Introduction to using the 12 key single handed EkaPad

The EkaTetra Chording Book
2nd edition 2006
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Welcome to EkaTetra's learning system, and thanks for joining the evolution.

We believe that you can learn to be fully functional on this device in a surprisingly short time. We have confidence in you. Now it's time for you to earn some well deserved self-confidence. Above all - enjoy!

Remember, this is revolutionary, but it's more natural than you'll guess; especially the finger positions. So, flex your fingers a few times to warm up. Shake your hands to get the blood moving. Ready?

Some people have found it useful to break up this training into 5 minute sets, or just keep on working through the chords. Let us know what works for you. It will help us design a better system for our future EkaPad users. We may even ask you to compare the two.

Ok then. Dive right in.
This is going to be a lot easier than you might imagine, and NO, it’s not like going back to school. We recognize that not everyone fits into one learning style; so, you get choices. Let’s use the metaphor of getting a new tool, sure a complex tool, but one that promises to do a lot for you. Imagine a tool for your shop or kitchen; something you’ll use with your hands.

How would you like to learn this tool?
If you’re thinking “just give me the tool and get out of my way”, then you might consider the **Instant Acquisition** road.

However, if your thoughts run more like “so now that I’ve got the tool, show me the basics, and maybe some of the tricks and techniques”, we’re pretty sure your path is **Quick Accretion**.

And is your mind is already screaming “tell me all there is to know about this tool and help me get the hang of it before you leave”, then there’s no doubt that **Detail Accumulation** is your way.

Perhaps you’d prefer to just learn the chord for each letter quickly, with the mimimum of exercise, then go to the **Speed Section** with a new letter each sentence, with The Alphabet Run to get tuned up.

Alright then, take what you need to get there. If you need anything we’ve missed, be sure to tell us via an email or chat. Welcome to the Evolution.

**Introducing the Road Map**
If this is your way then complete the Orientation session in this Chording Book and go right to Cracking the Code, after Session 8. It teaches you how to interpret the Slates, giving you access to all the numbers, characters and symbols you can generate. Then please go the Timing Session, with a diversion to the Alphabet Run for practice if you wish, then finish with a sentence or two in 26 letter sentences, page 26.

Yes, you’ll skip Sessions 1 – 8 in Chording Sessions and Exercises 1 – 7 in Exercise Book.

You wanted it fast, didn’t you?
If you’ve chosen the middle road (we’re guessing a lot of you will be here), make sure you do Sessions 1 through 8 and *Cracking the Code*, divert to The Alphabet Run (that’s Exercise 8 in the *Exercise Book*) if you feel like more practice (or more amusing sentences), then attack the Timing Session and FollowUp & Feedback.

You’ll probably skip most of the Exercises, but still get a complete grounding in the chording, and fairly nimble fingers, too.
OK, then, you get it all! After the Orientation in the Chording Book, proceed through the Sessions, and, in the Exercise Book, practice the Exercises that correspond to those Sessions. Check out Cracking the Code for the more esoteric symbols, beat up the sentences in the Alphabet Run, and then finish with the Timing Session and FollowUp & Feedback.

If there’s anything we’ve missed, please let us know.
After the Orientation in the Chording Book, look at Cracking the Code, then start the last section of the Chording Book with the Speed Section with *Most Common 9 plus one*, a new letter each sentence. This will get you through each letter of the alphabet quickly. Use the Crib Sheet when you need other symbols. Try The Alphabet Run to increase your skill. And don’t forget FollowUp & Feedback.

If there’s anything we’ve missed, please let us know.
Take a look at your keypad. You’ll see three key columns (left to right) and four rows (top to bottom).

The bottom row of three keys are the special command keys *Delete*, Caps, and *Nlock*. It's those nine upper keys that you'll be using the most.

