ^h ḳ ^h	ḳḳ ^h ḳ ^h ^l	σḳḳḳ ^h ^l
ḳḳ	ḳḳ ^h	ḳḳ ^h ^l	σḳḳ ^h ^l

There are some words which end in ḳ or ḳ^h that **do not** change to ḳ^h or ḳ^h^l.

	Diminutive	Locative/Simulative	Possessive
ḳḳ	ḳḳ ^h	ḳḳ ^h ^l	σḳḳ ^h ^l
ḳḳ ^h	ḳḳ ^h ^h	ḳḳ ^h ^h ^l	σḳḳḳ ^h ^l
·ḳḳ	·ḳḳ ^h	·ḳḳ ^h ^l	σ·ḳḳ ^h ^l
ḳḳḳḳ ^h	ḳḳḳḳ ^h ^h	ḳḳḳḳ ^h ^h ^l	σḳḳḳḳḳḳ ^h ^l

6.4 Adding endings to verbs which end in ḳ, ḳ^h, ḳ^h^l, ḳ^h^h, ḳ, ḳ^h, ḳ^h^l, ḳ^h^h

ḳḳ ^h	ḳḳḳḳ ^h
ḳḳḳḳ ^h	ḳḳḳḳḳḳ ^h
ḳḳ	ḳḳ ^h
ḳḳḳḳ ^h	ḳḳḳḳḳḳ ^h
ḳḳ	ḳḳ ^h
ḳḳḳḳ	ḳḳḳḳ ^h
ḳḳ	ḳḳ ^h
ḳḳḳḳ	ḳḳḳḳ ^h
ḳḳḳḳ	ḳḳḳḳ ^h
ḳḳḳḳ	ḳḳḳḳ ^h
ḳḳḳḳ	ḳḳḳḳ ^h

6.5 Adding endings to verbs which end in ḳ or ḳ^h

The small ḳ or ḳ^h will change to a big ḳ or ḳ^h. This is difficult to hear in the coastal dialects but easier in the inland ones.

·ḳḳ ^h ḳḳ ^h	·ḳḳ ^h ḳḳ ^h ^l
ḳḳ ^h ḳḳ ^h	ḳḳ ^h ḳḳ ^h ^l
ḳḳḳḳ ^h	ḳḳḳḳ ^h ^l / ḳḳḳḳ ^h ^h
ḳḳḳḳ ^h	ḳḳḳḳ ^h ^l / ḳḳḳḳ ^h ^h
ḳḳḳḳḳḳ ^h	ḳḳḳḳḳḳ ^h ^l / ḳḳḳḳḳḳ ^h ^h

Part Seven: Boundaries

7. 1. Adding a personal prefix

The personal prefixes are **σ**, **ፊ**, and **ፐ** and are added to possessed nouns. Note that only **σ** and **ፊ** are added to Independent verbs. They are written joined to the word.

Nouns	Verbs
<u>ታታሩ</u>	<u>ፍኑሉ</u>
σታታሉ	σፍኑዓ
ፊታታሉ	ፊፍኑዓ
ፐታታሉ።	ፍኑሉ
σታታሉፍ	σፍኑዓፍ
ፊታታሉፍ	ፊፍኑዓፍ
ፐታታሉፍ፣	ፍኑሉፍ፣
ፐታታሉፍ፣፣	ፍኑሉ፣

If the word begins with **ፈ** then add **σፍ**, **ፊፍ** or **ፐፍ**.

<u>ፈዓ</u>	<u>ፈኑ</u>
σፍዓ	σፍኑ
ፊፍዓ	ፊፍኑ
ፐፍዓ።	

If the word begins with **ፈ** then add **σፍ**, **ፊፍ**, or **ፐፍ**.

<u>ፈፍ</u>	<u>ፈፍ</u>
σፍፍ	σፍፍ
ፊፍፍ	ፊፍፍ
ፐፍፍ።	ፈፍ

If the word begins with **ፈ** then add **σፍ**, **ፊፍ** or **ፐፍ**.

<u>ፈፍ</u>	<u>ፈፍ</u>
σፍፍ	σፍፍ
ፊፍፍ	ፊፍፍ
ፐፍፍ።	ፈፍ

If the word begins with **◄** then add **σ◄**, **ρ◄**, or **▷◄**.

