

# The Sanskrit Alphabet

संस्कृतवर्णमाला SAÑSKRṬA-VARṆA-MĀLĀ

## Vowels (SVARA)

simple - short & long:

अ A आ Ā

guttural

इ I ई Ī

palatal

उ U ऊ Ū

labial

simple - short & long:

ऋ R ॠ Ṛ

cerebral (retroflex)

diphthongs - long:

ए E ऐ AI ओ O औ AU

ANUSVĀRA

VISARGA

अं AM (Ñ) अः AH

dental:

लृ Ḍ लृ Ḍ

## Consonants (VYAÑJANA)

Stops (SPARŚA)

Class / Location	hard (unvoiced)		soft (voiced)		nasal
	simple	aspirate	simple	aspirate	
Gutturals / throat (Velars)	क KA	ख KHA	ग GA	घ GHA	ङ ṆA
Palatals / middle of mouth	च ČA	छ ČHA	ज JA	झ JHA	ञ ÑA
Cerebrals / roof of (Retroflex) mouth	ट ṬA	ठ ṬHA	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

Semivowels (ANTAḤSTHA) - soft

य YA

palatal

र RA

cerebral

ल LA

dental

व VA

labio-dental

Sibilants - hard & Pure Aspirate - soft (ŪṢMAN)

श ŚA

palatal

ष ṢA

cerebral

स SA

dental

ह HA

guttural

Special Conjunct Consonants:

क्ष KṢA

त्र TRA

ज्ञ JÑA