Now, turn the keypad away from yourself, the way you'll naturally be using it. Can't see the keys, can you? Not to worry. As an unexpected EkaTetra bonus, you have now been endowed with Superman's X-Ray Vision. You're looking right through the EkaPad and seeing the key markings as they sit in space. Clever of you!

Look at the figure to the right. We call this picture of the three by three block of keys a slate.

You can use the slates on the Cheat Sheet to find a chord for any character. As you work through the sessions, you'll only need the Cheat Sheet for the less frequently used characters.

and from now on, because you are endowed, all slates shown are in x-ray views.
All right, I know you're dying to do it. Go ahead, key in some gibberish just for the fun of it. You'll notice that the letter appears when you release the key.

It's best if you use the same finger for the same row of keys.
- That's the *index finger* for the top three keys (sot);
- The *middle finger* for the middle three keys (aei),
- And the *ring finger* for the next three (hrn).
- The *pinky* is on the control row.

While you're at it, try the Caps key with that pinkie of yours. It's the middle of the bottom row. Do Caps (press and release the key) and then press and release a letter key. You should see a capital letter (an upper case letter).

```
  s  o  t
  a  e  i
  h  r  n
  N  C  D
```

Note: to get a capital letter, press and release (activate) the Caps key and then press and release the letter key. (Press and release (activate) is also shown as P&R.)
Want to put some space between letters? The *space* chord is the top two keys in the middle column (index and middle finger, together, o+e). A *chord* is pressing and releasing one or more keys at the same time.

Note: It’s not necessary to precisely press and release the keys in a chord at the same time, but it is necessary to have all the keys depressed at the same time. When the last key of a chord is released, the character is displayed.

How about a period? Top two keys in the left most column (index and middle finger, s+a).

Note: This is how we represent a chord. The main background color will vary, here it’s light blue, and chord is in gray. To activate the chord, press and release the two keys colored gray. (Remember it’s in x-ray view.)

Return (paragraph) anyone? Top two keys in the right most column (index and middle finger again, t+i).

Notice the pattern? Keep your eye out for more.

*space, period, return*
The comma completes this first set. It’s three fingered.

Add some to your screen now.

OK. Ready for something just a bit more structured?

Let’s enter one of the most typed words in Englished: the

Index finger on the right most key (upper Right), release. Then ring finger on the left most key (bottom Left), release. And, finally, the middle finger on the middle key (right smack in the center of the top nine), and release.

Slate by slate view:

```
  t
```

```
  h
```

```
  e
```

Try it a few times to get used to the positions of the keys. Be daring, add spaces, a few periods, try Caps (that’s upper case) when your fingers get the locations.

comma, the
Ready to move on? Type *the*. You own this word.

Now reach your index finger to the left most key (upper left) and press the *s* key, release. (You get the release thing, right?) Then type one more *e*. New word — *these*. Play with it like you did with *the*.

![Chord Layouts](image)

See the Exercise Book, Exercise 1 & 2; more practice available there with slate by slate layouts.

Congratulations! You’ve just learned over 40% of all the chords you’ll ever make.

Now, do me, yourself, and the rest of humanity a favor. Go back to the top of this page and do it again.

But this time, with your other hand. (Think about it.)
You guessed it. We’re adding more letters.
Key the following words until you’re happy with them.

those, their, thin, that, short, horn, roan, rain, another, ashore
astern, earshot, hasten, throne, hoarse, treason, train, tsar.

Do Exercise 2, words just from the Home slate.

Navigation and the Navigation state
The cursor can be moved with 3 always available chords:

Chording the Navigation state lets you control cursor movement within the page, sentence, and doc.

Navigation state
Cursor
Left
Right
Line
Up
Down
Page
Up
Down
Space

s o t a e i h r n, navigation
Post is a three finger chord which is used before another chord.

A few details before we move on to sentences.

Delete
The Delete key works just like the Delete key on Macintosh or the Backspace Key in Windows. Try it out on some of the words you've keyed.

