

How to Type Cherokee on a Mac

To type Cherokee on a Mac computer you will need two things: a Cherokee keyboard and a Cherokee font. This guide will walk you through the two types of Cherokee keyboards to help you determine the desired typing method, installing the Cherokee keyboard and installing Cherokee fonts on your Mac.

There are currently two Cherokee keyboards available: **Cherokee Nation** and **Phonetic Tsalagi**.

Cherokee Nation Typing Method: This keyboard utilizes the one key/one stroke typing method. This means with the keyboard turned on if you type oRY you will see ᏍᏏᏉ on your computer screen. This keyboard comes with a keyboard map to help the user find and learn where the Cherokee Syllabary characters are located on the keyboard. A map can be download from this link:

<https://www.cherokee.org/Portals/cherokeeorg/Language/Cherokee%20Nation%20Keyboard%20Layout.pdf>

Phonetic Tsalagi: This keyboard utilizes the phonetic typing method. This means with the keyboard turned on if you type osiyo you will see ᏍᏏᏉ on your computer screen. If you are unfamiliar with the Cherokee phonetic sounds you can download a Cherokee Syllabary chart with phonetic sounds from this link:

<https://www.cherokee.org/Portals/cherokeeorg/Language/syllabary%20handout.pdf>

Installing the Cherokee Nation keyboard layout:

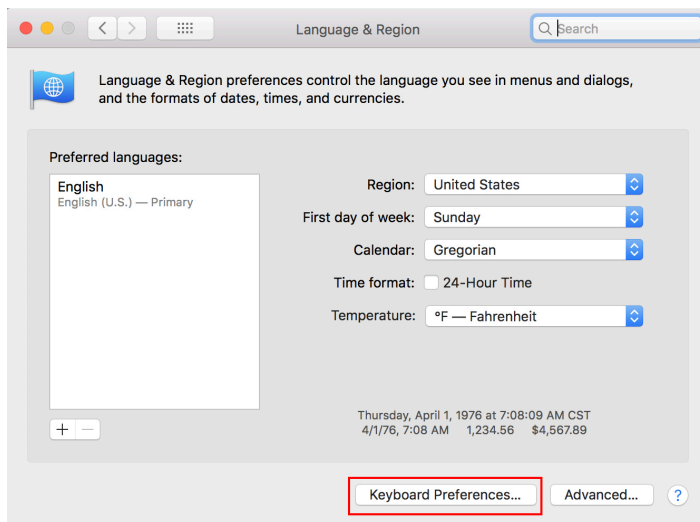
First click on the System Preference icon in your toolbar. If this icon is not present go to the top right and click on the Apple logo, then select System Preferences from the drop down menu.



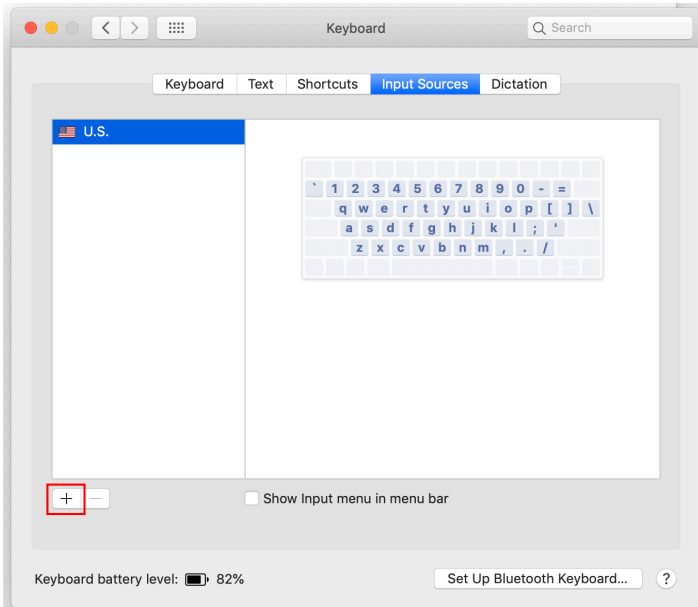
Now the below box will appear. Click on Language & Region.



