

Malayalam

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

അ	a	ഈ	ഈ
ആ	ā	ഞ	ഈ
ഏ	ā (see Note 2)	എ	e
ഇ	i	ഏ	ē
ഈ	ī	ഐ	ai
ഉ	u	ഓ	o
ഊ	ū	ഔ	ō
ഋ	r̄	ഘ	au

Consonants (see Note 3)

Gutturals		Palatals		Cerebrals		Dentals	
ക	ka	ച	ca	ട	ṭa	ത	ta
ഖ	kha	ഛ	cha	ഠ	ṭha	ഥ	tha
ഗ	ga	ജ	ja	ഡ	ḍa	ദ	da
ഘ	gha	ഝ	jha	ഢ	ḍha	ധ	dha
ങ	ṅa	ഞ	ña	ണ	ṇa	ന	na
Labials		Semivowels		Sibilants		Aspirate	
പ	pa	യ	ya	ശ	śa	ഹ	ha
ഫ	pha	ര	ra	ഷ	ṣa		
ബ	ba	റ	ṛa	സ	sa		
ഭ	bha	ററ	ṛṛa (see Note 4)				
മ	ma	ല	la				
		ള	ḷa				
		ഴ	ḷa				
		വ	va				

Anusvāra (see Note 5)

ം ṁ

Visarga

ഃ ḥ

Avagraha

‿ ' (apostrophe)

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. When [◌] is used in combination with the vowel *u* (◌), the combination is also transliterated *á*.
3. The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in transliteration, with the following exceptions:
 - a) when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign;
 - b) when the absence of any vowel is indicated by the superscript sign [◌] (also used for the vowel *á*); and
 - c) when the following modified consonantal forms are used:

◌	k	◌	n	◌	!
◌	◌	◌	◌	◌	r
4. When ◌◌ appears as a subscript in a cluster, it is transliterated *ḷa*.
5. Exception: *Anusvāra* is transliterated by:
 - a) *ṅ* before gutturals,
 - b) *ñ* before palatals,
 - c) *ṇ* before cerebrals,
 - d) *n* before dentals, and
 - e) *m* before labials.