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Chapter 17

Code Charts

Disclaimer

Character images shown in the code charts are not prescriptive. In actual fonts, considerable variations are to be expected.

The code charts that follow present the characters of the Unicode Standard. Characters are organized into related groups called *blocks*. Many scripts are fully contained within a single character block, but other scripts, including some of the most widely used scripts, have characters divided across several blocks. Separate blocks contain common punctuation characters and different types of symbols.

A character names list follows each character chart. The character names list itemizes every character in the block and provides supplementary information in many cases.

Charts for CJK Unified Ideographs and for Hangul syllables are not printed in this chapter, but are available online, as discussed in *Section 17.2, CJK Unified Ideographs*, and *Section 17.3, Hangul Syllables*.

An index to distinctive character names is found at the back of this book; a full set of character names appears in the Unicode Character Database.

17.1 Character Names List

The following illustration identifies the components of typical entries in the character names list.

<i>code</i>	<i>image</i>	<i>entry</i>	
00AE	®	REGISTERED SIGN = registered trade mark sign (1.0)	(Version 1.0 name)
00AF	-	MACRON = overline, APL overbar • this is a spacing character → 02C9 ¯ modifier letter macron	(Unicode name) (alternative names) (informative note) (cross reference)

		→ 0304 ¯ combining macron	
		→ 0305 ¯ combining overline	
		≈ 0020 ☐ 0304 ¯	(compatibility decomposition)
00E5	å	LATIN SMALL LETTER A WITH RING ABOVE	
		• Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Walloon	(sample of language use)
		≡ 0061 a 030A ¯	(canonical decomposition)

Images in the Code Charts and Character Lists

Each character in these code charts is shown with a representative glyph. A representative glyph is not a prescriptive form of the character, but rather one that enables recognition of the intended character to a knowledgeable user and facilitates lookup of the character in the code charts. In many cases, there are more or less well-established alternative glyphic representations for the same character.

Designers of high-quality fonts will do their own research into the preferred glyphic appearance of Unicode characters. In addition, many scripts require context-dependent glyph shaping, glyph positioning, or ligatures, none of which is shown in the code charts.

The representative glyphs for the Latin, Greek, and Cyrillic scripts in the code charts are based on a serified, Times-like font. Some characters have alternative forms. For example, even the ASCII character U+0061 LATIN SMALL LETTER A has two common alternative forms: the “a” used in Times and the “a” that occurs in many other font styles. In a Times-like font, the character U+03A5 GREEK CAPITAL LETTER UPSILON looks like “Y”; the form Υ is common in other font styles.

The fonts used for other scripts are similar to Times in that each represents a common, widely used design, with variable stroke width and serifs or similar devices, where applicable, to show each character as distinctly as possible. Sans-serif fonts with uniform stroke width tend to have less visibly distinct characters. In the code charts, sans-serif fonts are used for archaic scripts that predate the invention of serifs, for example.

A different case is U+010F LATIN SMALL LETTER D WITH CARON, which is commonly typeset as *d* instead of *ď*. In such cases, the code charts show the more common variant in preference to a more didactic archetypical shape.

Many characters have been unified and have different appearances in different language contexts. The shape shown for U+2116 **N** NUMERO SIGN is a fullwidth shape as it would be used in East Asian fonts. In Cyrillic usage, **N** is the universally recognized glyph. See *Figure 15-2*.

In certain cases, characters need to be represented by more or less condensed, shifted, or distorted glyphs to make them fit the format of the code charts. For example, U+0D10 **AI** MALAYALAM LETTER AI is shown in a reduced size to fit the character cell.

Sometimes characters need to be given artificial shapes to make them recognizable in the code charts. Examples are the space characters and such characters as U+00AD **SHY** SOFT HYPHEN and U+2011 **NB** NON-BREAKING HYPHEN, where the special behavior of the

hyphen is indicated by the dashed box and the letters. This use of a dashed box is not correlated with the General Category value of the character.

When characters are used in context, the surrounding text gives important clues as to identity, size, and positioning. In the code charts, these clues are absent. For example, U+2075⁵ SUPERSCRIPT FIVE is shown much smaller than it would be in a Times-like text font.

Combining characters are shown with a dotted circle—for example, U+0940 ॠ DEVANAGARI VOWEL SIGN II. The relative position of the dotted circle gives an approximate indication of the location of the base character in relation to the combining mark. During rendering, additional adjustments are necessary. Accents such as U+0302 COMBINING CIRCUMFLEX ACCENT are adjusted vertically and horizontally based on the height and width of the base character, as in “î” versus “Ŵ”.

For non-European scripts, typical typefaces were selected that allow as much distinction as possible among the different characters.