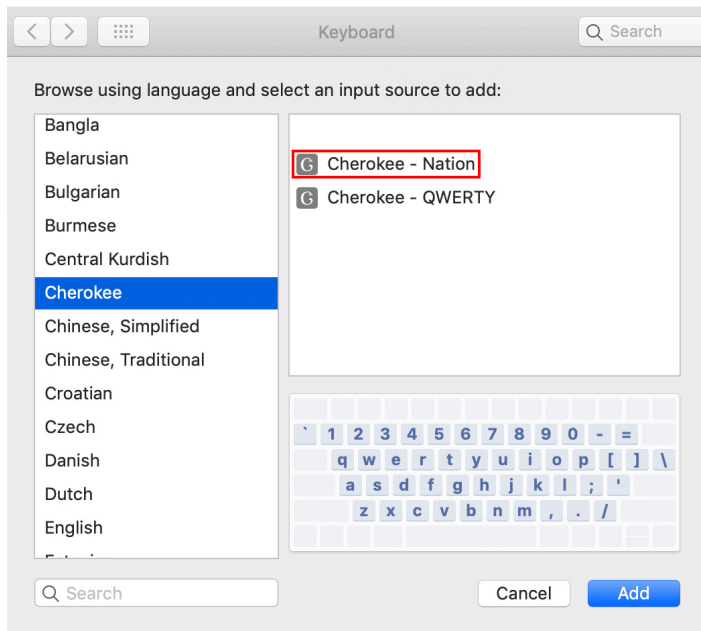
Then the Language & Region box will appear. Click on Keyboard Preferences.



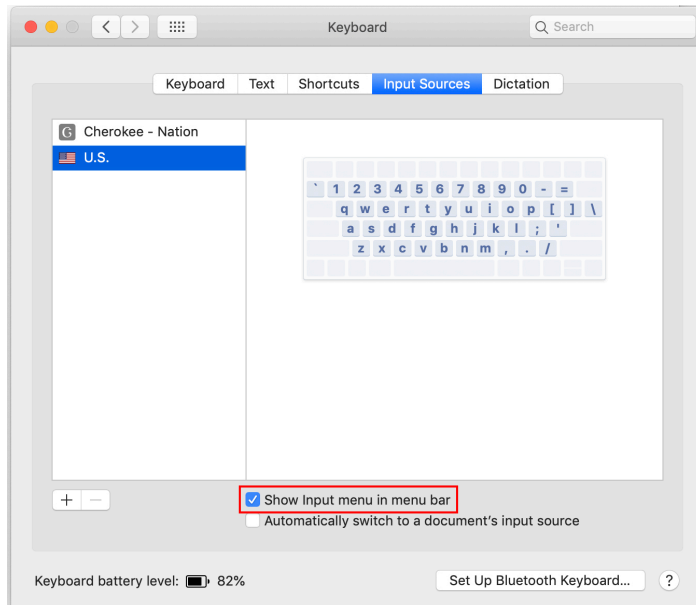
Now you will be taken to the Keyboard Input Sources box. Click on the Plus button to add a keyboard.



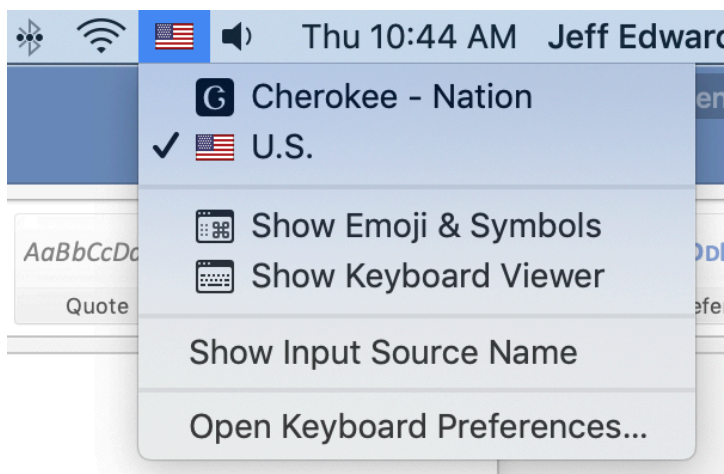
Scroll down on the left-hand side with your mouse until you see Cherokee. Click on this and two keyboards will appear in the right-hand pane. Select Cherokee Nation and hit add.



You have successfully installed the Cherokee Nation keyboard. Make sure to check the Show Input menu in the menu bar button before exiting.