CapsLock
CapsLock is done by first pressing the Caps key and then pressing the Nlock key. This 2 key sequence does the same as the capslock key on your desktop computer. To end CapsLock state, press Caps key again.

Nlock
OK, so you're curious. The Nlock key creates the number lock state. It stays active until you press the Nlock key again. It looks just like your phone pad, but in X-ray view. We'll get back to it later.

5 minute reversion When in Caps, CapsLock, Post, or any state, if no chord is entered within 5 minutes, the EkaPad returns to alpha state. If you leave the EkaPad (for coffee?), it will probably be in alpha state when you start up again.

Delete, CapsLock, Nlock
You guessed it. We're adding more letters. Key the following words until you're happy with them:

*those, thin, short, horn, rain, another, astern, earshot, hasten, hoarse, tsar.*

(Your memory will improve the more your fingers key the letters. Right?)

**Sentences**

- There is treason in the air.
- She sat astern, near the Eastern shore.
- He is on the hotseat. It is hot as an iron, too.

**Apostrophe**

How about an apostrophe. It’s another two finger chord but with a twist. First P&R the Caps key, then P&R the pair of keys (a chord) as shown (i with r). Or, if you prefer, use a curley apostrophe; P&R Post chord first.

- Her's is a hoarse Siren's throat.
- The irate, honest senator inserts satire into another's oath.

So, can you do all this with your other hand as well? Really, it's worth the effort, if only for the fatigue factor.

9 primaries
So, let’s recap.

You have all the letters on the home slate. You have most of the basic punctuation. You’ve gotten a hint at the number pad.

And, believe it or not, you now own about 70% of all your future keystrokes.

Congratulate yourself. You deserve it.

Any suggestions on how we could make this better, easier for you? Let us know.

More letters ahead, of course, and the Exercise Book has exercises for individual letters.

70%
The bmpdl slate shows how to obtain one of the letters b m p d or l. This slate requires a two finger chord. With this slate, the index finger will always press the middle key in the top row (the "o" key). Another finger will press the key represented by the letter you want. Press and release the two keys, the grey key and the letter key together. For example, to get a b, press "o" key and "a" key and release them together.

Take your time. Your fingers will catch up to your brain in just a bit.

  bear, door, mirror, posse, later

Repetition works. Do it till it feels right.

Ok, different sequencing now. soap, earl, shed, stab, sam

And drop them in the middle.

  tape, edits, stabber, smart, slimmer, stammer, patrols, small, blabber

b m p d l
The bear bites a bone.

Some rams roam the moor.

Edit this list and stop at the end!

This noble dame patrols her realm.

It's dinner time for the troops, so let's eat?

The slim damsels broom dealt the hamlet's despot a hard slap.

The aphids bend their bodies to moisten their dormant mantles.
You're really starting to get the hang of this, aren't you?

Besides, your fingers (all 8 we hope) are really doing a lot of the memory work.

So take a break and let's add parentheses, brackets and braces.

If you can press the two side by side keys with one finger, go for it!

You've no doubt seen the patterns at work here. Keep looking for more.

The Earl (a noble) does not see the hamlet's depot.

By the way, pat yourself on the back. You're over 80%.
On to the next slate:

Try a few words. Repeat till set.

zen, yes, coast, varies, snooze, sexy, savvy, size

zany, canny, vex, zero, zoysia, chintzy, anorexic, seize

Sentences:

The tzar creates no heaven on earth.

Cast thy yeas to try yeasty vines.

The natives are not naive, yet he can coax their eyes to this zone.
Good. Then let's mix it up a bit.

The coastline varies on the tidal ebb.

The erotic nectar cast its rich scent across the room.

The zany sox may zap the series yet.

She creates a history on the theory of casinos.

That hairy notary hates his artsy, rayon hosiery.
Let's take a small break to learn a few useful symbols.

