

# Writing & Reading AMHARIC

Learn The Beautiful Art Of Writing In Amharic



[www.Amharic.com](http://www.Amharic.com)

Visit our web site for up to date information and new products

[www.Amharic.com](http://www.Amharic.com)

---

Amharic 101 / Amharic 102 / Amharic 103 / Amharic 104 / Amharic The EZ Way / Writing & Reading Amharic are registered trademarks of Shining Star Multimedia.

Copyright © 2015 by Shining Star Multimedia. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any means, without permission in writing from Shining Star Multimedia.

Printed in the United States of America.  
First Printing: October 2003.  
Second Printing: August 2011.  
Electronic Distribution: January 2015

---

## Introduction

---

The main purpose of this book is to help you learn and improve your Amharic penmanship. In addition, you will learn the correct pronunciation of the Amharic alphabets while learning new vocabulary words.

Shining Star Multimedia has been providing computer based programs called *The Amharic Language Multimedia Series*, an interactive multimedia software that will teach you how to speak, read, and write in Amharic since 1996. This program is divided into four volumes labeled *Amharic 101, 102, 103, and 104*. In addition to this series, we provide another program called *Amharic The EZ Way* (software and audio CD). This program is designed to teach you important and often used phrases and words.

Please visit our web site at [www.Amharic.com](http://www.Amharic.com) for more information, price, and online demo.

---

## History Of Amharic Language

---

Amharic (or አማርኛ), is the national language of Ethiopia. Being a Semitic Language of the Afro-Asiatic Language Group, this language is related to Hebrew, Arabic, and Syrian. Aside from this language, Afan Oromo (Oromiffa), Tigrinya, Somali and many other languages are spoken in Ethiopia. It is also the official language of the media, government, and cross-communication.

The origins of the language and its people are traced back to the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium B.C. It is rumored that they are the descendants of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. Immigrants from southwestern Arabia crossed the Red Sea into present-day Eritrea and mixed with the Cushitic population. Thus, new languages formed as a result of this union, Ge'ez (ግዕዝ).

Ge'ez was the classical language of the Axum Empire of Northern Ethiopia. It existed between the 1<sup>st</sup> Century A.D. and the 6<sup>th</sup> Century A.D. When the power base of Ethiopia shifted from Axum to Amhara between the 10<sup>th</sup> Century A.D. and the 12<sup>th</sup> Century A.D., the use of the Amharic language spread its influence, hence becoming the national language.

Amharic is a syllabic language which uses a script which originated from the Ge'ez alphabet. It has 33 basic characters (groups) with each having 7 forms (families) for each consonant-vowel combination. Unlike Arabic, Hebrew or Syrian, the language is written from left to right.

## Instruction

This book is designed to help you improve your penmanship, learn the Amharic alphabet (with the correct pronunciation), and expand your vocabulary. Here is a brief explanation of this book's arrangement:

1 Typed or printed Amharic Alphabet

2 Pronunciation guide (see page 3)

3 Handwritten Amharic. Used as an example to improve your penmanship. Remember that this is only one person's way of writing.

4 Commentary notes by the authors.

5 Writing guide. The pen indicates where to start, and what motion to follow without raising your pen/pencil from the paper.

6 Words that include the alphabet that you are studying. This will help you learn new Amharic words.

7 Another way of learning the correct pronunciation of each Amharic alphabet.

Note: 3 4 5 are your guide to learning how to write the Amharic alphabet. Practice your penmanship on the right page for each alphabet group using these guides. It is better to use pencil so that you can erase mistakes for a second try.

# Guide to Pronunciation

Correct pronunciation is an intrinsic component of this book. For some languages, such as Amharic, Tigrinya, Swahili, etc., the correspondence between orthography and pronunciation is so close that one needs only spell or write a word correctly to indicate its pronunciation. Modern English, however, displays no such consistency in sound and spelling.

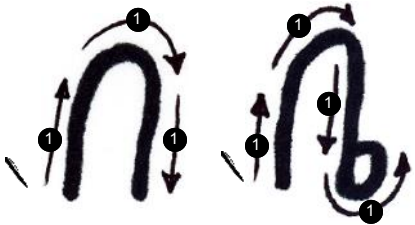
No system of indicating pronunciation is self-explanatory. The following discussion sets out the signification and use of the pronunciation symbols used in this book. The pronunciation symbols discussed below corresponds to the symbols bound in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). We will describe each pronunciation symbol using examples.

Symbol	Example
ǔ	Used with the first family. Example: measurement ( $\sigma^m = m\check{u}$ ), <u>hat</u> ( $\nu = h\check{u}$ ), <u>but</u> ( $\Omega = b\check{u}$ ), <u>church</u> ( $\check{\tau} = ch\check{u}$ ), and <u>apple</u> ( $\chi = a\check{u}$ ).
ō	Used with the second family. Example: <u>mood</u> ( $\sigma^m = hoo$ ), <u>food</u> ( $\zeta = foo$ ), <u>would</u> ( $\omega = woo$ ), <u>should</u> ( $\check{\eta} = shoo$ ), and <u>rude</u> ( $\zeta = roo$ ).
ē	Used with the third family. Example: <u>heat</u> ( $\zeta = h\bar{e}$ ), <u>feet</u> ( $\zeta = f\bar{e}$ ), <u>cheap</u> ( $\check{\tau} = ch\bar{e}$ ), <u>deep</u> ( $\zeta = d\bar{e}$ ), and <u>sleep</u> ( $\Omega = l\bar{e}$ ).
a	Used with the fourth family. Example: <u>mat</u> ( $\sigma^m = ma$ ), <u>cat</u> ( $\eta = ka$ ), <u>fat</u> ( $\zeta = fa$ ), <u>sat</u> ( $\eta = sa$ ), <u>rat</u> ( $\zeta = ra$ ).
ā	Used with the fifth family. Example: <u>met</u> ( $\sigma^m = m\bar{a}$ ), <u>went</u> ( $\Phi = w\bar{a}$ ), <u>rent</u> ( $\zeta = r\bar{a}$ ), <u>late</u> ( $\Omega = l\bar{a}$ ), and <u>head</u> ( $\zeta = h\bar{a}$ ).
ə	Used with the sixth family. Example: team <u>m</u> ( $\rho^m = m^ə$ ), single <u>le</u> ( $\Omega = w^ə$ ), <u>curl</u> ( $\zeta = r^ə$ ), <u>stiff</u> ( $\Phi = f^ə$ ), and <u>flow</u> ( $\omega = w^ə$ ).
ō	Used with the seventh family. Example: <u>motor</u> ( $\Phi^m = m\bar{o}$ ), <u>photo</u> ( $\check{\tau} = t\bar{o}$ ), <u>yoga</u> ( $\Phi = y\bar{o}$ ), <u>hope</u> ( $\nu = h\bar{o}$ ), <u>dog</u> ( $\zeta = d\bar{o}$ ).
◦	This symbol is an indication of high-set stress mark. When this symbol is placed under a consonant, it is pronounced with great stress. Example: $\underset{\circ}{t}$ = represents $\Omega$ (a high stressed $\tau$ ), $\underset{\circ}{ch}$ = represents $\Omega$ (a high stressed $\check{\tau}$ ), and $\underset{\circ}{k}$ = represents $\Phi$ (a high stressed $\eta$ ), and $\underset{\circ}{s}$ = represents $\zeta$ or $\theta$ (a high stressed $\Omega$ ).

ቦ ቦ ቦ ቦ ቦ ቦ ቦ  
*bū bō bē ba bā bə bō*

ቦ ቦ ቦ ቦ ቦ ቦ ቦ

Note: This group sets the basic foundation for ሴ, ሸ, and ቨ Group, which are coming up on the next few pages. There are very small differences in the shapes of these letters.

	<p>ቦ <i>(sheep)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(door)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(ox)</i></p> <p><u>b</u>uggy ...  <u>o</u>ggy  <u>b</u>uddy ...  <u>o</u>ddy  <u>b</u>ud ...  <u>o</u>d</p>
<p>ቦ <i>(train)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(coffee)</i></p> <p>ደቡብ <i>(south)</i></p> <p><u>b</u>ook ...  <u>o</u>k</p> <p><u>b</u>ull ...  <u>o</u>ll</p> <p><u>b</u>oot...  <u>o</u>t</p>	<p>ቦ <i>(knife)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(yellow)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(butterfly)</i></p> <p><u>d</u>ebit ...  <u>d</u>eft</p> <p><u>b</u>eer ...  <u>o</u>r</p> <p><u>b</u>each ...  <u>o</u>ch</p>
<p>ቦ <i>(husband)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(slave)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(bank)</i></p> <p><u>b</u>ank ...  <u>o</u>nk</p> <p><u>b</u>at ...  <u>o</u>t</p> <p><u>b</u>and...  <u>o</u>nd</p>	<p>ቦ <i>(butter)</i></p> <p>ደብዳቤ <i>(letter)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(house)</i></p> <p><u>b</u>aby ...  <u>o</u>by</p> <p><u>b</u>ell ...  <u>o</u>ll</p> <p><u>b</u>ase ...  <u>o</u>se</p>
<p>ቦ <i>(glass/cup)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(money)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(stamp)</i></p> <p>bible ...  bi-<u>o</u>lle</p> <p>stable ...  sta-<u>o</u>lle</p> <p>able...  a-<u>o</u>lle</p>	<p>ቦ <i>(bomb)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(purse)</i></p> <p>ቦ <i>(baggy pants)</i></p> <p><u>b</u>old ...  <u>o</u>d</p> <p><u>b</u>all ...  <u>o</u>ll</p> <p><u>b</u>oat ...  <u>o</u>t</p>

п п п п п п п

ሰ ሰቱ ሰቲ ሳ ሰቤ ሰሳ ሰሳ  
*sǔ soō sē sa sā sʰ sō*

ሰ ሰቱ ሰቲ ሳ ሰቤ ሰሳ ሰሳ

Note: The only difference between this group and ሰ is the vertical bar on top of the letter, ሰ. This group sounds the same as ሠ (see page 46), and also sounds similar to ጸ (see page 66). While ጸ has ‘s’ sound with great stress, ሰ is pronounced loosely.

