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Entering Greek Characters

Accordance automatically uses the Helena font for all Greek text. Most of the letters of the Greek alphabet have been placed in the familiar positions of their transliterated letters in Roman fonts. The accents and breathing marks are organized so they are easy to find. Text can also be entered using the international Greek Polytonic Keyboard; this option is set in the Greek & Hebrew area of the Preferences dialog box.

Two Accordance text entry features facilitate the correct entry of the Greek. These features can be turned off for all Accordance tabs via the Preferences dialog box (Greek & Hebrew area).

The Automatic final letter feature alters the form of the Greek sigma depending on its position in the word. As you press "s", the final sigma form appears. But if sigma is followed by another letter, it takes the regular form.

The Automatic diacritical marks feature affects the various overstrike characters—accents and breathing marks and their combinations. Most accents and other diacriticals are entered after (to the right of) the character. Most are offered with a short, medium, and long overstrike for correct positioning over or under each character.

As you enter any of the overstrike positions of the specific accent or mark, Accordance enters the character or the combination with the correct amount of overstrike for the previous or following letter. If you enter an accent and a breathing mark after the same vowel, the correct combination character is entered. Before an uppercase vowel you must enter the non-overstrike breathing mark (option or shift-option-J) before the vowel, and any position of the accent, in order to get the combination.

Therefore, you can learn just one keystroke for each overstrike character, and still create correctly accented text.

More About the Helena Font

Most of the accents, breathing marks, and combinations occur in four positions. The non-overstrike character is used before a capital letter. The rest of the characters are left-overstrike characters. They must be typed to the right of the letter in order to appear over or under it. The overstrike characters have three positions, depending on the width of the associated letter. The medium overstrike character is the most accessible. In general, the option position is used for short overstrike accents, and the shift-option position is used for the long overstrike accents.

Characters were added to the Helena font to allow use of accents with upper-case characters, as shown below.

Upper case, non-overstrike accents

Acute	´	option-e followed by a	Acute-dieresis	¨	option-u followed by a
Grave	`	option-e followed by e	Grave-dieresis	˘	option-u followed by e
Circumflex	ˆ	option-e followed by i	Circumflex-dieresis	¨	option-u followed by o
Dieresis	¨	option-e followed by o			
Macron	¯	option-e followed by u			
Breve	˘	option-u followed by u			

Special and diacritical characters

Lower numeral	ϛ	option-comma			
Nomina Sacra	Θ̅C̅	option-E			
Subdot (uncertain letter)	ϛ	Narrow ϛ option-d, Medium ϛ option-f, Wide ϛ option-g			
Subcircle (very uncertain letter)	ϛ	Narrow ϛ shift-option-d, Medium ϛ shift-option-f, Wide ϛ shift-option-g			
Worddot (unreadable letter)	•	option-.			
Caret (supralinear text)	^	shift-6			
Alternate readings	⏏	option-l and shift-option-l			
Superscript square (end of missing words)	◻	shift-option-p			

Keyboard Map for the Helena Font

Note: Left arrows indicate overstrike characters.

○ This symbol indicates a position reserved for key combinations.

Helena Greek Font

overstrike	accents	iota
← short	ε, ι	ε, ο, υ
↔ medium	η, ο, υ	α, ω
↔↔ long	α, ω	η

shift	shift-option
normal	option

Key to character positions

To enter a double quote via the Greek Polytonic non-unicode keyboard, press **⌘+Shift+'.**

Examples

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General Concepts

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Related Tasks

- [Open New Search Tab](#)

Reference Materials

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