

Tamil

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

அ	a	எ	e
ஆ	ā	ஏ	ē
இ	i	ஐ	ai
ஈ	ī	ஓ	o
உ	u	ஔ	ō
ஊ	ū	ஔ	au

Consonants (see Note 2)

ஃ	ka	ம	ma
க	ka	ய	ya
ங	ṅa	ர	ra (see Note 3)
ச	ca	ல	la
ஞ	ña	வ	va
ட	ṭa	ழ	ḷa
ண	ṇa	ள	ḷa
த	ta	ர	ra
ந	na	ற	ṅa
ப	pa	ன	

Sanskrit Sounds

ज	ja	स	sa
श	śa	ह	ha
ष	ṣa		

Notes

1. Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant can be found in grammars; no distinction between the two is made in transliteration.
2. The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in romanization, with the following exceptions:
 - (a) when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign; and
 - (b) when the absence of any vowel is indicated by the superscript dot (̣) called *puḷḷi*.
3. This letter has the same form as the vowel sign for *ā* appearing after a consonant. Where ambiguity arises, it is written ̣ .

CHARACTER MODIFIERS IN ROMANIZATION

<i>Character Modifiers</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>USMARC hexadecimal code</i>
´	acute	E2
˜	tilde	E4
ˆ	macron	E5
˙	dot above	E7
̣	dot below	F2
̵	underscore	F6