What will this do for you?

http://www.wherever.com

And of course:

myname@here.net

Or:

samspade@casablanca.com

Play with it. Try your own e-mail address. Swap hands. Then swap hands again!
goose, foot, kin, snow, join, when

ogre, often, skin, rejoin, waiter, saw

took, rig, riff, faker, goof, jaw

Grown ferns take finger thin soaker jets.

His ego is giant, so fake the offer and stroke.

The engineer is knitting to feign a ring finger strain.

Her jaw was shakier when her great king grows.
We often rig the kit astearn the knot meter.

Notarize the foster parent papers, then wait for the kids to follow.

Soaring aloft is his favorite way to relax from the tasks of today.

Knitting is how she keeps her finger joints from freezing.

The ersatz zen satirist had a strange sense of joking.
For $q$ and $u$, the only 3 fingered alpha characters, you can use either of the chords to get a $q$, or either of the chords to get a $u$; all 4 chords are active.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>left hand chords</th>
<th>right hand chords</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>s o t</td>
<td>s o t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a e i</td>
<td>a e i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h r n</td>
<td>u q</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>q u</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

use, urn, unite, unrest, untie

His quota of antique sequins aroused her sour nature.
The nurse has a risque suitor quite sure to use her.
Haute cuisine is routine at the Sequoia Nature Suites.
That equation is the ruin of the unsure auto route.
Sentences, then.

We request your presence at the court hearing, today.

The sexy siren can stir a soul with her vocals.

Lousy torque specs was the reason the auto quit the race.

Why do you suppose we are learning to key with either hand?
Numbers again, as always, Xray views.

You can switch between Phone pad layout and 10 key layout using the Npad chord (Config + n). In Nlock or alpha, press and release the Npad chord to toggle between the two different number layouts. The examples here use the default, Phone pad layout.

P&R (press and release) the greyed keys as a chord for the symbol.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>+</th>
<th>-</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>/</th>
<th>*</th>
<th>(</th>
<th>)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 5 4</td>
<td>6 5 4</td>
<td>6 5 4</td>
<td>6 5 4</td>
<td>6 5 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 8 7</td>
<td>9 8 7</td>
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<td>9 8 7</td>
<td>9 8 7</td>
<td>9 8 7</td>
<td>9 8 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nlock</td>
<td>Nlock</td>
<td>Nlock</td>
<td>Nlock</td>
<td>Nlock</td>
<td>Nlock</td>
<td>Nlock</td>
<td>Nlock</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&R Nlock to return to alpha.

123-456-7890 $1,234,567,890.00 =8654.31 +((244.345/3.14+66.55)*(987-355))

Use 3post chord when in Nlock for &•\%!_"'? The rest is an easy look up on a Cheat Sheet. Go look, practice, enjoy.
Let's take a closer look at your Cheat Sheet slates. You've probably noticed patterns already, and yes, that is a color code there.

**Light Blue: Directly chorded, one, two or three fingered**

E.g.: All the letters, basic punctuation, and some symbols.

*The alpha state is the base state for the EkaPad. This state produces lower case letters and other blue characters. The Alpha chord always returns the EkaPad to the alpha state.*

P&R the alpha slate cord always returns the EkaPadd to this slate.

Press and release \( t \) gives \( t \).

Press anchor and \( f \) together, release together, gives \( f \).

Press both grey keys together, release, gives space.
Xray views; P&R means Press and Release

Light Green with grey Caps; P&R Caps first, then another chord.

Caps works only for the next chord, then reverts to the previous state.

P&R Caps, then P&R anchor and ? together gives ?.

Bright Green, with grey Caps(1st), and grey Nlock (2nd); P&R Caps, then P&R Nlock.

CapsLock stays until CapsLock is pressed and released again.