The Unicode Standard contains many characters that are used in writing minority languages or that are historical characters, often used primarily in manuscripts or inscriptions. Where there is no strong tradition of printed materials, the typography of a character may not be settled.

Character Names

The character names in the code charts precisely match the normative character names in the Unicode Character Database. Character names are unique and stable. By convention, they are in uppercase. Because character names are stable, mistaken names will not be revised, but may be annotated. For example:

2118 ∫ SCRIPT CAPITAL P
 = Weierstrass elliptic function
 • actually this has the form of a lowercase calligraphic p, despite its name

For more information on character names, see *Section 4.8, Name—Normative*.

Informative Aliases

An informative alias (preceded by =) is an alternate name for a character. Characters may have several aliases, and aliases for different characters are not guaranteed to be unique. Aliases are informative and may be updated. By convention, aliases are in lowercase, except where they contain proper names. Where an alias matches the name of a character in *The Unicode Standard, Version 1.0*, it is listed first, followed by “1.0” in parentheses. Because the formal character names may differ in unexpected ways from commonly used names (for example, PILCROW SIGN = paragraph sign), some aliases may be useful alternate choices for indicating characters in user interfaces. In the Hangul Jamo block, U+1100..U+11FF, the normative short jamo names are given as aliases.

Normative Aliases

A normative character name alias (one preceded by ※) is a formal, unique, and stable alternate name for a character. Characters are given normative character name aliases in certain cases where there is a defect in the character name. They do not replace the character name, but rather allow users to formally refer to the character without requiring the use of a defective name. For more information, see *Section 4.8, Name—Normative*. By convention, normative character aliases are written in uppercase letters.

FE18 ≍ PRESENTATION FORM FOR VERTICAL RIGHT WHITE
 LENTICULAR BRAK CET
 ※ PRESENTATION FORM FOR VERTICAL RIGHT WHITE
 LENTICULAR BRACKET
 • misspelling of “BRACKET” in character name is a known defect
 ≈ <vertical> 3017

Cross References

Cross references (preceded by →) are used to indicate a related character of interest, but without indicating the nature of the relation. Possibilities are a different character of similar appearance or name, the other member of a case pair, or some other linguistic relationship.

Explicit Inequality. The two characters are not identical, although the glyphs that depict them are identical or very close.

003A : COLON
 → 0589 : armenian full stop
 → 2236 : ratio

Other Linguistic Relationships. These relationships include transliterations (such as between Serbian and Croatian), typographically unrelated characters used to represent the same sound, and so on.

01C9 lj LATIN SMALL LETTER LJ
 → 0459 њ cyrillic small letter lje
 ≈ 006C l 006A j

Cross references are neither exhaustive nor symmetric. Typically a general character would have cross references to more specialized characters, but not the other way around.

Information About Languages

An informative note may include a list of one or more of the languages using that character where this information is considered useful. For case pairs, the annotation is given only for the lowercase form to avoid needless repetition. An ellipsis “...” indicates that the listed languages cited are merely the principal ones among many.

Case Mappings

When a case mapping corresponds *solely* to a difference based on SMALL versus CAPITAL in the names of the characters, the case mapping is not given in the names list but only in the Unicode Character Database.

0041 A LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A
 01F2 Dz LATIN CAPITAL LETTER D WITH SMALL LETTER Z
 ≈ 0044 D 007A z

When the case mapping cannot be predicted from the name, the casing information is sometimes given in a note.

00DF ß LATIN SMALL LETTER SHARP S
 = Eszett
 • German
 • uppercase is “SS”
 • in origin a ligature of 017F f and 0073 s
 → 03B2 β greek small letter beta

For more information about case and case mappings, see *Section 4.2, Case—Normative*.

Decompositions

The decomposition sequence (one or more letters) given for a character is either its canonical mapping or its compatibility mapping. The canonical mapping is marked with an *identical to* symbol ≡.

00E5 â LATIN SMALL LETTER A WITH RING ABOVE
 • Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Walloon
 ≡ 0061 a 030A ◌̂
 212B Å ANGSTROM SIGN
 ≡ 00C5 Å latin capital letter a with ring above

Compatibility mappings are marked with an *almost equal to* symbol ≈. Formatting information may be indicated with a formatting tag, shown inside angle brackets.