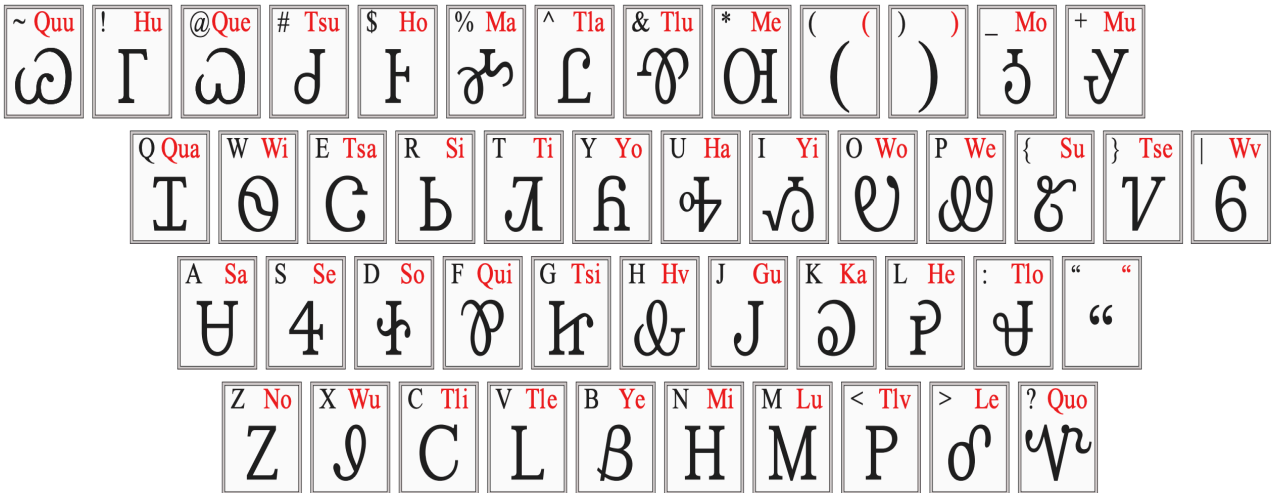


Now with the keyboard installed you will notice in the top right of your computer in the icon section an American Flag. Click on this flag and you can toggle between typing in English and Cherokee.



To type Cherokee, select Cherokee – Nation. Then turn on your CAPS key and you will have the ability to type the Cherokee Syllabary with the one key/one stroke method. Remember to download the Keyboard Map from the link above as a reference for typing until you learn where all the keys are located on the keyboard.

Upper Case (Shift+Key)