<u>◄◄"Δb^α</u>	<u>◄◄n^ρ° / ◄◄n^ρ</u>
σ◄◄"Δb ^α	σ◄◄n ^ρ ° / σ◄◄n ^ρ °
ρ◄◄"Δb ^α	ρ◄◄n ^ρ ° / ρ◄◄n ^ρ °
▷◄◄"Δb ^α	◄◄n ^ρ ° / ◄◄n ^ρ

If the word begins with **▷**, then use **◌** or **◌̇**. For the 'her/his' third person change the short **▷** to a long one by adding a dot **▷̇**.

<u>▷◄̇^α</u>	<u>▷n^α◌</u>
◌◄̇ ^α	◌n ^α ◌
◌̇◄̇ ^α	◌̇n ^α ◌
▷̇◄̇ ^α	

If a noun begins with **▷̇** then add **σ▷̇**, **ρ▷̇**, or **▷▷̇**.

<u>▷̇◄̇^α</u>
σ▷̇◄̇n ^α ◌
ρ▷̇◄̇n ^α ◌
▷▷̇◄̇n ^α ◌

If a verb begins with **▷̇** then change to **◌** or **◌̇**.

<u>▷̇"ρ^α</u>
◌"ρ ^α
◌̇"ρ ^α

Note that it is a very common for children to use **J** instead of **◌̇** in words traditionally beginning with **◌̇**:

Traditional Cree

◌̇"◌̇◌̇
 ◌̇"◌̇^α
 ◌̇"◌̇^α
 ◌̇"◌̇^α
 ◌̇◌̇^α
 ◌̇"ρ^α

Modern Cree

J"◌̇◌̇
 J"◌̇^α
 J"◌̇^α
 J"◌̇^α
 J◌̇^α
 J"ρ^α

Nouns that are already possessed do not add these prefixes, since these prefixes are already part of the word. These are mostly names of relatives and body parts and are called dependent nouns (marked **nad** or **nid** in the dictionary).

σ ^h	σ ^h ḅ ^c
ṙ ^h	ṙ ^h ḅ ^c
▷ ^h "	▷ ^h ḅ ^c

A few words are also dependent nouns that are not the names of relatives or body parts.

<u>◁ṙ^h</u>		<u>ṙ^h</u>	<u>ṙ^h◁^c</u>	<u>◁^cṙ^h</u>
σ ^U	σ ^h	σ ^h	σ ^h ◁ ^c	σ ^c ṙ ^h
ṙ ^U	ṙ ^h	ṙ ^h	ṙ ^h ◁ ^c	ṙ ^c ṙ ^h
▷ ^U "	▷ ^h	▷ ^h	▷ ^h ◁ ^c	▷ ^c ṙ ^h

7.2 Using a preverb

A preverb is a short word, used before a verb. When there are several preverbs they occur in a fixed order: first the ones that indicate grammatical ideas such as subordination, then, the ones for tense (future, past), then, the ones for mood, (want, can, should) and then the lexical ones indicating aspect or quality. These preverbs are written separately from the verb, and the personal prefixes σ and ṙ are joined to the first preverb in the Independent mode. Here are some examples:

	Independent third person	Independent first person	Conjunct third person
neutral			▽ σ ^{<} ^c
future	ṙ ^b σ ^{<} ^o	σ ^b σ ^{<} ^e	ṙ σ ^{<} ^c
past	ṙ ⁱ σ ^{<} ^o	σ ⁱ σ ^{<} ^e	ḅ σ ^{<} ^c
want	▷ ^h σ ^{<} ^o	σ▷ ^h σ ^{<} ^e	▷ ^h σ ^{<} ^c
should	ṙ ^{<} " σ ^{<} ^o	σ ^{<} " σ ^{<} ^e	
go to	σ ^ḅ σ ^{<} ^o	σσ ^ḅ σ ^{<} ^e	ḅ ^ḅ σ ^{<} ^c

Preverbs can undergo initial change, like $\cdot\dot{\Delta}$ *waa* and $\dot{\Delta}$ *naatuu* above. This happens only when they end up in the first position, when there is no preverb ∇ *e* or $\dot{\Delta}$ *kaa* occupying the first position.