	<p>ሰሃን (plate)  ሰንሰሉት (chain)  ሰአት (watch)</p> <p>second ...  ሰcond  self ...  ሰlf  concert ...  conሰrt</p>
<p>ሰራ (trousers)  ሰቅ (shop)  ሰፍ (suit)</p> <p>soup...  ሰp  soon ...  ሰn  sooth ...  ሰth</p>	<p>ሰኒ (cup)  ሰጋራ (cigarette)  ካልሰ (socks)</p> <p>city ...  ሰ ty  silk ...  ሰ lk  cement ...  ሰ ment</p>
<p>ሳንቲም (coin)  ሳጥንኛ (locker)  ሰሳሳ (thirty)</p> <p>salad...  ሳlad  sat ...  ሳt  sad ...  ሳd</p>	<p>ሴት (girl)  ደሴት (island)  ሴጣን (devil)</p> <p>sale ...  ሴle  safe ...  ሴfe  same ...  ሴme</p>
<p>ፈረሰ (horse)  መስኮት (window)  ጥርሰ (teeth)</p> <p>spoon...  ሰpoon  class ...  claሰ  smooth ...  ሰmooth</p>	<p>ሶስት (three)  ሶኬት (plug)  ምሰሶ (beam)</p> <p>sold ...  ሶld  soap ...  ሶap  soda ...  ሶda</p>

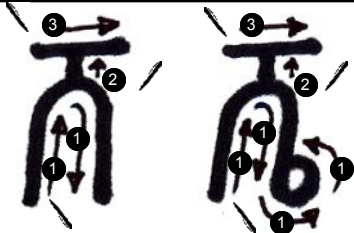


ᠠ ᠡ ᠢ ᠪ ᠫ ᠬ ᠭ

ሸ ሸ ሸ ሸ ሸ ሸ ሸ  
*shǔ shōō shē sha shā Sh<sup>ə</sup> shō*

ሸ ሸ ሸ ሸ ሸ ሸ ሸ

Note: This group has similar appearance to ሸ, with the exception of the short horizontal bar on top → ሸ. The two letters even sound similar. While ሸ has 's' sound, ሸ has 'sh' sound.

	<p>ሸክላ  <i>(brick)</i>  ሸንብቆ  <i>(bamboo)</i>  ሸራራት  <i>(spider)</i></p> <p><u>shelf</u>...  ሸlf  <u>shelter</u> ...  ሸlter  <u>shirt</u> ...  ሸrt</p>
<p>ሸራብ  <i>(sweater)</i>  ሸሩባ  <i>(braids)</i>  ሸካ  <i>(spoon)</i></p> <p><u>shoot</u>...  ሸ t  <u>shook</u> ...  ሸ k  <u>should</u> ...  ሸ d</p>	<p>ሸ  <i>(one - thousand)</i>  እሸ  <i>(OKAY)</i></p> <p><u>ship</u> ...  ሸ p  <u>she</u> ...  ሸ  <u>sheet</u> ...  ሸ t</p>
<p>ሸንጣ  <i>(luggage)</i>  ሸጣ  <i>(candle)</i>  ሸይ  <i>(tea)</i></p> <p><u>shark</u>...  ሸrk  <u>sharp</u> ...  ሸrp  <u>shabby</u> ...  ሸbby</p>	<p>ደርሽ  <i>(once I get there ...)</i>  ለብሽ  <i>(after I get dressed ...)</i></p> <p><u>shame</u> ...  ሸme  <u>shake</u> ...  ሸke  <u>shape</u> ...  ሸpe</p>
<p>ሸንጥ  <i>(apron)</i>  ዋሸንት  <i>(flute)</i>  ሸንጥ  <i>(gun)</i></p> <p><u>cash</u> ...  caሽ  <u>dish</u> ...  diሽ  <u>fish</u> ...  fiሽ</p>	<p>ሾርባ  <i>(soup)</i>  እሾህ  <i>(thorn)</i>  ሾላ  <i>(oak tree)</i></p> <p><u>shop</u> ...  ሾp  <u>shock</u> ...  ሾck  <u>show</u> ...  ሾw</p>

𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎









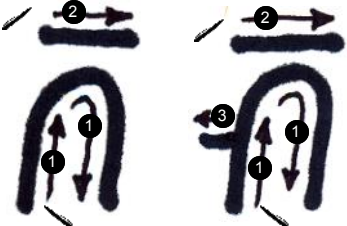

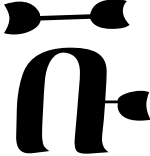
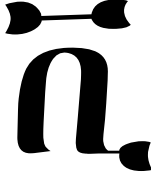

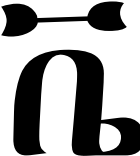
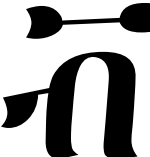
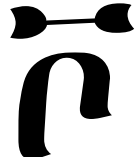








Note: Take away the short vertical line from top of → ሽ, and you will get this group. This group is often used in words that are either borrowed from the English or other language. It is mostly used to describe objects with non-Amharic names.

	 <p> <b>ዩኒቨርሲቲ</b>  <i>(university)</i>  <b>ዴንቨር</b>  <i>(Denver)</i>  <b>ቨርሞንት</b>  <i>(Vermont)</i> </p> <p> <u>verb ...</u>          ሽrb  <u>vertical ...</u>          ሽrtical          heaven ...          heaሽn       </p>
 <p> <u>Voodoo ...</u>          ሽ-doo  <u>rendezvous</u>          rendeሽ-       </p>	 <p> <b>ቪዲዮ</b>  <i>(video tape)</i>  <b>ቪላ ቤት</b>  <i>(mansion)</i> </p> <p> <u>video ...</u>          ሽdeo  <u>victory ...</u>          ሽctory  <u>vision ...</u>          ሽsion       </p>
 <p> <b>ከረሻት</b>  <i>(neck tie)</i> </p> <p> <u>van...</u>          ሽn  <u>vacuum ...</u>          ሽcuum  <u>vacation ...</u>          ሽcation       </p>	 <p> <b>ቪትናም</b>  <i>(Vietnam)</i>  <b>ቪልቪት</b>  <i>(velvet)</i> </p> <p> <u>vain ...</u>          ሽin  <u>very ...</u>          ሽry  <u>vest ...</u>          ሽst       </p>
 <p> <b>ቴሌቪዥን</b>  <i>(television)</i>  <b>ኢንዝላቭ</b>  <i>(Czechoslovakia)</i> </p> <p> <u>move...</u>          mo-ሽ  <u>devil ...</u>          de-ሽl  <u>cave ...</u>          ca-ሽ       </p>	 <p> <b>ቪሊቦል</b>  <i>(volleyball)</i>  <b>ቪልስዋን</b>  <i>(Volkswagen)</i> </p> <p> <u>voice ...</u>          ሽice  <u>vote ...</u>          ሽte  <u>divorce ...</u>          diሽrce       </p>

ḡ ḡ ḡ ḡ ḡ ḡ ḡ

ከ ከፊ ከፊ ካ ከፊ ከ ከ  
*kǔ kōō kē ka kā kə kō*

ከ ከ ከ ከ ከ ከ ከ

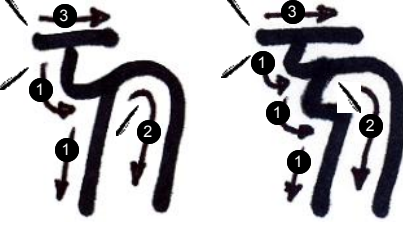
**Note:** The only thing that differentiates this Group from the ሰ group is pointed out by the arrow ከ. This group sets the

	<p><b>ከ</b></p> <p>ከባድ (heavy) ከበሮ (drum) ከንፈር (lips)</p> <p>curtain ... ከrtain cult ... ከit cover ከver</p>
<p><b>ከፊ</b></p> <p>ከባያ (cup) ከራዝ (lantern) ሸንኩርት (onion)</p> <p>cook ... ከk coop ... ከp cool ... ከl</p>	<p><b>ከፊ</b></p> <p>ከኒን (pill) መኪና (car) ሀኪም (doctor)</p> <p>kiss ... ከss kid ... ከd monkey ... monከy</p>
<p><b>ካ</b></p> <p>ካርታ (map) ማስቲካ (gum) ካልሲ (socks)</p> <p>car... ካr Kansas ... ካnsas camp ... ካmp</p>	<p><b>ከፊ</b></p> <p>ከክ (cake) ከንያ (Kenya) መልክ (my look)</p> <p>skate ... ከte cake ... ከke cape ... ከpe</p>
<p><b>ከ</b></p> <p>ብስክሌት (bike) ታንክ (tank) ክብሪት (matches)</p> <p>cake... caከ monk ... monከ drunk ... drunከ</p>	<p><b>ከ</b></p> <p>ከፍያ (hat) ከክብ (star) ከረንቲ (electric cord)</p> <p>coach ... ከch Kodak ... ከdak Korea ... ከrea</p>

ח ח ח ח ח ח ח

ኸ ኸ ኸ ኸ ኸ ኸ ኸ  
ኸ ኸ ኸ ኸ ኸ ኸ ኸ

**Note:** Remove the horizontal bar that the arrow is pointing to ኸ, and you will have the group from the previous page (ኸ's pronunciation is more stressed than ኸ). This group also sounds very similar to ሀ/ሐ/ኸ, but ኸ is pronounced loosely and with a lower tone.