Lower Case

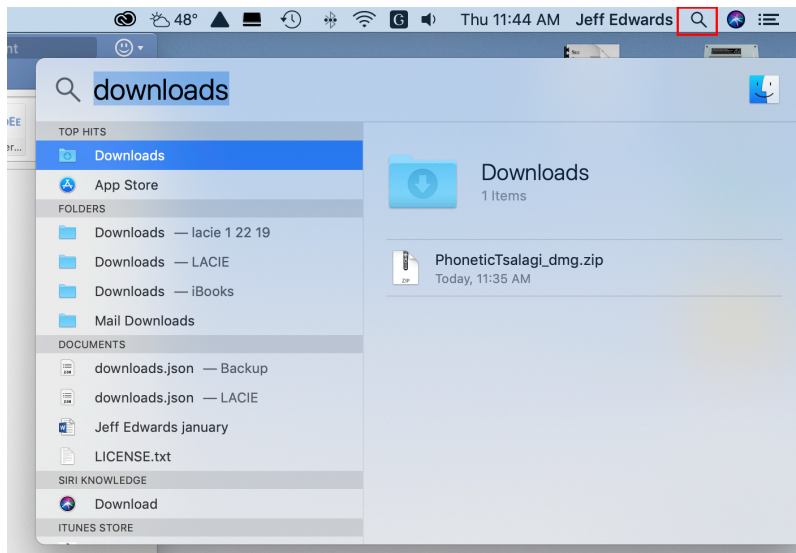


This image can be found and downloaded for free in the **Posters** section

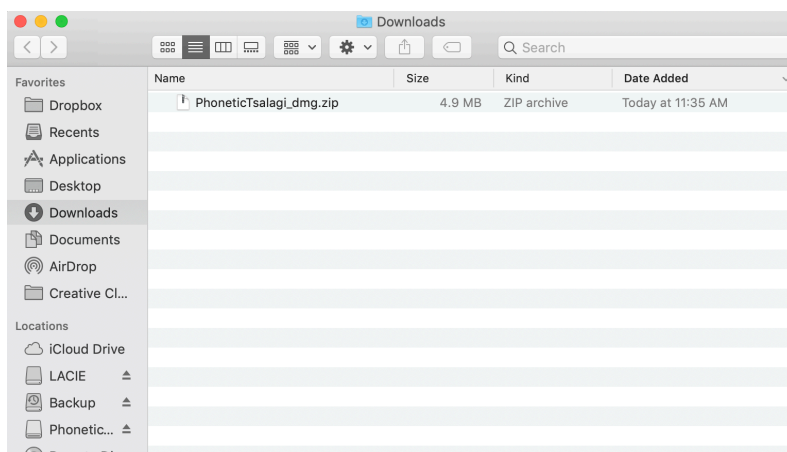
Installing the Phonetic Tsalagi keyboard layout:

To install the Phonetic Tsalagi keyboard find the file titled Phonetic Tsalagi Keyboard and click on the link. It will automatically download a zip version of the keyboard layout to your computer:

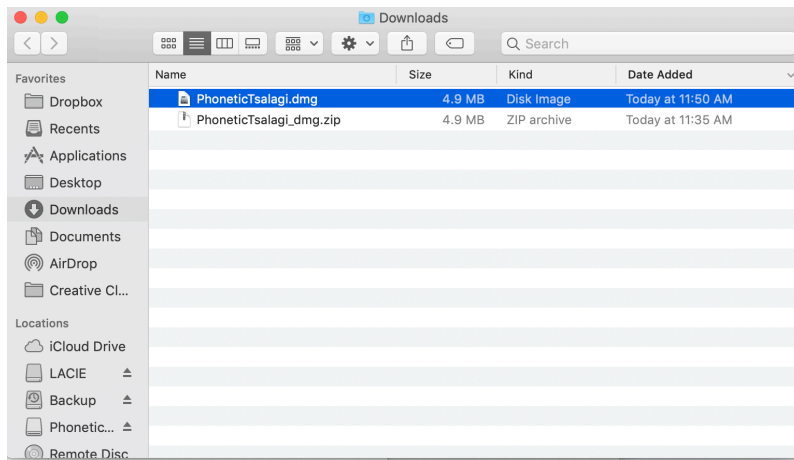
Now to find the zip file on your computer go up to the top right and locate the magnifying glass. This is your search option. Click it and type Downloads. Double click the top file name Downloads and this will open your Downloads folder.



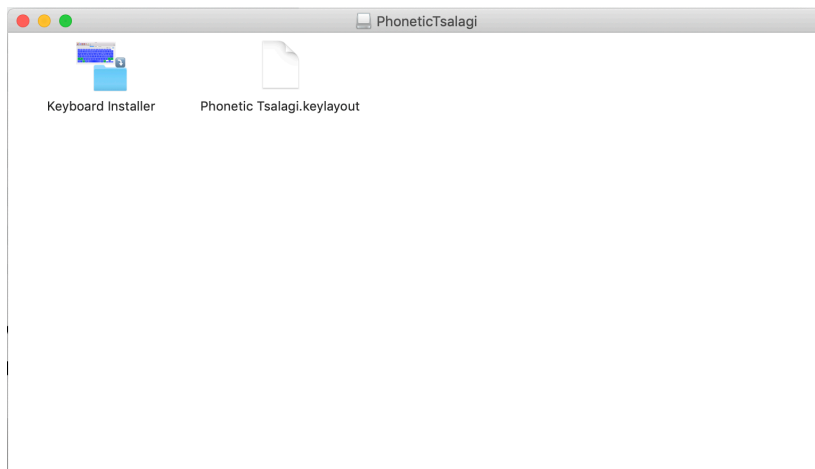
A new window will appear. This is your downloads folder. Anything downloaded from the internet will go into this folder by default. Double click on the PhoneticTsalagi_dmg.zip file.