When in CapsLock, P&R Caps works as a prefix for ?, for example.
Xray views; P&R means Press and Release

**Tan is Post.** P&R the 3 center keys (bordered) together first, then another chord.

*Post works only for the next chord, then reverts to the previous state.*

**Brown is Post Caps.** P&R Post, then P&R Caps.

*PostCaps works only for the next chord, then reverts to the previous state.*

**Dark brown is 3post.** P&R the 3 keys enclosed by the border.

*3post & 3postCaps work only for the next chord, then revert to the previous state.*
Cracking the Code

Xray views; P&R means Press and Release

**Red is Nlock. P&R Nlock turns EkaPad into a number pad; phone layout is default.**

Nlock stays until Nlock is pressed and released again.

**Npad chord toggles number layout between phone pad and 10key pad.**

The number layout stays until Npad is pressed and released again. 10key pad shown

Npad = Config + n

**Dark Lime is Navigation. P&R the Navig chord and cursor control (with space) is now available.**

Navig stays until Navig chord is pressed and released again.

**Lime is Accent Marks. P&R the diagonal chord, then P&R the accent mark, then P&R the letter.**

Accent works only for one accented letter, then reverts to the previous state.

Congratulations are in order, my friends: You now have the 100% character package.

Red Slates & Lime Slates
Xray views

P&R stands for press and release. To activate a chord, press and release all the chord’s keys together.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slate</th>
<th>Home Slate</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>s o t</td>
<td>a e i</td>
<td>p &amp; r</td>
<td>b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a e i</td>
<td>h r n</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To capitalize a letter or get a symbol, P&R the Caps key before P&R-ing the character chord.

To get an Æ, find the icon, and P&R the keys as follows:

Note: PowerUp state is the state the EkaPad is in when you turn it on. The EkaPad remembers if you previously selected First or Last Finger Up (FingerUp) and also which number layout, phone or 10key (Npad), you have selected. It also remembers the Keeps & ShortCuts you may have entered, Trigger and Code settings. It will be in the Alpha state.
Xray views

P&R stands for press and release. To activate a chord, press and release all the chord’s keys together.

Icons and what they indicate

Note: Modes (Caps, Post, PostCaps, 3post, 3postCaps, Accent, Keep & ShortCut Access, Function) return to the previous state automatically after the completing chord.

Note: Pressing the Alpha state chord returns the EkaPad to PowerUp state. Pressing the Reset chord (Config) returns the EkaPad to its original states: Phone key layout in Nlock, Last finger up to send a character, and in Alpha state (lower case letters). CAUTION: RESET EMPTIES THE KEEPS, SHORTCUTS AND CODE. See the EkaPad Reference Book for details on Configs, ShortCuts, Keeps and Functions.

Icons 2
### Xray views

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nlock</th>
<th>3post</th>
<th>same as</th>
<th>Caps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 5 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 8 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>P&amp;R Nlock to exit.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Use 3post for symbols with Caps in Nlock or anywhere.

### Navigation

- P&R Navig to exit

### Command

- **Primary:** qwerty keyboard left side
- or Ctrl

- Option
- or Alt

- ctrl or ww

- ShiftL

- Forward
- Delete

---

**Compact Slates**
**Xray views**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>σ</th>
<th>Ø</th>
<th>¬</th>
<th>å</th>
<th>€</th>
<th>#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>ε</td>
<td>ç</td>
<td>\</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>ç</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*blue symbols vary by font*

**Compact Slates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>æ</th>
<th>¥</th>
<th>ø</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;</td>
<td>°</td>
<td>÷</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**additional character set**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Æ</th>
<th>∑</th>
<th>Ø</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Δ</td>
<td>≈</td>
<td>∫</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Macintosh**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>√</th>
<th>Ø</th>
<th>TM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>☺</td>
<td>Ø</td>
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**Windows additional**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>¼</td>
<td>½</td>
<td>¾</td>
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### Xray views

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character Set</th>
<th>Accent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(\delta)</td>
<td>(Æ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(\dot{D})</td>
<td>soft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&R Accent + mark + letter or space