If there is more than one preverb, they are written separately from each other.

with an Independent verb

with a Conjunct verb

$\Gamma\text{b} \cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\circ}$
 $\dot{\Gamma} \cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\circ}$
 $\Gamma\text{<}'' \dot{\Gamma} \sigma\text{<}^{\circ}$
 $\Gamma\text{b} \dot{\Gamma} \sigma\text{<}^{\circ}$

$\dot{\Delta} \dot{\Gamma} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{c}}$
 $\nabla \dot{\Gamma} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{c}}$
 $\nabla \cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{c}}$

If a preverb occurs after a personal prefix σ or Γ , the σ or Γ is joined to the first preverb. These personal prefixes are used only with Independent verbs. Any preverb following the first one is separated.

$\sigma\cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\sigma\text{b} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\Gamma\cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\sigma\text{<}'' \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\Gamma\text{<}'' \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\sigma\dot{\Gamma} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$

$\sigma\text{b} \cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\Gamma\text{b} \cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\sigma\text{<}'' \cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\Gamma\text{<}'' \dot{\Gamma} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$
 $\sigma\dot{\Gamma} \cdot\dot{\Delta} \sigma\text{<}^{\text{a}}$

In the examples below, see how the lexical preverb $\sigma\dot{\Delta}$ is written separately from the past preverb $\dot{\Gamma}$ in the Independent order, and from the preverb $\dot{\Delta}$ in the Conjunct order. In the last example, initial change (or changed conjunct) has turned $\sigma\dot{\Delta}$ to $\dot{\Delta}$. See also how the personal prefix σ , attaches to the first preverb in the second sentence.

$\dot{\Gamma} \sigma\dot{\Delta} \cdot\text{b}\wedge\eta^{\circ} \triangleleft\sigma\text{U}'' \nabla \text{<}''\text{<}''\Gamma\wedge\text{b}\text{b}\text{b}\text{x}$
chii nituu kwaapicheu aniteh e paahpaachipiskayich.
 's/he went to fetch the water where it is rocky.'

$\sigma\dot{\Gamma} \sigma\dot{\Delta} \cdot\text{b}\wedge\eta^{\circ} \triangleleft\sigma\text{U}'' \nabla \text{<}''\text{<}''\Gamma\wedge\text{b}\text{b}\text{b}\text{x}$
nichii nituu kwaapichen aniteh e paahpaachipiskaach.
 'I went to fetch the water where it is rocky.'

▼ ማጎ በግብረኛ ለሆነችው ልጅ ስህተት ይህን ምርት ያደርጋል።
 e nituu kanawayimaausut ispayihiikuu wesa uhtaawiih.
 '...when she goes to baby-sit, (so) her father drives her.'

ጋጎ ማርቅያዊው ለሚመጡት ግሩፍ / ግሩፍ ይህን ይደራጃል።
 netuu nitawaapamaat aniyuuh chisheiiyyuu / chisheinuuh.
 '...then s/he goes to see that old man/men.'

Some preverbs can also be used as verb initials and are then written together with the verb. For example: in ማጎት nituuግግ, the ማጎ nituu- part is called an initial. The rule to use is: whenever a preverb is before a verb that exists on its own, the preverb can be written separately from the verb, unless it is a fairly common verb. To learn more about preverbs and see more examples, see the preverbs grammar page and look up preverbs in the parts of speech in the online Dictionary.

Note: Some preverbs can also be used before a noun, in this case they are called 'preform'. Preforms are written attached to the noun.

Example: ማርቅያዊው ለሚመጡት ግሩፍ *miyupimaatisiiwin*. For more examples, see Word Formation: Preform + Noun in the online grammar.

7.3 Making compound words

Two or three words can be joined together to make one new word, but there are almost always spelling changes when this happens. The names of the months are good examples of compound words.

Sometimes there is no change to the spelling of the words.

ግግ	+	ገግ	=	ግግገግ
ግግ	+	ግግግ	=	ግግግግግግ

Often the syllabic final is made big when the second word begins with a consonant (use ለ በ ገ ግ ግ ግ ግ or ግ ግ ግ ግ ግ in this case).