	<p><b>ኸ</b> ጩኸት (scream)</p> <p><b>ኸ</b> ይኸው (here it is)</p> <p><u>healthy</u> ... ኸlthy</p> <p><u>hulk</u> ... ኸlk</p> <p><u>huffy</u> ኸffy</p>
<p><b>ኸ</b> ኸከት (disturbance)</p> <p><u>who</u> ... ኸ</p> <p><u>hoop</u> ... ኸp</p> <p><u>hula</u> ... ኸla</p>	<p><b>ኸ</b></p> <p><u>hear</u> ... ኸr</p> <p><u>hip</u> ... ኸp</p> <p><u>hiccup</u> ... ኸccup</p>
<p><b>ኸ</b></p> <p><u>hat</u> ... ኸt</p> <p><u>happy</u> ... ኸppy</p> <p><u>harsh</u> ... ኸrsh</p>	<p><b>ኸ</b> ይኸ (this)</p> <p><b>ኸ</b> መፍትኸ (solution to a problem)</p> <p><u>hell</u> ... ኸll</p> <p><u>heaven</u> ... ኸven</p> <p><u>help</u> ... ኸlp</p>
<p><b>ኸ</b></p>	<p><b>ኸ</b></p> <p><u>hose</u> ... ኸse</p> <p><u>horse</u> ... ኸrse</p> <p><u>hover</u> ... ኸver</p>



ኅ ኆ ኇ ኈ ኉ ነ ኑ ነ

ከ ኩ ኪ ኣ ኤ ኦ ኧ ከ  
 ከ ኩ ኪ ኣ ኤ ኦ ኧ ከ

**Note:** Family #1 and #4 of this group sound the same. Furthermore, this group sounds the same as 0 (Page 54). See Amharic 101 for more information as to why we have these two

	<p>አንበሳ (lion)</p> <p>አሳ (fish)</p> <p>አረንጓዴ (green)</p> <p>apple ... አpple accident ... አccident anger ... አnger</p>
<p>አኩሉ (prince)</p> <p>oopse ... አ-pse ooze ... አ-ze</p>	<p>ኢትዮጵያ (Ethiopia)</p> <p>ኢንጆሬ (strawberry)</p> <p>ኢንግሊዘኛ (English)</p> <p>Egypt ... ኢgypt Ethiopia ... ኢthiopia enough ... ኢnough</p>
<p>ኣ</p> <p>This alphabet sounds just like ኣ</p>	<p>ኤርትራ (Eritrea)</p> <p>ኤሊ (turtle)</p> <p>egg ... ኤgg Eritrea ... ኤritrea elephant ... ኤlephant</p>
<p>ኦሳት (fire)</p> <p>ኦርሳስ (pencil)</p> <p>ኦንቁላላ (egg)</p>	<p>አዋ (detergent)</p> <p>ሲአል (hell)</p> <p>አሎምፒክ (Olympic)</p> <p>orange ... አrange October ... አctአber storm ... stአrm</p>

ኀ ኁ ኂ ኃ ኄ ኅ ኆ

ሊ ሊሉ ሊሊ ላ ሌ ል ሎ

lǎ loō lē la lā lə lō

ከ ኩ ኪ ካ ኮ ክ ኮ

**Note:** The handwritten ሊ, looks like → ኣ with out the arch on top (pointed out by the arrow). Keep in mind that typed and handwritten Amharic sometimes look quite different (Example: ደ Group, ጃ Group, and ዩ).

	<p>ለስላሳ (soft)</p> <p>ማለም (to dream)</p> <p>ለማኝ (beggar)</p> <p>lurk ... ሉrk</p> <p>lust ... ሉst</p> <p>learn ... ሉrn</p>
<p>ሙሉ (full)</p> <p>ሉክ (paper)</p> <p>look ... ሉk</p> <p>loose ... ሉse</p> <p>loop ... ሉp</p>	<p>ለሊት (nightfall)</p> <p>ሊብያ (Libya)</p> <p>ሊጥ (dough)</p> <p>list ... ሊst</p> <p>lip ... ሊp</p> <p>leak ... ሊk</p>
<p>ከረሜላ (candy)</p> <p>ላም (cow)</p> <p>ቢላዋ (knife)</p> <p>line ... ላine</p> <p>luck ... ላk</p> <p>lap ... ላp</p>	<p>ቦላሌ (baggy pants)</p> <p>ሌባ (thief)</p> <p>level ... ሌvel</p> <p>late ... ሌte</p> <p>lend ... ሌnd</p>
<p>ልብ (heart)</p> <p>ስልክ (phone)</p> <p>ስልሳ (sixty)</p> <p>stable ... stabል</p> <p>devil ... devል</p> <p>evil ... evል</p>	<p>ብሎን (bolt)</p> <p>ሎተሪ (lottery)</p> <p>ሎሚ (lemon)</p> <p>loan... ሎ n</p> <p>lobster ... ሎ bster</p> <p>load ... ሎ d</p>

h h h h h h h

ነ ኑ ኒ ና ኔ ኖ ነ  
*nǔ nō nē na nā nə nō*

ነ ኑ ኒ ና ኔ ኖ ነ

**Note:** This group sets the basic form for ን and ኑ. The groups that you have seen so far have two “legs” while the next few groups will only have one “leg” (Example: ተ, ጥ, ቸ, ገ, ቀ,

	<p><b>ነብር</b> (tiger)</p> <p><b>ነጭ</b> (white)</p> <p><b>ነርስ</b> (nurse)</p> <p><u>number ...</u> ነምበር</p> <p><u>nerve ...</u> ነሪቤ</p> <p><u>nurse ...</u> ነርሴ</p>
<p><b>ኑሮ</b> (life)</p> <p><b>ኑዛዜ</b> (will)</p> <p><u>noon ...</u> ኑን</p> <p><u>snoop ...</u> ኑጥ</p> <p><u>noodle ...</u> ኑዲ</p>	<p><b>ኑድህኒት</b> (medicine)</p> <p><b>ሲኒ</b> (cup)</p> <p><b>ወህኒ ቤት</b> (prison)</p> <p><u>neat ...</u> ኑት</p> <p><u>needle ...</u> ኑዲ</p> <p><u>new ...</u> ኑህ</p>
<p><b>ናፍ</b> (Christmas)</p> <p><b>አናናስ</b> (pineapple)</p> <p><b>ናፍጣ</b> (diesel)</p> <p><u>nap ...</u> ናጥ</p> <p><u>nasty ...</u> ናጥ</p> <p><u>final ...</u> ናፍላ</p>	<p><b>ወኔ</b> (courage)</p> <p><b>ቀጭኔ</b> (giraffe)</p> <p><b>እኔ</b> (me)</p> <p><u>neck ...</u> ኔር</p> <p><u>native ...</u> ኔቲቤ</p> <p><u>nation ...</u> ኔቲዮን</p>
<p><b>ንጉዳን</b> (ant)</p> <p><b>እንቁላል</b> (egg)</p> <p><b>ንግስት</b> (queen)</p> <p><u>noon ...</u> ንግ</p> <p><u>spoon ...</u> ንግ</p> <p><u>baloon ...</u> ንግ</p>	<p><b>መኖር</b> (to inhabit)</p> <p><b>ፋኖስ</b> (lantern)</p> <p><b>ኖህ</b> (Noah)</p> <p><u>no ...</u> ኖ</p> <p><u>note ...</u> ኖቴ</p> <p><u>snore ...</u> ኖሪ</p>

4 4 4 5 6 3 5

ኅ ኆ ኇ ኈ ኉ ነ ነዎ  
 ኀ ኁ ኂ ኃ ኄ ኅ ኆ

**Note:** If you remove the horizontal bar on top ኅ, you will get ኀ (see previous page). The two groups also sounds a bit similar.