### Config chords change settings

- **Config**
- **OS select**
- **GridPad**
- **Code**
- **Q Set**
- **Npad**
- **Reset**
- **Wake**
- **Sleep**
- **Phone**
- **Right**
- **Left**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Config</th>
<th>OS select</th>
<th>GridPad</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Q Set</th>
<th>Npad</th>
<th>Reset</th>
<th>Wake</th>
<th>Sleep</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Right</th>
<th>Left</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9 8 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>7 4 1</td>
<td>3 6 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W M</td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>Npd+0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Npd+p0</td>
<td>Npd+r</td>
<td>Npd+l</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To **hold down** Shift, \(\text{⌘}\), Option, ctrl, Alt, press for Trigger delay time (0.5 sec-2 secs) and then release. P&R to exit.

**Trigger** Repeat or HoldDown

---

Compact Slates Page 37 of 62
Store 99 ShortCuts & 99 Keeps; for 1 digit: \textit{Enter} \# \textit{entry} \textit{Enter}; For 2 digit: \textit{Enter} \textit{ Enter} \# \# \textit{entry} \textit{Enter}; To retrieve: \textit{Access} \#, or \textit{ AA##}.

To clear: \textit{Enter} \# \textit{Enter}, or \textit{ EE## E}.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ShortCut</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Keep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
<td>3 2 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 5 4</td>
<td>6 5 4</td>
<td>6 5 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 8 7</td>
<td>9 8 7</td>
<td>9 8 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 all empty</td>
<td>0 all empty</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;R F once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one digit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\textbf{3 2 1}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\textbf{6 5 4}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\textbf{9 8 7}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textbf{Restart} = FF99

\textbf{Version#}:
- \textbf{v}
- \textbf{vr}
- \textbf{Ver together}

10-1 access: P&R 10-1, P&R a digit. To get action, P&R a programed digit. To get another action, again P&R a programed digit.

10-ones & 10-ones

More actions until exit with 10-ones or Alpha Alpha

Compact Slates
GridPad

Windows:

Macintosh:

* / + - Enter

Windows only

Numlock switches between Page Up and Page Down

Mac and Windows

Gnum

Numlock

Insert

Home

Page Up

Page Down

Forward Delete

Arrow Left

Arrow Right

Arrow Up

Arrow Down

End

Compact Slates

In Mac, use Navig to move cursor.

In Windows, use the Navig key to move the cursor.
Xray views
Color coding on Cheat Sheets and Crib Cards

Compact Slates
Compact Slates Page 40 of 62
Timing

The Exercise Book has exercises for each letter, and sentences with all 26 letters. These may help you increase your skills.
Get out your watches, clocks, stopwatches, etc.

Please record the time it takes you to input the Real Story and/or a Regular test on the following pages. We suggest you do this more than once, timing yourself each time. And how about checking how the other hand compares?
Go for speed, but don't get too sloppy. Yes, you should count errors, too.

We all know you can do this. Please help us secure the future of EkaTetra.

Not to mention that of the human species.

And then there's all that self satisfaction, too.

Set up your crib slates, and get comfortable, limber, and psyched.

Now get out there and play ball!
The truth about the qwerty keyboard layout, you ask? Well, it is a bit more convoluted than you might think. Go back with us to the year 1867 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Christopher Sholes has just filed a patent application for a mechanical writing machine. His first models have an arrangement of keys set in rows in alphabetical order, and the operator uses only the index finger of each hand. (Yes, the old hunt and peck method.) The type bar strikes from below, so the operator does not see what he or she has just typed. The bars also jam a lot, especially on the often used two letter combinations like th, er, and many others. Jamming is bad.