ግግግግግ	+	ገገገገገ	=	ግግግግግገገገገገ
ግግግግግ	+	ገገገገገ	=	ግግግግግገገገገገ

$\sigma^{\circ}\zeta^{\circ}$	+	$d^{\circ}d^{\circ}b^{\circ}$	=	$\sigma^{\circ}\zeta^{\circ}\Gamma d^{\circ}d^{\circ}b^{\circ}$
$\omega\tau^{\circ}$	+	$\wedge\dot{\Gamma}$	=	$\omega\tau^{\circ}\wedge\dot{\Gamma}$
$\wedge>^{\circ}$	+	$\cdot\dot{\Delta}^{\circ}\omega^{\circ}$	=	$\wedge>\sigma^{\circ}\dot{\Delta}^{\circ}\omega^{\circ}$
Note: $\sigma^{\circ}b^{\circ}$	+	$\wedge\dot{\Gamma}$	=	$\sigma^{\circ}b^{\circ}\wedge\dot{\Gamma}$ or $\sigma^{\circ}b^{\circ}\wedge\dot{\Gamma}$

This also applies to words made of a second part that cannot stand alone (to which a final is added):

$\triangleright r\dot{L}^{\circ}$	+	$b\Gamma^{\circ}$	=	$\triangleright r\dot{L}^{\circ}\triangleright b\Gamma^{\circ}$
$\triangleright r\dot{L}^{\circ}\dot{J}^{\circ}$	+	$b\Gamma^{\circ}$	=	$\triangleright r\dot{L}^{\circ}\dot{J}^{\circ}\triangleright b\Gamma^{\circ}$

When the second word begins with a vowel symbol (∇ Δ $\dot{\Delta}$ \triangleright $\dot{\triangleright}$ \triangleleft $\dot{\triangleleft}$) this vowel disappears but the small symbol at the end of the first word becomes big.

$\dot{\Delta}z b^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleleft^{\circ}n^{\circ}$	=	$\dot{\Delta}z b^{\circ}n^{\circ}$
$r\dot{J}^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleleft^{\circ}d^{\circ}<$	=	$r\dot{J}^{\circ}d^{\circ}<$
$\dot{\Gamma}\sigma^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleleft^{\circ}\Delta^{\circ}d^{\circ}\omega^{\circ}$	=	$\dot{\Gamma}\sigma^{\circ}\Delta^{\circ}d^{\circ}\omega^{\circ}$
$\dot{\Delta}z b^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleleft^{\circ}\dot{\Delta}$	=	$\dot{\Delta}z b^{\circ}\dot{\Delta}$

Sometimes the beginning of the second word is dropped.

$\sigma b\dot{J}$	+	$Lr\omega^{\circ}\dot{\Delta}b^{\circ}$	=	$\sigma b\dot{J}r\omega^{\circ}\dot{\Delta}b^{\circ}$
$\triangleright^{\circ}d^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleright n^{\circ}\dot{r}$	=	$\triangleright^{\circ}d^{\circ}\sigma n^{\circ}\dot{r}$
$\Gamma^{\circ}d^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleright n^{\circ}\dot{r}$	=	$\Gamma^{\circ}d^{\circ}\sigma n^{\circ}\dot{r}$
$\dot{r}\dot{L}^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleright r\dot{L}^{\circ}$	=	$\dot{r}\dot{L}^{\circ}\sigma r\dot{L}^{\circ}$

The w-circle \circ is changed to \triangleright .

$\Delta^{\circ}y^{\circ}$	+	$\dot{\Gamma}r^{\circ}$	=	$\Delta^{\circ}y^{\circ}\triangleright\dot{\Gamma}r^{\circ}$
$\omega^{\circ}V^{\circ}$	+	$\dot{\Gamma}r^{\circ}$	=	$\omega^{\circ}V^{\circ}\triangleright\dot{\Gamma}r^{\circ}$

The w-circle \circ is changed to \triangleright and the beginning of the second word is dropped if it is a vowel (∇ Δ $\dot{\Delta}$ \triangleright $\dot{\triangleright}$ \triangleleft $\dot{\triangleleft}$).