	<p>መዋኅት          (to swim)          ማግኅት          (to find)          መዳኅት          (to judge)</p>
<p>ኆ          ተኆ          (he/she (formal)          or they slept)          ዳኆ          (he/she (formal)          or they ruled)</p>	<p>ኇ          ተኇ          (you (female) sleep)          ዳኇ          (you (female) rule)</p>
<p>ኈ          ፊኈ          (balloon)          መተኈት          (to sleep)          ዳኈ          (judge)</p>	<p>኉          አዳኅኔ          (my savior)          ተናኅኔ          (distribute)</p>
<p>ነ          ትንኝ          (mosquito)          ሞኝ          (fool)          ቀኝ          (right)</p>	<p>ነዎ          ሰኞ          (Monday)          ማክሰኞ          (Tuesday)          ምኞት          (hope)</p>



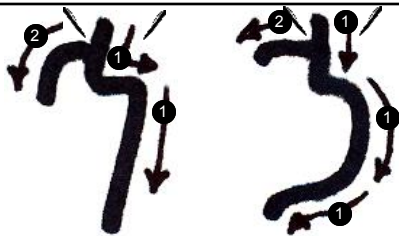
7 7 7 7 7 7 7

ኅ ኆ ኇ ኈ ኉ ነ ነዕ

*hǔ hōō hē ha hā hə hō*

ኅ ኆ ኇ ኈ ኉ ነ ነዕ

**Note:** If you remove this little bar ኅ (pointed out by the arrow), you will get ኅ. This Group sounds the same as ህ and ሐ in Amharic. See Amharic 101 for more information. Similar to those two groups, Family #1 and #4 sound the same in Amharic.



ኅ

ኆ

ኇ

ኈ

኉

ነ

ነዕ

4 7 2 3 6 7 9

ተ ቴ ቲ ታ ቴ ት ቶ

tǔ tōō tē ta tā tʼ tō

ተ ቱ ሁ ታ ቴ ነ ቶ

**Note:** This one legged Group sets the basic form for ጥ, ቸ, ገ, and ቀ. It resembles the shape and sound of the English letter 't'.

	<p><b>ተማሪ</b> (student)</p> <p><b>አስተማሪ</b> (teacher)</p> <p><b>መተኛት</b> (to sleep)</p> <p><b>turn ...</b> ተrn</p> <p><b>stir ...</b> sተir</p> <p><b>stud ...</b> sተud</p>
<p><b>ቴሪስት</b> (tourist)</p> <p><b>ቡቴቶ</b> (old cloth)</p> <p><b>ቱታ</b> (jump suit)</p> <p><b>too...</b> ቱ</p> <p><b>two ...</b> ቱ</p> <p><b>tour ...</b> ቱur</p>	<p><b>ቲማቲም</b> (tomato)</p> <p><b>ቡታንቲ</b> (underwear)</p> <p><b>ኮረንቲ</b> (electric wire)</p> <p><b>tick ...</b> ቲk</p> <p><b>tea ...</b> ቲ</p> <p><b>team ...</b> ቲm</p>
<p><b>ካርታ</b> (map)</p> <p><b>ታክሲ</b> (taxi)</p> <p><b>ታንቡር</b> (drum)</p> <p><b>tank...</b> ታnk</p> <p><b>tactic ...</b> ታctic</p> <p><b>tough ...</b> ታgh</p>	<p><b>ቴምብር</b> (stamp)</p> <p><b>ቴኒስ</b> (tennis)</p> <p><b>ካኒቴራ</b> (shirt)</p> <p><b>table ...</b> ቲble</p> <p><b>test ...</b> ቲst</p> <p><b>take ...</b> ቲke</p>
<p><b>ትምህርት</b> ቤት (school)</p> <p><b>ትራስ</b> (pillow)</p> <p><b>first...</b> first</p> <p><b>what ...</b> whaት</p> <p><b>rat ...</b> raት</p>	<p><b>ፎቶ</b> (photo)</p> <p><b>መቶ</b> (hundred)</p> <p><b>ቀበቶ</b> (belt)</p> <p><b>top ...</b> ቶp</p> <p><b>trn ...</b> ቶrn</p> <p><b>stop ...</b> sቶp</p>

十 卅 士 卅 古 ㄣ ㄣ

ጥ ፑ ጥ ጋ ፔ ጥ ጋ  
 pǔ pōō pē pa pā pʷ pō

ጥ ፑ ጥ ጋ ፔ ጥ ጋ

**Note:** If you move the horizontal line of ጥ to the top, you will get ጥ. This group is often used in words that are borrowed from other languages (see examples below).

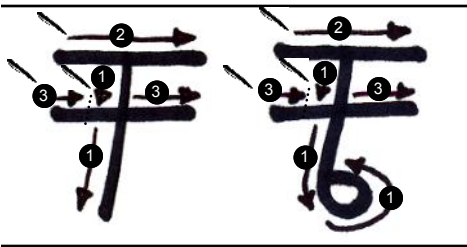
	<p>ጥ</p> <p>purse ... ጥrse pulse ... ጥlse temper ... temጥr</p>
<p>ፑ</p> <p>push ... ፑsh pool ... ፑl poor ... ፑr</p>	<p>ጥ</p> <p>ጥጎሳ (pliers) ጥጎ (smoking pipe) ኮምፒውተር (computer)</p> <p>pin ... ጥn pick ... ጥck picture ... ጥicture</p>
<p>ጋ</p> <p>ጋጋፆ (pineapple) ጋስታ (pasta) ኤሮጋ (Europe)</p> <p>part ... ጋrt park ... ጋrk pan ... ጋn</p>	<p>ፔ</p> <p>ፔፕሲ (Pepsi) ፔሩ (Peru)</p> <p>pair ... ፔir page ... ፔge pen ... ፔn</p>
<p>ጥ</p> <p>ጥላስቲክ (plastic) ቴፕ (tape) ፕሮግራም (program)</p> <p>dimple ... dimጥle steep ... steetጥ keep ... keeጥ</p>	<p>ጋ</p> <p>ጋስታ ቤት (post office) ጋሊስ (police) ጋለቲካ (politics)</p> <p>police ... ጋolice port ... ጋrt sport ... sጋrt</p>

T F I J 6 9 7

ቸ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ  
*chǔ chōō chē cha chā chə chō*

ቸ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ ቸቤ

**Note:** If you overlay the previous two Groups (ቸ and ቸ), you will get ቸ. This group also sounds similar to an unstressed ሸ (see page 50).

	<p>ቸር (kind)</p> <p>ቸርቸሪ (merchant)</p> <p>መቸኮል (to rush)</p> <p>ቸርቤ church ... ቸርቤ culture ... ቸርቤ creature ... ቸርቤ crefire</p>
<p>ቸቤ</p> <p>ምቸ (comfortable)</p> <p>choose... ቸቤ Choo-choo train ... ቸ ቸ train</p>	<p>ቸቤ</p> <p>ተቸ (critic)</p> <p>አሰልቸ (boring person)</p> <p>ራቸ (champion)</p> <p>ቸቤ cheep ... ቸቤ cheese ... ቸቤ chick ... ቸቤ chick</p>
<p>ቸቤ</p> <p>ቸቤ (China)</p> <p>ኮርቸ (saddle)</p> <p>ቸቤ (tolerant person)</p> <p>ቸቤ chat ... ቸቤ child ... ቸቤ chart ... ቸቤ</p>	<p>ቸቤ</p> <p>ቸቤ (check)</p> <p>መቸ (when)</p> <p>ቸቤ cheery ... ቸቤ chain ... ቸቤ check ... ቸቤ chick</p>
<p>ቸቤ</p> <p>ቸግር (problem)</p> <p>ድንቸ (tomato)</p> <p>ቡቸግ (puppy)</p> <p>watch ... waቸ catch ... caቸ Dutch ... duቸ</p>	<p>ቸቤ</p> <p>አቸሎሲ (peanut)</p> <p>ምቸት (comfort)</p> <p>አምራቸቸ (producers)</p> <p>ቸቤ chop ... ቸቤ chore ... ቸቤ choice ... ቸቤ chice</p>



干 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎

ገ ጉ ጊ ጋ ጌ ግ ጎ

gǔ gōō gē ga gā gə gō

ገ ጉ ጊ ጋ ጌ ግ ጎ

**Note:** This is one of the simplest groups to write out.

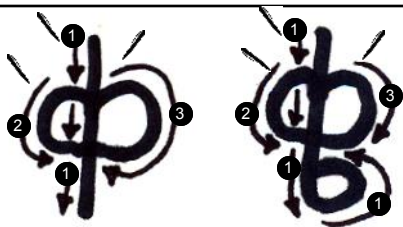
	<p><b>ገንዘብ</b> (money)</p> <p><b>ገበሬ</b> (farmer)</p> <p><b>ገና</b> (Christmas)</p> <p><b>ገንዘብ</b>   govern ... ገንዘብ   ገovern <b>ገበሬ</b>   ገut ... ገበሬ   ገt <b>ገና</b>   ገullible ... ገና   ገllible</p>
<p><b>ጉልህነት</b> (pregnant)</p> <p><b>ሽጉጥ</b> (gun)</p> <p><b>ጉልበት</b> (knee)</p> <p><b>ጉልህነት</b>   <u>good</u>... ጉልህነት   ጉd <b>ሽጉጥ</b>   <u>goose</u> ... ሽጉጥ   ጉse <b>ጉልበት</b>   <u>goofy</u> ... ጉልበት   ጉfy</p>	<p><b>ጊንጥ</b> (crab)</p> <p><b>መስጊድ</b> (mosque)</p> <p><b>ጊደር</b> (veal)</p> <p><b>ጊንጥ</b>   <u>geek</u> ... ጊንጥ   ጊk <b>መስጊድ</b>   <u>geezer</u> ... መስጊድ   ጊzer <b>ጊደር</b>   <u>gear</u> ... ጊደር   ጊr</p>
<p><b>አልጋ</b> (bed)</p> <p><b>ጋዜጣ</b> (newspaper)</p> <p><b>ጋራ</b> (stagecoach)</p> <p><b>አልጋ</b>   <u>gather</u>... አልጋ   ጋather <b>ጋዜጣ</b>   <u>gang</u> ... ጋዜጣ   ጋng <b>ጋራ</b>   <u>gamble</u> ... ጋራ   ጋmble</p>	<p><b>ጌጥ</b> (bed)</p> <p><b>ጌታ</b> (Lord or owner)</p> <p><b>ጌጥ</b>   <u>gaze</u> ... ጌጥ   ጌze <b>ጌታ</b>   <u>gate</u> ... ጌታ   ጌte <b>ጌጥ</b>   <u>game</u> ... ጌጥ   ጌme</p>
<p><b>ሰርግ</b> (wedding)</p> <p><b>ምግብ</b> (food)</p> <p><b>ግንብ</b> (wall)</p> <p><b>ሰርግ</b>   fragment ... ሰርግ   fraግment <b>ምግብ</b>   single ... ምግብ   sinግle <b>ግንብ</b>   eagle ... ግንብ   eaግle</p>	<p><b>ኅብዝ</b> (brave)</p> <p><b>ኅግ</b> (tire)</p> <p><b>ኅድሎ</b> (not full)</p> <p><b>ኅብዝ</b>   <u>go</u> ... ኅብዝ   ጎ <b>ኅግ</b>   <u>gost</u> ... ኅግ   ጎst <b>ኅድሎ</b>   <u>God</u> ... ኅድሎ   ጎd</p>