So, Chris and educator Amos Densmore, brother of James Densmore (the major financial backer) go to work on those mechanical problems. Meanwhile, in 1873, Remington & Sons, the arms manufacturer, buys rights to produce the machines. Working with Chris and Amos, they come out with their new Remington No. 2 in 1878, giving it the brand name TYPE WRITER. It is convenient that the brand name can be speedily typed on only the top row of keys. Early Remington salesmen will be impressive.
Typing speed is never as serious an issue as jamming, everyone using two fingers and all. Then, in 1888, Remington stages a contest in Cincinnati. Frank McGurrin, a court stenographer from Salt Lake City (near the home of Remington), apparently memorizes the keyboard and becomes the first Touch Typist in history. In fact, he is the only contestant who uses all of his fingers. Moreover, he chooses the new Remington No. 2, the typewriter, with the now ubiquitous qwerty layout. Guess who wins!

McGurrin toured the country at Remington expense, converting the multitudes. The publicity stunt created an interest in touch typing, and the Remington typewriter. Funny how Remington was so ready.

So now we're stuck with a hundred year old keyboard layout designed to solve a short-lived mechanical problem. Well, at least for two handed typing, maybe.

One handed, and same handed, portable typing is a whole different issue.

Welcome to the evolution! The future is in your hand.
Regular test 1, 500 characters, 100 words

my watch fell in the water prevailing wind from the east never too rich and never too thin breathing is difficult I can see the rings on Saturn now physics quantum and chemistry are hard my bank account is overdrawn elections bring out the best we are having spaghetti time go shopping a problem with the engines elephants are afraid of mice my favorite place to visit three two one zero blast off my favorite subject is psychology circumstance is acceptable watch out for low flying objects if first

Regular test 2, 500 characters, 100 words

this is a very good idea reading week is just about here our fax number has changed thank you for your help no exchange without a bill the early bird gets the worm quicks up for safety this is too much to handle protect your environment world population is growing the library is closed today Mary had a little lamb teaching services will help we accept personal checks this is a non profit organization user friendly interface healthy food is good for you the postal service is slow travel at speeds

Follow Up and Thanks

Well, you should now be convinced that you can do it all.

How did you do by the numbers? Divide 430 by the number of minutes it took to complete the Real Story. That’s your word per minute score. For a Regular test, divide 100 by the minutes you took.

Studies show that people learning the old QWERTY keyboard get to about 14 words per minute after 11 hours of practice (1988, Potosnak) with an error rate of about 13%.

Add up your errors and divide them by 2150. What’s your rate? For each Regular test, divide by 500.

And how long did it take you to complete the lessons?

Less time than the 11 hours in the qwerty study, no doubt.

Are you better on the EkaPadd than others were on qwerty?

Welcome to the evolution. The future is in your hand. Either hand.

Thank you from all of us who are EkaTetra.
The eastern shore has a roan horse on it, near the sea.
As both babies are born, one is set in the basin.
Most common 9 letters plus c

Xray view

c  b

Each can contains ascorbic concentrate.

E  a  c  h  space  c  a  n  space  c  o  n  t  a

i  n  s  space  a  s  c  o  r  b  i  c  space  c

o  n  t  r  a  t  e  .period  return
Most common 9 letters plus $d$

Don’t detach the dart; add it to the adobe.
The feats of Fran are an affront to the faction.
A great goose is going to go to the other geese.
Joan joins the Jesters as Jetset Jean.
Most common 9 letters plus k

The king's kin are kookie kids.
Most common 9 letters plus /

A lenient lad looks on the lake, liking it.
Most common 9 letters plus $m$

Man's main method means making models.

```
Man's main method means making models.
```
Most common 9 letters plus \( p \)

The troop promptly spots the tape near the depot.
A quaint squire squints at the inquest.
An overt investor vetoes the version.
Most common 9 letters plus w

A wren wants to winter in the west wreath.

```
A  space  w  r  e  n  space  w  a  n  t  s  space  t
o  space  w  i  n  t  e  r  space  i  n  space  t  h
e  space  w  e  s  t  space  w  r  e  a  t  h .period
```
The Texas taxis exit next.
A stray theory is not an ornery oyster; it's a tiny yarn.
The tzar seizes his zither.