$\dot{\Delta}^{\circ}r^{\circ}\dot{\Gamma}^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleleft^{\circ}r^{\circ}$	=	$\dot{\Delta}^{\circ}r^{\circ}\dot{\Gamma}^{\circ}\triangleright r^{\circ}$
$\omega\dot{\Gamma}^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleleft^{\circ}\dot{\Delta}\dot{\Delta}$	=	$\omega\dot{\Gamma}^{\circ}\triangleright\dot{\Delta}\dot{\Delta}$
$\omega\dot{\Gamma}^{\circ}$	+	$\triangleleft^{\circ}\triangleleft\dot{\Delta}$	=	$\omega\dot{\Gamma}^{\circ}\triangleright\triangleleft\dot{\Delta}$

Note that the w-circle at the end of the first word becomes a w-dot in the compound word:

$\Delta^{\circ}dU^{\circ}$	+	$\dot{\triangleleft}^{\circ}$	=	$\Delta^{\circ}dU^{\circ}\dot{\triangleleft}^{\circ}$
----------------------------	---	-------------------------------	---	---

The little **d** becomes big **d** or **·b**.

$$\begin{array}{lclclcl} \dot{b}^d & + & \wedge\dot{\Gamma} & = & \dot{b}d\wedge\dot{\Gamma} \\ \Gamma^h\cap^d & + & \wedge J & = & \Gamma^h\cap^d\wedge J \\ \Gamma_{\text{a}}\dot{\Delta}^d & + & \triangleleft^{\text{a}}\text{c} & = & \Gamma_{\text{a}}\dot{\Delta}^{\cdot b}\text{c} \end{array}$$

Many words add a **▷** between the words (and may drop the beginning of the second word).

$$\begin{array}{lclclcl} \cdot\triangleleft^h\dot{b}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Delta}b\sigma^{\text{s}} & + & \dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{j} & = & \cdot\triangleleft^h\dot{b}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Delta}b\sigma^{\text{s}}\dot{\jmath}\triangleright\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{j} \\ \cdot\triangleleft^h\dot{b}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Delta}b\sigma^{\text{s}} & + & \dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\sigma} & = & \cdot\triangleleft^h\dot{b}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Delta}b\sigma^{\text{s}}\dot{\jmath}\triangleright\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\sigma} \\ \Gamma^h\text{C}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{\sigma} & + & \triangleleft^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}} & = & \Gamma^h\text{C}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{\sigma}\triangleright^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}} \end{array}$$

A number of words have shorter forms (acting as finals) to create new words:

long form		short combining form				new word
$\dot{\Delta}V^{\circ}$	>	$\triangleleft V^{\circ}$	$\Gamma^{\text{h}}\text{C}$	+	$\triangleleft V^{\circ}$	$\Gamma^{\text{h}}\dot{\text{C}}V^{\circ}$
$\Delta^h\cdot q^{\circ}$	>	$^h\cdot q^{\circ}$	$\Gamma^{\text{h}}\text{V}$	+	$^h\cdot q^{\circ}$	$\Gamma^{\text{h}}\text{V}^h\cdot q^{\circ}$
$\text{a}\Gamma^h$	>	Γ^h	$\Gamma^{\text{h}}\text{C}$	+	Γ^h	$\Gamma^{\text{h}}\text{C}\Gamma^h$
\dot{b}^d	>	\triangleleft^d	$\dot{\Delta}V^{\circ}$	+	\triangleleft^d	$\dot{\Delta}V^{\circ}\dot{b}^d$
$\cdot\triangleleft^{\text{a}}\text{c}$	>	$\triangleleft^{\text{a}}\text{c}$	$\text{C}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{h}}\text{b}^{\text{a}}$	+	$\triangleleft^{\text{a}}\text{c}$	$\text{C}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{h}}\text{b}^{\text{a}}\triangleleft^{\text{a}}\text{c}$
$\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{j}$	>	$\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}$	$\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}$	+	$\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}$	$\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}$
$\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\sigma}$	>	$\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\sigma}$	$\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\sigma}$	+	$\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}$	$\dot{\Delta}^{\text{a}}\dot{\sigma}\dot{\Gamma}^{\text{a}}$

Sometimes a joining **y** or **w** is used:

$$\dot{\Delta}V^{\circ} + \text{y} + \dot{b}^d = \dot{\Delta}V^{\circ}\dot{b}^d$$

Part Eight: New spellings as of summer 2015

The new spellings here are ones that are in addition to those noted in earlier sections.

8.1 𐄀𐄁 and 𐄁

The verbs of the ‘it is foggy’ family are now all spelled as 𐄀𐄁 *kashkuun* (and **not** as 𐄀𐄁𐄃 *kashkuwin*).

𐄀𐄁	<i>kashkuun</i>
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅	<i>kashkuunaapan</i>
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇	<i>kashkuunapeshtaan</i>
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	<i>sischikashkuunipayû</i>

Note: The noun for cloud is 𐄀𐄁𐄃 *kashkuwin*.