7 7 2 2 6 9 7

ቀ ቁ ቂ ቃ ቄ ቅ ቆ  
 qǔ qōō qē qa qā qʷ qō

ቀ ቁ ቂ ቃ ቄ ቅ ቆ

**Note:** Fold the 'arms' on ቀ, and you will get ቆ. It sounds similar to ከ when pronounced with less stress. Since this group has such great stress, we could not find English words with the ቀ sound.



ቀ

ቀይ ቀለም  
 (red color)  
 ቀበቶ  
 (belt)  
 መስቀል  
 (cross)

ቁ

ቁጥር  
 (number)  
 ቁምጣ  
 (shorts)  
 ቁልፍ  
 (key)

ቂ

ደቂቃ  
 (minute)  
 ቂጣ  
 (pancake)  
 ቂል  
 (fool)

ቃ

ቃርያ  
 (chili)  
 ቃጫ  
 (string)  
 ጨረቃ  
 (moon)

ቄ

አረቄ  
 (liquor)  
 ቄስ  
 (priest)  
 ጥያቄ  
 (question)

ቅ

ቅጠል  
 (leaf)  
 ቅርንጫፍ  
 (branch)  
 ቅዳሜ  
 (Saturday)

ቆ

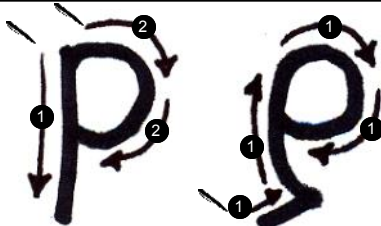
ቆብ  
 (hat)  
 በቆሎ  
 (corn)  
 መንጠቆ  
 (hook)

ф ф ф ф ф ф ф

የ yǔ    ያ yōo    ያ yē    ያ ya    ያ yā    ያ yə    ያ yō

የ    ያ    ያ    ያ    ያ    ያ    ያ

**Note:** This will be the last of the one-legged Groups. We were unable to find a good English example for the letter ያ. It has a distinct “yé” sound.

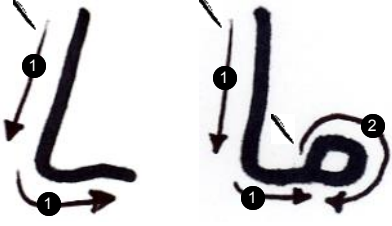
	<p>የ</p> <p>እየሱስ (Jesus)</p> <p>መቀየር (to change)</p> <p>ማየት (to see)</p> <p>yes ... የs yell የll yen የn</p>
<p>የ</p> <p>የኒቨርስቲ (university)</p> <p>እየ (look -to a formal person)</p> <p>you... የ youth ... የth Utah ... የah</p>	<p>የ</p> <p>ነይ (come here -referring to a female)</p> <p>ብይ (pebbles)</p> <p>yield ... የld yeast... የst yippee የppee</p>
<p>ያ</p> <p>ክርስቲያን (christian)</p> <p>ማንኪያ (spoon)</p> <p>ማስመርያ (ruler)</p> <p>yawn... ያwn young ... ያng yarn ... ያrn</p>	<p>የ</p> <p>ወሻይ (my dog)</p> <p>መኪናይ (my car)</p> <p>ሱሪይ (my trousers)</p>
<p>ይ</p> <p>አይን (eye)</p> <p>ወይን (grape)</p> <p>ቀይ (red)</p> <p>spy... spይ wine ... wይne fine ... fይne</p>	<p>የ</p> <p>ራዲዮ (radio)</p> <p>የርዳኖስ (Jordan)</p> <p>ኢትዮጵያ (Ethiopia)</p> <p>beyond ... beየnd Tokyo ... Tokየ yoga ... የga</p>

P P R S B 9 P

ረ ሩ ሪ ራ ራ ር ሮ  
*rǔ rōō rē ra rā rə rō*

ረ ሩ ሪ ራ ራ ር ሮ

**Note:** This group sets the basic form for ረ.

	<p>ረረስ (horse)</p> <p>ረጅም (tall)</p> <p>በረት (stable)</p> <p>rust ... ረst</p> <p>rut ... ረt</p> <p>crust ... cረst</p>
<p>ሩዝ (rice)</p> <p>ሩጫ (marathon)</p> <p>ሹሩባ (braid)</p> <p>cruel ... cሩel</p> <p>true ... ትሩ</p> <p>fruit ... ፍሩt</p>	<p>ክብሪት (matches)</p> <p>ጋሪ (wagon)</p> <p>መሪ (steering wheel)</p> <p>tree ... ትሪ</p> <p>free ... ፍሪ</p> <p>dream ... drሪm</p>
<p>ራድዮ (radio)</p> <p>ከራዝ (lantern)</p> <p>ቢራ (beer)</p> <p>rat ... ራt</p> <p>rabbit ... ራbbit</p> <p>cry ... cራy</p>	<p>በሪ (ox)</p> <p>ፍሪ (fruit)</p> <p>ገበሪ (farmer)</p> <p>great ... grሪt</p> <p>spread ... spሪd</p> <p>red ... ሪd</p>
<p>መርከብ (ship)</p> <p>ከንፈር (lips)</p> <p>አርብ (Friday)</p> <p>fur ... ፍሪ</p> <p>bury ... ቦር</p> <p>wonder ... wondር</p>	<p>ዶሮ (chicken)</p> <p>በረሮ (cockroach)</p> <p>ቢራቢሮ (butterfly)</p> <p>Rome ... ሮme</p> <p>role ... ሮle</p> <p>rope ... ሮpe</p>



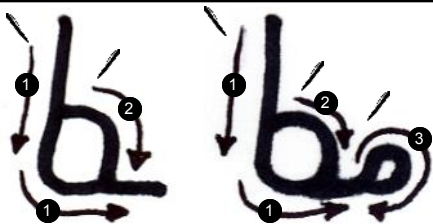
L 4 6 6 6 C C

ፊ ፋ ፌ ፋ ፎ ፍ ፎ

fū foō fē fa fā fə fō

ፈ ፉ ፊ ፉ ፋ ፍ ፎ

**Note:** If you remove the line (that the arrow is pointing at) ፊ, you will get the ፈ Group. The difference between ፋ and ፋ is

	<p>ፈረስ (horse)</p> <p>ከንፈር (lips)</p> <p>ዘፈን (song)</p> <p>ፊረስ first ...</p> <p>ፊረድ ፊrst</p> <p>ፊንድ fund ...</p> <p>ፊንድ ፊnd</p> <p>ፊርም firm ...</p> <p>ፊርም ፊrm</p>
<p>ፋጨት (whistle)</p> <p>ፋከራ (Intimidating by boasting about oneself)</p> <p>ፋጨት food ...</p> <p>ፋድ ፋd</p> <p>ፋጥን full ...</p> <p>ፋዘን ፋll</p> <p>ፋጥን foot ...</p> <p>ፋጥን ፋt</p>	<p>ፊኛ (balloon)</p> <p>ፊደል (alphabet)</p> <p>ፊት (face)</p> <p>ፊኛ feet ...</p> <p>ፊት ፊt</p> <p>ፊኛ feel ...</p> <p>ፊልም ፊl</p> <p>ፊልም film ...</p> <p>ፊልም ፊlm</p>
<p>ደፋር (brave)</p> <p>መፋቅያ (brush)</p> <p>ሸፋፋ (Crooked/curved)</p> <p>ደፋር fat ...</p> <p>ፋጥን ፋt</p> <p>ፋር far ...</p> <p>ፋር ፋr</p> <p>ፋክት fact ...</p> <p>ፋክት ፋct</p>	<p>ስፊት (design)</p> <p>መርፌ (needle)</p> <p>ሹፊር (driver)</p> <p>ስፊት fate ...</p> <p>ፊት ፊte</p> <p>ፊንድ fender ...</p> <p>ፊንድ ፊnder</p> <p>ፊኛ fake ...</p> <p>ፊኛ ፊke</p>
<p>ፍቅር (love)</p> <p>ቁልፍ (key)</p> <p>ምንጣፍ (mat)</p> <p>ፍቅር stiff ...</p> <p>ፍቅር stiፍ</p> <p>ፍቅር cliff ...</p> <p>ፍቅር cliፍ</p> <p>ፍቅር leaf ...</p> <p>ፍቅር leaፍ</p>	<p>ፎቶግራፍ (photograph)</p> <p>ፎጣ (towel)</p> <p>ወፎች (birds)</p> <p>ፎቶግራፍ form ...</p> <p>ፎርም ፎrm</p> <p>ፎጣ photo ...</p> <p>ፎጣ ፎto</p> <p>ፎንት font ...</p> <p>ፎንት ፎnt</p>

