

THE SANSKRIT ALPHABET

संस्कृतवर्णमाला SAṆSKṚTA-VARṆA-MĀLĀ

vowels (svara)

simple – short & long:

अ A आ Ā इ I ई I उ U ऊ Ū ऋ R ॠ R̄
 guttural palatal labial cerebral (retroflex)

diphthongs – long:

ए E ऐ AI ओ O औ AU | अं AM अः AH | लृ Ḷ लृ Ḷ
 anusvāra visarga dental

consonants (vyañjana)

mutes or stops (sparsha)

class – location

hard (non-voiced) soft (voiced)
 simple aspirate simple aspirate nasal

gutturals – throat	क KA ख KHA	ग GA घ GHA	ङ ṅA
palatals – middle of mouth	च CA छ CHA	ज JA झ JHA	ञ ṅA
cerebrals – roof of mouth	ट TA ठ THA	ड ḌA ढ ḌHA	ण ṆA
dentals – teeth	त TA थ THA	द DA ध DHA	न NA
labials – lips	प PA फ PHA	ब BA भ BHA	म MA

semi-vowels (antastha) – soft

य YA palatal	र RA cerebral	ल LA dental	व VA labio-dental
-----------------	------------------	----------------	----------------------

sibilants – hard & pure aspirate – soft (ūṣhman)

श SA palatal	ष ṢA cerebral	स SA dental	ह HA guttural
-----------------	------------------	----------------	------------------

special conjunct consonants

क्ष KṢA