Nouns for ‘kinds of cloud’ end in 𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅 *-askw*:

𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇	<i>kashkuunaskw</i>
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	<i>yuutinaskw</i>

Verbs for kinds of clouds end in 𐄁 *-kun* (with a short u)

𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅	<i>pimiskun</i>
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇	<i>ninichikuskun</i>
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	<i>yakuskun</i>
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	<i>petiskun</i>

8.2 𐄀𐄁

The words for the ‘it is raining’ family are now spelled as 𐄀𐄁 *chimuun* (and **not** as 𐄀𐄁𐄃 *chimuwin*)

𐄀𐄁	it is raining
𐄀𐄁𐄃	rainwater
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅	raincoat
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇	rain hat
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	Swainson's thrush bird, hermit thrush
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	rain pants
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	it is a sudden rain, it suddenly begins to rain
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	kind of warbler, literally 'rain bird'
𐄀𐄁𐄃𐄅𐄇𐄉	s/he is caught in the rain

▷ΛJ ^ə	it is a narrows in a current
▷"rJ ^ə	the current starts from there
·<ɹJ ^ə	the water has a depression on it caused by its swirl
ᄁᄁ·<ɹᄁᄁJ ^ə	the river runs in a bed of sand
ᄁᄁJ ^ə	it is foggy
ᄁᄁᄁ<ᄁ ^ə	it is a misty, foggy morning
<<"rJ ^ə	it (ex. house) is dripping

Still to be decided:

ΛᄁΛ"ᄁ·Δ ^ə	OR	ΛᄁΛ"ᄁ ^ə	there is soot on it
ΔᄁΛΓ"ᄁᄁ·Δ ^ə	OR	ΔᄁΛΓ"ᄁᄁ ^ə	it has an upstairs
Δᄁᄁ"ᄁ·Δ ^ə	OR	Δᄁᄁ"ᄁ ^ə	it seems alive

8.4 'flesh' and 'meat'

Do not confuse ·Δᄁᄁ^ᄁ *wiyaas* 'meat' with ▷ᄁᄁ^ᄁ *uyaas* 'flesh of the body', which is a dependent noun:

flesh of the body			meat to be eaten		
▷ᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	uyaas	his own flesh	·Δᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	wiyaas	meat
ᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	niyaas	my own flesh	ᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	nuuyaasim	my piece of meat
rᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	chiyaas	your own flesh	ᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	kuuyaasim	your piece of meat
			▷ᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	uuyaasim	her piece of meat

The compound words use the spellings with ▷ᄁᄁ^ᄁ -uyaas:

ᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	muusuyaas
<ᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	atihkuyaas
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	kuuhkuushuyaas
<ᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	amiskuyaas
·<ᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	wachiskuyaas
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	mistusuyaas
<ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	paashteuyaas
rᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	chisheyakuyaas
ᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	kaakuushuyaas
ᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	kaakuyaas
ᄁᄁᄁᄁ ^ᄁ	maskuyaas

8.5 ᄁᄁ·<ᄁ^ᄁ

The word for 'box' is now spelled as ᄁᄁ·<ᄁ^ᄁ *miiwat* (and not ᄁᄁ·Δᄁ^ᄁ *miiwit*) and all words containing the ending ·<ᄁ^ᄁ -*wat* referring to a container will be changed as well. These words are listed in 5.4 above.

8.6. **·ᐃᐱᑦ**
 ·ᐃᐱᑦ *wiimin* is now spelled with ·ᐃ- and not with ·ᐃᑦ *wiyi-* to match the name of Wemindji.

·ᐃᐱᑦ wiimin
 ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ wiiminaahtikw
 ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ wiiminichii

8.7 **ᐅᐱᐱᑦ**
 ᐅᐱᐱᑦ *uyesh* is now spelled with ᐅ *u-* and not with ·ᐃ *wi-*.

ᐅᐱᑦ uyesh
 ᐅᐱᑦᐱᑦ uyeshteh

but ·ᐃᐱᑦ *wiyesh*, which can be a command to a child, uses ·ᐃᑦ *wiy-*.

8.8. **·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦ and ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ**

The Inland spelling of ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦ and ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ is wrong and these words should be spelled as ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦ and ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ; the sound -ᐱᑦ- can be pronounced as -ᐱᑦ- in many words but should not be written that way. An example is the word ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ which is often pronounced in fast speech as ·ᐃᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ.