h h h h h h h

ሀ ሁ ኂ ኃ ኄ ን ሆ ሰ  
*hǔ hōō hē ha hā hə hō*

ሀ ሁ ኂ ኃ ኄ ን ሆ ሰ

*Note: This group is often found on the first line of most Amharic Alphabet tables. It sounds similar to ሐ and ኀ (see Amharic 101) Also, Family #1 (ሀ) and #4 (ኃ) sound the same. This group sets the basic form for ሁ.*

	<p><b>ሀውልት</b> (statue)   <u>hat ...</u> ሀት   <u>ut</u></p> <p><b>ሀብት</b> (wealth)   <u>half ...</u> ሀብ   <u>ulf</u></p> <p><b>ሀመስ</b> (Thursday)   <u>hacker ...</u> ሀመስ   <u>ucker</u></p>
<p><b>ሁ</b>   <b>ሁለት</b> (two)   <u>who ...</u> ሁ   <u>ሁ</u></p> <p><b>እሁድ</b> (Sunday)   <u>hook ...</u> ሁ   <u>ሁ-k</u></p> <p>  <u>hood ...</u> ሁ-d</p>	<p><b>ኂ</b>   <b>ኂሳብ</b> (math)   <u>he ...</u> ኂ   <u>ኂ</u></p> <p><b>ኂድ</b> (go – to an informal male)   <u>hippy ...</u> ኂድ   <u>ኂppy</u></p> <p>  <u>heat ...</u> ኂ   <u>ኂt</u></p>
<p><b>ኃ</b>   <i>This alphabet sounds just like ሀ.</i></p>	<p><b>መኃድ</b> (to go)   <u>head ...</u> መኃድ   <u>ኃd</u></p> <p><b>ኃዋን</b> (Eve)   <u>hair ...</u> ኃዋን   <u>ኃr</u></p> <p><b>መፍትኃ</b> (solution)   <u>help ...</u> መፍትኃ   <u>ኃlp</u></p>
<p><b>ህ</b>   <b>አህያ</b> (donkey)   <b>ህዝብ</b> (people)   <b>ህልም</b> (dream)</p>	<p><b>ሆ</b>   <b>ዝሆን</b> (elephant)   <b>ሆድ</b> (stomach)   <b>ሆቴል</b> (hotel)   <u>home ...</u> ሆ   <u>ሆme</u></p> <p>  <u>hot ...</u> ሆ   <u>ሆt</u></p> <p>  <u>hope ...</u> ሆ   <u>ሆpe</u></p>

U U Y Y Y U U

ሠ ሠ. ሠ. ሠ ሠ ሠ ሠ ሠ  
*sŭ sō sē sa sā sə sō*

ሠ ሠ ሠ ሠ ሠ ሠ ሠ

**Note:** This group looks like two ሠs stuck side-by-side. It sounds exactly like ስ in Amharic. See Amharic 101 for more information. Since these two groups sound the same, refer to examples for ስ on page 8.

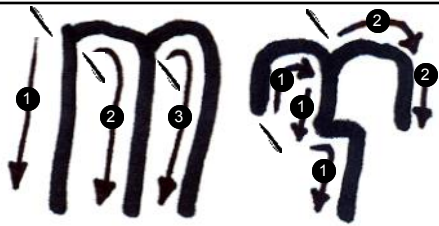
	<p>ሠ</p>
<p>ሠ.</p>	<p>ሠ.</p>
<p>ሠ</p>	<p>ሠ</p>
<p>ሠ</p>	<p>ሠ</p>

Ш Ш ш ш ш ш ш

ጠ ጡ ጢ ጣ ጤ ጥ ጦ  
 tǔ tōō tē tā tʔ tō

ጠ ጡ ጢ ጣ ጤ ጥ ጦ

**Note:** This group looks like an upside-down ሠ. It sounds similar to ተ (page 28), but ጠ is pronounced with high stress. As a result, we were unable to find examples of English words that contain this Group's sound. It sets the basic form for ጩ

	<p>መጠጥ  <i>(beverage)</i>      ጠበቃ  <i>(lawyer)</i>      ጠመንጃ  <i>(rifle)</i></p>
<p>ጡ      ጡንቻ  <i>(muscle)</i>      ጡሩንባ  <i>(horn)</i>      ጡት  <i>(breast)</i></p>	<p>ጢ      ጢም  <i>(beard)</i>      ሰንጠላዎች  <i>(pocket knife)</i></p>
<p>ጣ      ጣት  <i>(finger)</i>      ወጣት  <i>(young)</i>      ፎጣ  <i>(towel)</i></p>	<p>ጤ      ጤና  <i>(health)</i>      ጤፍ  <i>(teff—grain used to make injera)</i></p>
<p>ጥ      ጥርስ  <i>(teeth)</i>      መቀመጥ  <i>(to sit)</i>      ጥቁር  <i>(black)</i></p>	<p>ጦ      ጦር  <i>(spear or army)</i>      ጦጣ  <i>(monkey)</i></p>



ᄃ ᄃᄃ ᄃᄃ ᄃᄃ ᄃᄃ ᄃᄃ ᄃᄃ

**ጩ** **ጩፎ** **ጩሊ** **ጩጌ** **ጩኾ** **ጩቅ** **ጩኔ**  
*chǔ*    *chōō*    *chē*    *cha*    *chā*    *ch ə*    *chō*

**ጩጩ** **ጩጩጩ** **ጩጩጩ** **ጩጩጩ** **ጩጩጩ** **ጩጩጩ** **ጩጩጩ**

**Note:** This group looks similar to ጠ with rings on the legs. It also sounds similar to ቸ, but with high stress (this is the same relationship that we saw between ተ and ጠ). Because of this high stress sound, we were unable to find English examples for this group.

	<p><b>ጩረቃ</b> (moon)</p> <p><b>ጩለማ</b> (dark/night)</p> <p><b>እንጩት</b> (wood)</p>
<p><b>ጩፎ</b></p> <p><b>ጩኾ</b> (scream)</p> <p><b>ጩብ</b> (knife/blade)</p> <p><b>ጩጩት</b> (chick)</p>	<p><b>ጩጩ</b></p> <p><b>ጩሊ</b></p> <p><b>ጩጩ</b> (drunk)</p> <p><b>ጩጩ</b> (outside)</p> <p><b>ጩጩ</b> (incoming)</p>
<p><b>ጩጌ</b></p> <p><b>ጩማ</b> (shoes)</p> <p><b>ቢጩ</b> (yellow)</p> <p><b>አፍንጩ</b> (nose)</p>	<p><b>ጩፎ</b></p> <p><b>ጩፎ</b> (greet)</p>
<p><b>ጩቅ</b></p> <p><b>ጩንቅላት</b> (head)</p> <p><b>ቀጩን</b> (skinny)</p> <p><b>ጩቃ</b> (mud)</p>	<p><b>ጩኔ</b></p> <p><b>ጩማ</b> (fat)</p> <p><b>ጩራ</b> (sun glare)</p> <p><b>ጩጩ</b> (to scream)</p>

მ მ მ მ რ რ რ რ

ሐ ሐሁ ሐሁ ሐ ሐሁ ሐሁ ሐ ሐ  
*hǔ hōō hē ha hā hə hō*

ሐ ሐ ሐ ሐ ሐ ሐ ሐ

**Note:** The 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Family of this Group sound exactly the same. This Group also sounds the same as ሀ and ኃ in Amharic (see Amharic 101 for more information). Learn the correct pronunciation for this group using the examples on page 44.



ሐ

ሐሁ

ሐሁ

ሐ

ሐሁ

ሐሁ

ሐ

က က က က က က က

0	0̣	ḳ	ḳ	ḳ̄	ḳ̄	ḳ̄
ǎ	ōō	ē	ā	ā	ə	ō
0	0̣	ḳ	ḳ	ḳ̄	ḳ̄	ḳ̄

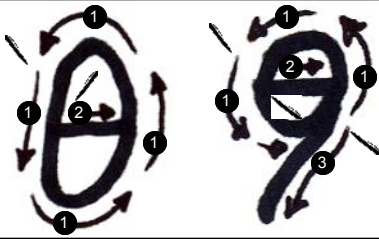
**Note:** This group sets the basic form for ḳ, ḳ̄, and ḳ̄. This group sounds exactly like ḳ in Amharic. Go to page 18 to see examples of words that contain the letter ḳ (since these two groups sound the same). See Amharic 101 for more information.