01F2 Dz LATIN CAPITAL LETTER D WITH SMALL LETTER Z
 ≈ 0044 D 007A z
 FF21 A FULLWIDTH LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A
 ≈ <wide> 0041 A

The following compatibility formatting tags are used in the Unicode Character Database:

 A font variant (for example, a blackletter form)
 <noBreak> A no-break version of a space, hyphen, or other punctuation
 <initial> An initial presentation form (Arabic)
 <medial> A medial presentation form (Arabic)
 <final> A final presentation form (Arabic)
 <isolated> An isolated presentation form (Arabic)


<circle>	An encircled form
<super>	A superscript form
<sub>	A subscript form
<vertical>	A vertical layout presentation form
<wide>	A fullwidth (or zenkaku) compatibility character
<narrow>	A halfwidth (or hankaku) compatibility character
<small>	A small variant form (CNS compatibility)
<square>	A CJK squared font variant
<fraction>	A vulgar fraction form
<compat>	Otherwise unspecified compatibility character


In the character names list accompanying the code charts, the “<compat>” label is suppressed, but all other compatibility formatting tags are explicitly listed in the compatibility mapping.

Decompositions are not necessarily full decompositions. For example, the decomposition for U+212B Å ANGSTROM SIGN can be further decomposed using the canonical mapping for U+00C5 Å LATIN CAPITAL LETTER A WITH RING ABOVE. (For more information on decomposition, see *Section 3.7, Decomposition*.)


Compatibility decompositions do not attempt to retain or emulate the formatting of the original character. For example, compatibility decompositions with the <noBreak> formatting tag do not use U+2060 WORD JOINER to emulate nonbreaking behavior; compatibility decompositions with the <circle> formatting tag do not use U+20DD COMBINING ENCLOSING CIRCLE; and compatibility decompositions with formatting tags <initial>, <medial>, <final>, or <isolate> for explicit positional forms do not use ZWJ or ZWNJ. The one exception is the use of U+2044 FRACTION SLASH to express the <fraction> semantics of compatibility decompositions for vulgar fractions.

Reserved Characters



Character codes that are marked “<reserved>” are unassigned and reserved for future encoding. Reserved codes are indicated by a  glyph. To ensure readability, many instances of reserved characters have been suppressed from the names list. Reserved codes may also have cross references to assigned characters located elsewhere.

2073  <reserved>
→ 00B3 ³ superscript three

Noncharacters

Character codes that are marked “<not a character>” refer to noncharacters. They are designated code points that will never be assigned to a character. These codes are indicated by a  glyph. Noncharacters are shown in the code charts only where they occur together

with other characters in the same block. For a complete list of noncharacters, see *Section 16.7, Noncharacters*.

FFFF  <not a character>
 • the value FFFF  is guaranteed not to be a Unicode character at all

Subheads

The character names list contains a number of informative subheads that help divide up the list into smaller sublists of similar characters. For example, in the Miscellaneous Symbols block, U+2600..U+26FF, there are subheads for “Astrological symbols,” “Chess symbols,” and so on. Such subheads are editorial and informative; they should not be taken as providing any definitive, normative status information about characters in the sublists they mark or about any constraints on what characters could be encoded in the future at reserved code points within their ranges. The subheads are subject to change.

17.2 CJK Unified Ideographs

Because of their bulk, the charts for CJK Unified Ideographs are included in this book only as a printable file on the CD-ROM. They are available online at the Unicode Web site. (See “Charts” in *Section B.6, Other Unicode Online Resources*.)

Character names are not provided for any of the online charts of CJK Unified Ideograph character blocks, because the name of a unified ideograph simply consists of its Unicode code point preceded by CJK UNIFIED IDEOGRAPH-.

As is the case for the other character charts, each CJK Unified Ideograph character in the online charts is shown with its Unicode code point and a single representative glyph. Note that varying typographic practices throughout East Asia may require glyphs other than the representative one to be used so that the display is correct for a particular country or language.

Mappings between the CJK ideographs included in the Unicode Standard and those in other character set standards are included in the Unihan Database (see “Unihan Database” in *Section 4.1, Unicode Character Database*).

A radical-stroke index to the IICore subset of CJK ideographs is provided in *Chapter 18, Han Radical-Stroke Index*. A printable version of the complete radical-stroke index is included on the CD-ROM and available as part of the online character charts on the Unicode Web site.

17.3 Hangul Syllables

Because of their bulk, charts for the Hangul Syllables are included in this book only as a printable file on the CD-ROM. They are available online at the Unicode Web site. (See “Charts” in *Section B.6, Other Unicode Online Resources*.)

As in the case of CJK Unified Ideographs, a character names list is not provided for the online chart of characters in the Hangul Syllables block, U+AC00..U+D7AF, because the name of a Hangul syllable can be determined by algorithm as described in *Section 3.12, Conjoining Jamo Behavior*. The short names used in that algorithm are listed in the code charts as aliases in the Hangul Jamo block, U+1100..U+11FF, as well as in *Jamo.txt* in the Unicode Character Database.