8.9. **-ᐱᑦᐱᑦ**
 Verbs ending in -ᐱᑦᐱᑦ *-naanuu* are spelled this way in the conjunct forms, and not as -ᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ- or -ᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ- as in the northern dialect.

▽ ᐃᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ
 ▽ ᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ

Note that a shorter form ᐱᑦ *-nuu* is used for verbs which end with ▽ᐱᑦ *-eu* or ᐃᐱᑦ *-aau*:

ᐱᑦ ᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ
 ᐱᑦᐱᑦ ᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ

The Inland dialect often adds 'h' before the 'ch' in certain conjunct forms, but the Coastal people tend to leave it out. (Note: the conjugation guide contains the h, #11, 12a, 12b)

Coastal
 ▽ ᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ
 ▽ ᐃᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ
 ᐱᑦ ᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ

Inland
 ▽ ᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ
 ▽ ᐃᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ
 ᐱᑦ ᐱᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦᐱᑦ

8.10 <̣

The words for 'wash' are now all spelled with <̣ and not ·<̣ :

New spelling <̣

ᵐᶜ̣<̣ᵐᶜ̣°
ᵐᶜ̣<̣·Δᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣
ᵐᶜ̣<̣ᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣°
ᵐᶜ̣<̣ᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣°

Old spelling ·<̣

ᵐᶜ̣·<̣ᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣°
ᵐᶜ̣·<̣·Δᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣
ᵐᶜ̣·<̣ᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣°
ᵐᶜ̣·<̣ᵐᶜ̣ᵐᶜ̣°

The question marker ◀ is written after the word to which you would like the answer ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

▷Ćđŕ"ŭ ◀ ŕ Ćđŕ°_ ŕ Ćđŕ° ◀ ▷Ćđŕ"ŭ_x
 ŕ .◀<ŕ° ◀ ▷ŕŕŕ"°_x ▷ŕŕŕ"° ◀ ŕ .◀<ŕ°_x

9.4 Quotation marks

These are **not** used in writing Cree syllabics. Instead, verbs like **ΔU°**, **Δō.ō** and **ΔĆb.ō** are used to indicate that someone else is speaking, or that someone's words are being reported.

·Δ<ŭ σ-b ŕŕŕ° Δ·U° ŕŕ_x

Part Ten: Writing Names

Writing the names of children is very difficult these days when parents often give their sons and daughters English names which have non-Cree sounds and unusual spellings. The teacher and the parent(s) may often have different ways of pronouncing, and therefore spelling, the child's name. The child may in fact change the way she or he wishes to spell their name in Syllabics after several years of schooling in Cree.

It is up to the teacher and the parent(s) to agree on what to do, understanding that there can be two right ways to spell names, and that the child can choose for herself or himself, usually around grade 3.

The Terminology Forum on the eastcree.org website gives the Cree syllabics spelling of over 2,700 names: terminology.eastcree.org

Part Eleven: Standard Roman Orthography (SRO)

Definition

A standard roman orthography is one that matches exactly the syllabic standard orthography. It is useful for typing tools, for computers and for automatic conversions from roman to syllabics and from syllabics to roman. You can find an automatic convertor at: <http://syllabics.atlas-ling.ca/>

Vowel length: hats or double vowels

Long vowels in syllabics are marked with a dot above the syllabic character. In roman, there are several options for indicating vowel length by using either double vowels or a hat over the vowel:

Dot above (Syllabics)	Double vowel	Hat over vowel
ᐃ̇	ii	î
ᐅ̇	uu	û
ᐇ̇	aa	â

In other variants of Cree a macron (for example ā, ī, ū) is used, but not in East Cree. The double vowel is often easier to type but makes the word look longer.

ᐅ (e) is always long, but never written with a dot above in syllabics, or in roman, as ee or ê., although in some other variants of Cree, it is written ê.

Combination of finals

When finals combine it is important to distinguish the sequence of characters that corresponds to two different syllabic characters from the ones that correspond to just one syllabic character.

This is why in roman orthography, the hyphen (-) is used to make this distinction:

Compare...	with...
t-h ᑕ"	th ᑕ̣
s-h ᑭ"	sh ᑭ̣
p-h ᑭ"	ph ᑭ̣

The hyphen is only used when there is a possibility for ambiguity.