O O 9 9 9 O 9

ፀ ፀ. ጊ ገ ጊ ፐ ገ  
 ሥህ ሥዕ ሥጅ ሥላ ሥጃ ሥፊ ሥዕ

ፀ ፀ ጊ ገ ጊ ፐ ገ

**Note:** If you remove the horizontal bar from ፀ (pointed out by the arrow), you will get ፐ. This group sounds exactly like ጸ in Amharic. Go to page 66 to see examples of words that use the letter ጸ.



ፀ

ፀ.

ጊ

ገ

ጊ

ፐ

ገ




0 0 9 9 9 0 9

ወ ዉ ዺ ዐ ዌ ው ዐ  
*wǔ wō wē wa wā wə wō*

ወ ዉ ዺ ዐ ዌ ው ዐ

**Note:** If you place two *o*'s together side-by-side, you will get this Group.

	<p><b>ወ</b></p> <p>ወተት (milk)          ወታደር (solder)          ወፍ (bird)</p>
<p><b>ዉ</b> ዉብ (beauty)          ዉፍረት (obesity)</p> <p>would...          ዉld          wood ...          ዉd          wool ...          ዉl</p>	<p><b>ዺ</b></p> <p>ሰማያዊ (blue)          ስዊድን (Sweden)          መንፈሳዊ (religious person)</p> <p>we ...          ዺ          weak ...          ዺk          weed ...          ዺd</p>
<p><b>ዐ</b></p> <p>ዋንጫ (trophy)          ዋሽንት (flute)          መዋናት (to swim)</p> <p>want...          ዋnt          wild ...          ዋild          swan ...          ዋn</p>	<p><b>ዌ</b></p> <p>ኩዌት (Kuwait)          ኖርዌ (Norway)</p> <p>wake ...          ዌke          swell ...          ዌll          dwell ...          ዌll</p>
<p><b>ው</b> ማውራት (to talk)          ውሻ (dog)          ውሃ (water)</p> <p>down ...          doውn          flow ...          floው          blow ...          bloው</p>	<p><b>ዐ</b></p> <p>ሰዎች (people)          ደርዎች (chicken)</p> <p>work ...          ዐrk          wall ...          ዐll          won't ...          ዐn't</p>

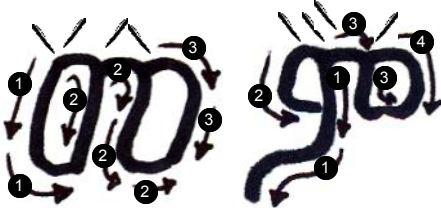
ဝ ဝ ဝ ဝ ဝ ဝ ဝ

መ መ. ሚ ማ ሜ ም ሞ

mǔ mō mē ma mā mʷ mō

መ መ. ሚ ማ ሜ ም ሞ

**Note:** This group seems to be difficult to write out. Notice that the first five letters are similar form to the **ጠ** Group if we simply turn the “legs” in to circles.

	<p><b>መ</b></p> <p>መኖር (eye glass) ድመት (cat) መንገድ (road)</p> <p>measurement ... measure<sup>መ</sup> movement ... move<sup>መ</sup> enjoyment ... enjoy<sup>መ</sup></p>
<p><b>መ.</b></p> <p>ሙዚቃ (music) ሙዝ (banana) ሀሙስ (Thursday)</p> <p>moon ... ሙከ (moon) mood ... ሙድ (mood) smooth ... ሙጥ (smooth)</p>	<p><b>ሚ</b></p> <p>ሚዳቆ (deer) ሚስማር (nail) ሎሚ (lemon)</p> <p>me ... ሚ (me) meet ... ሚጥ (meet) milk ... ሚጠ (milk)</p>
<p><b>ማ</b></p> <p>ማስመርያ (ruler) ማንኪያ (spoon) ማስቲካ (gum)</p> <p>mark ... ማጠ (mark) man ... ማከ (man) mat ... ማጥ (mat)</p>	<p><b>ሚ</b></p> <p>በርሜል (barrel) ከረሚላ (candy) ሚዳ (land)</p> <p>make ... ሚጠ (make) men ... ሚከ (men) male ... ሚጠ (male)</p>
<p><b>ም</b></p> <p>ምስራቅ (west) ምእራብ (east) ምንጣፍ (rug)</p> <p>team ... ጥም (team) film ... ፊም (film) steam ... ጥም (steam)</p>	<p><b>ሞ</b></p> <p>ሞኝ (fool) ሞት (death) አሞራ (large bird)</p> <p> mold ... ሞጠ (mold) motor ... ሞጥ (motor) monk ... ሞከ (monk)</p>

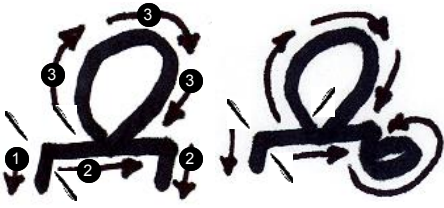
თს თს თყ თყ თყ ჟა ჟა

ደ ዱ ዲ ዳ ዴ ድ ዶ

*dū dōō dē da dā də dō*

ደ ዱ ዲ ዳ ዴ ድ ዶ

**Note:** This Group sets the basic form for ጅ, ጸ, and ጹ. Some people write this group like ደ while others write it as ኅ. Both methods are correct.

	<p>ደ-ብተር <i>(note book)</i></p> <p>ደ-ብዳቤ <i>(letter)</i></p> <p>ደም <i>(blood)</i></p> <p>student ... stuጵnt</p> <p>dirt ... ጵrt</p> <p>done ... ጵne</p>
<p>ዱርዮ <i>(rebellious person)</i></p> <p>ዱላ <i>(stick)</i></p> <p>ዱር <i>(forest)</i></p> <p><u>do</u> ... ዱ</p> <p><u>doom</u>... ዱm</p> <p><u>duel</u> ... ዱel</p>	<p>ባንዲራ <i>(flag)</i></p> <p>ዲዳ <i>(deaf)</i></p> <p>አዲስ <i>(new)</i></p> <p><u>dimple</u> ... ዲmple</p> <p><u>disk</u> ... ዲsk</p> <p><u>deep</u> ... ዲp</p>
<p>ሜዳ <i>(field)</i></p> <p>ዳኛ <i>(judge)</i></p> <p>ቅዳሜ <i>(Saturday)</i></p> <p><u>dad</u>... ዳd</p> <p><u>dark</u> ... ዳrk</p> <p><u>dart</u> ... ዳrt</p>	<p>ሃራዴ <i>(sword)</i></p> <p>ወንበዴ <i>(outlaw)</i></p> <p>አረንጓዴ <i>(green)</i></p> <p><u>dead</u> ... ዴd</p> <p><u>debt</u> ... ዴbt</p> <p><u>devil</u> ... ዴvil</p>
<p>ድንጋይ <i>(stone)</i></p> <p>ድመት <i>(cat)</i></p> <p>አንድ <i>(one)</i></p> <p>dead ... deaጵ</p> <p>spend ... spenጵ</p> <p>wood ... wooጵ</p>	<p>ዶሮ <i>(chicken)</i></p> <p>በረዶ <i>(ice)</i></p> <p>ዶማ <i>(pickaxe)</i></p> <p><u>dorm</u> ... ዶrm</p> <p><u>door</u> ... ዶr</p> <p><u>dole</u> ... ዶle</p>

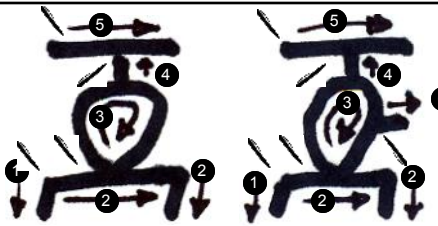
Q Q Q Q Q Q Q

ጀ ጁ ጂ ጃ ጄ ጅ ጆ

jǔ jǒo jē ja jā jə jō



ገ ገ ገ ገ ገ ገ ገ


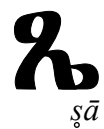

**Note:** This Group is basically a ጁ with and bar on top. Similar to ጁ, some people will write it ገ as and ገ others as

	<p>ጀ መጀመር (to star) ጀርባ (back side) ጀልባ (boat)</p> <p>ጁ gender ... ጁnder ጁርባ jerk ... ጁርባ ጁrk ጁልባ just ... ጁልባ ጁst</p>
<p>ጁ ጸጁ (his hand) ወዳጅ (his friend) ልጅ (the boy)</p> <p>Junior ... ጁnior juice ... ጁ.ce June ... ጁ.ne</p>	<p>ጂ ፈንጂ (explosive) ቀጂ (copy)</p> <p>Jeep ... ጂp jibber ... ጂbber jig ... ጂg</p>
<p>ጃ ጃርት (porcupine) ደረጃ (steps) ጃንጥላ (umbrella)</p> <p>jack... ጃck jab ... ጃb jump ... ጃmp</p>	<p>ጄ ጸጄታ (handle) ወዳጅ (my lover or friend)</p> <p>ገail ... ገail ገade ... ገade ገail ... ገail</p>
<p>ጅ ጸጅ (hand) ጅብ (hyena) ወዳጅ (friend)</p> <p>smudge... smudጅ judge ... judጅ fudge ... fudጅ</p>	<p>ጆ ጅር (ear) ጸንጅሬ (strawberry) ቀንጅ (beauty)</p> <p>joke ... ጅke join ... ጅin job ... ጅb</p>



五 五 五 五 五 五 五

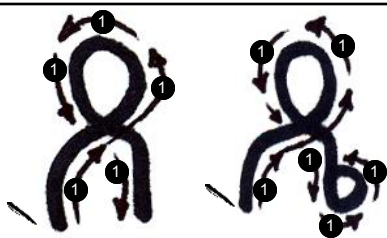









**Note:** This group also looks very similar to ሸ. It sounds like ሸ, but pronounced with great stress. It is used interchangeably with ፀ since they sound alike in Amharic. We were unable to find any English words that have the ፀ sound.



ሸ

**ጸጉር**  
*(hair)*  
**ጸሎት**  
*(prayer)*

ሸ

**ንጹህ**  
*(clean)*  
**ፍጹም**  
*(entirely)*  
**ቀረጹ**  
*(they carved)*

ሸ

**አናጺ**  
*(stone cutter)*

ሸ

**ህጻን**  
*(baby)*  
**መጻፍ**  
*(to write)*  
**ህንጻ**  
*(building)*

ሸ

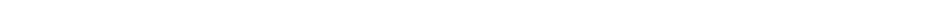
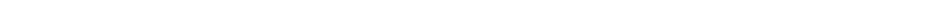
**አጼ**  
*(a title, as in*  
**አጼ ሶሎሞንኛ**  
*King Solomon)*

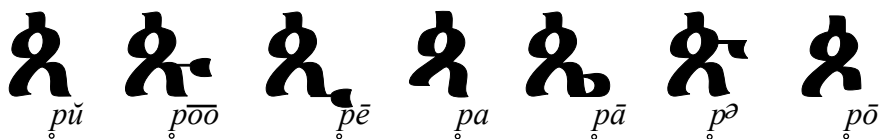
ሸ

**መነጽር**  
*(eye glass)*  
**ድምጽ**  
*(sound)*  
**ማጽናናት**  
*(to comfort)*

ሸ

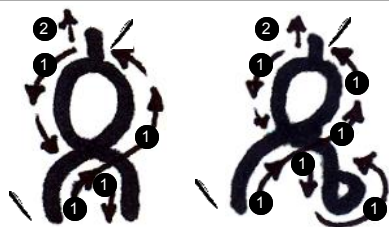
**ጸም**  
*(fasting)*  
**ጾታ**  
*(gender)*




  
 ጸ<sub>pu</sub> ጸ<sub>poo</sub> ጸ<sub>pe</sub> ጸ<sub>pa</sub> ጸ<sub>pa</sub> ጸ<sub>po</sub> ጸ<sub>po</sub>



**Note:** This group looks like ጸ with little vertical bar on top. It also sounds like ጥ, but it is pronounced with great stress. This group is often used in biblical words that describe names and



ጸ

ጸ

ጸ

ጸጸስ  
(eraser)

ጸ

ጸጸስ  
(Patriarch)

ጸ

ጸ

ኢትዮጵያ  
(Ethiopia)

ጸ



ዘ ዙ ዚ ዛ ዞ ገ ዘ  
 zǔ zōō zē za zā z፬ zō

ዘ ዙ ዚ ዛ ዞ ገ ዘ

**Note:** This Group sets the basic form for ገ።

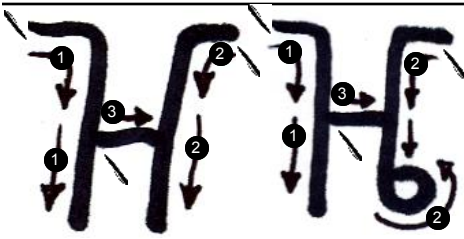
	<p><b>ዘፈን</b> (song)</p> <p><b>ዘባኛ</b> (guard)</p> <p><b>ዘጠኝ</b> (nine)</p> <p><b>ዘ</b></p> <p>the ...        ስ        father...        ስፊደር        weather...        ወይዘሮ</p>
<p><b>ዙፋን</b> (throne)</p> <p><b>ብዙ</b> (many)</p> <p><b>ዙርያ</b> (around)</p> <p><b>ዙ</b></p> <p><u>zoo</u>...        ስ  <u>zoom</u> ...        ስጠ  <u>zoology</u> ...        ስሎጂ</p>	<p><b>ጥንዚዛ</b> (beetle)</p> <p><b>ዚንባጌ</b> (Zimbabwe)</p> <p><b>እዚህ</b> (here)</p> <p><b>ዚ</b></p> <p><u>zebra</u> ...        ዚክ  <u>zero</u> ...        ዚሮ  <u>disease</u>...        ዲዚያ</p>
<p><b>ዛፍ</b> (tree)</p> <p><b>ፈዛዛ</b> (day-dreamer)</p> <p><b>ሚዛን</b> (scale)</p> <p><b>ዛ</b></p> <p><u>Zaire</u> ...        ዛይ        that ...        ዛጥ  <u>zap</u> ...        ዛፆ</p>	<p><b>ዜና</b> (news)</p> <p><b>ዜሮ</b> (zero)</p> <p><b>ጋዜጣ</b> (news paper)</p> <p><b>ዜ</b></p> <p><u>Zelda</u> ...        ዜልዳ  <u>zen</u> ...        ዜን  <u>zest</u> ...        ዜስጥ</p>
<p><b>ዝናብ</b> (rain)</p> <p><b>ዝሆን</b> (elephant)</p> <p><b>አልማዝ</b> (diamond)</p> <p><b>ዝ</b></p> <p>free<u>ze</u> ...        ፍሪዝ        ma<u>ze</u> ...        ጠዝ        da<u>ze</u> ...        ደዝ</p>	<p><b>አዞ</b> (crocodile)</p> <p><b>መዞር</b> (to turn)</p> <p><b>ጉዞ</b> (trip)</p> <p><b>ዞ</b></p> <p><u>zone</u> ...        ዞኔ  <u>zodiac</u> ...        ዞዲያክ</p>

Н Н Н Н Н Н Н Н

ዠ ዡ ዢ ዣ ዤ ዦ ዧ የ

ዠ ዡ ዢ ዣ ዤ ዦ ዧ የ

**Note:** This group looks very similar to ዠ (previous page). It is one of the least used groups in Amharic. It is also difficult to describe the correct pronunciation for it since we couldn't find equivalent English words for it. For example, ዣ is a cross between የ



ዣ

ቅዣት  
(nightmare)

ዤ

ዢ

ዣር  
(buyer or colonizer)

ዣ

ፈንጣዣ  
(frisky – male)  
መያዣ  
(handle)

ዤ

ዧ

ቴሌቭዥን  
(television)  
ሰንጠረዥ  
(spread sheet)

vision ...  
viʾirn  
fusion ...  
fuʾirn  
elusion  
eluʾirn

ዣ



Н Н Н Н Н Н Н Н

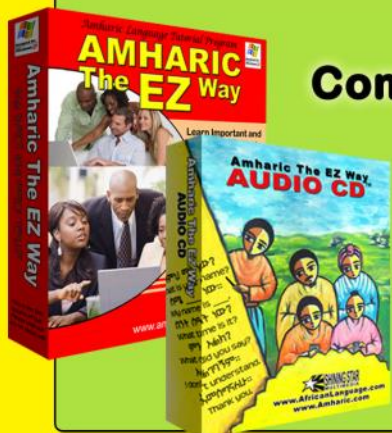
# Other Amharic Tutorial Products From Amharic.com

*"Excellent program to get a taste of Ethiopia ..."* *"... very innovative"*  
*"Better than using books and tapes ..."* *"... simple and easy to use"*



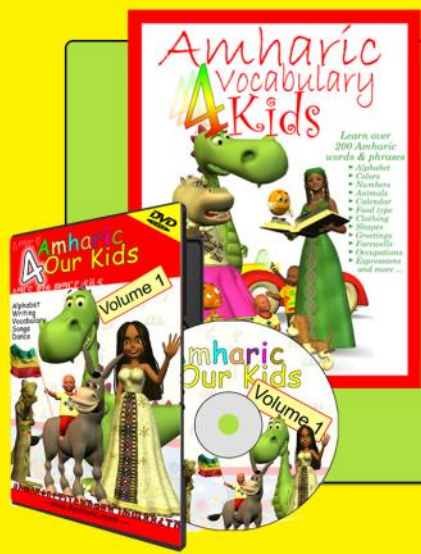
## Amharic 101 - 104 Series

This is a four volume set that will teach you how to speak, read and write in Amharic. You will learn the Amharic alphabets, reading and writing in Amharic, grammar, vocabulary words, constructing simple and complex sentence, plus more (games, quiz, stories etc). Visit our web site for detail and online demos.



## Amharic The EZ Way Computer Program & Audio CD

This computer and audio CD set is suitable for those that want to learn every-day used Amharic phrases and words in a short period of time. The program is suitable for all ages and assumes no prior knowledge of Amharic. You will learn correct pronunciation from native Amharic speakers the fast and easy way.



## Amharic 4 Kids

**Amharic 4 Our Kids** is the first full length Amharic tutorial animation video (DVD) that teaches the alphabet, vocabulary, writing, and cultural dance (እስክሲታ).

**Amharic Vocabulary 4 Kids** is a colorful book that introduces children to new Amharic vocabulary words.