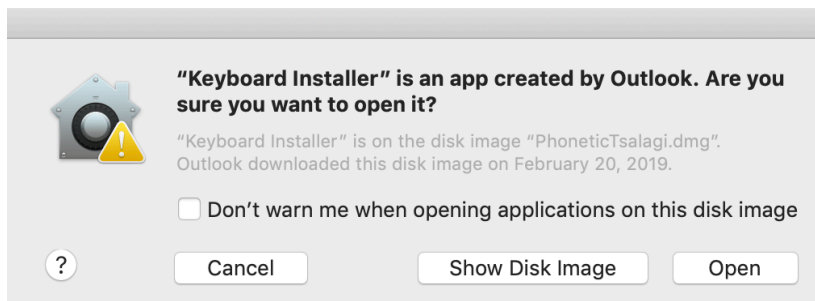
This will unzip the file and a new file will appear above the PhoneticTsalagi_dmg.zip file named PhoneticTsalagi.dmg. This will be your install file. Double click this file to begin the installation.



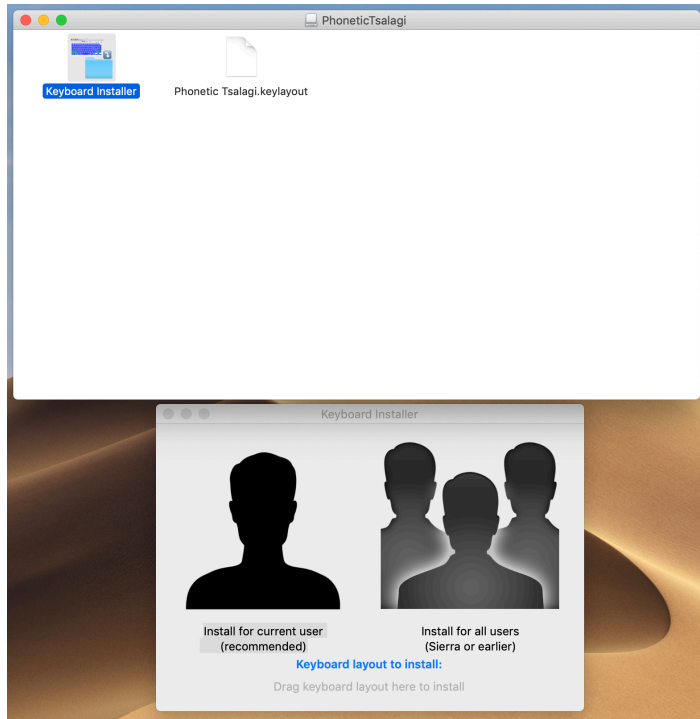
A window will open and will contain a Keyboard Installer file. Double click this file.



Depending on your security settings you might have a pop up box appear asking if your sure you want to open the file. Click Open.



Now you will have the file that original opened at the beginning of the install which contains Keyboard Installer and Phonetic Tsalagi.keylayout along with a new dialog window called Keyboard Installer. You can either install the keyboard only for the current user that is logged in or for all users that log in to the computer. To install the keyboard drag the file Phonetic Tsalagi.keylayout to either Install for current user or Install for all users. This will install the Keyboard Layout.



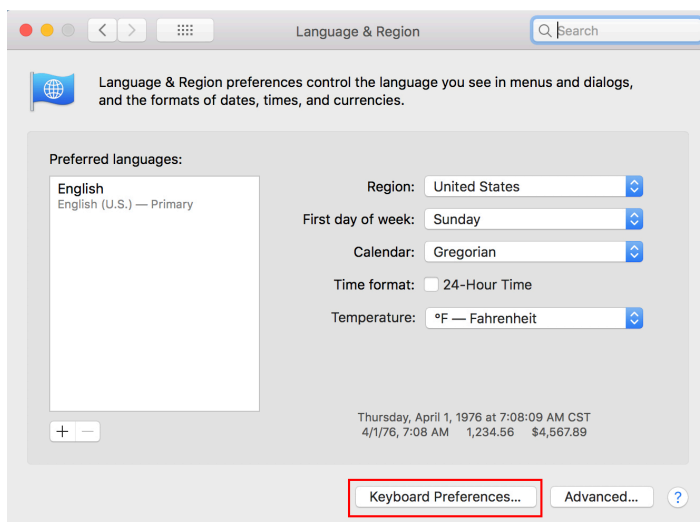
To turn the keyboard on click on the System Preference icon in your toolbar. If this icon is not present go to the top right and click on the Apple logo, then select System Preferences from the drop down menu.



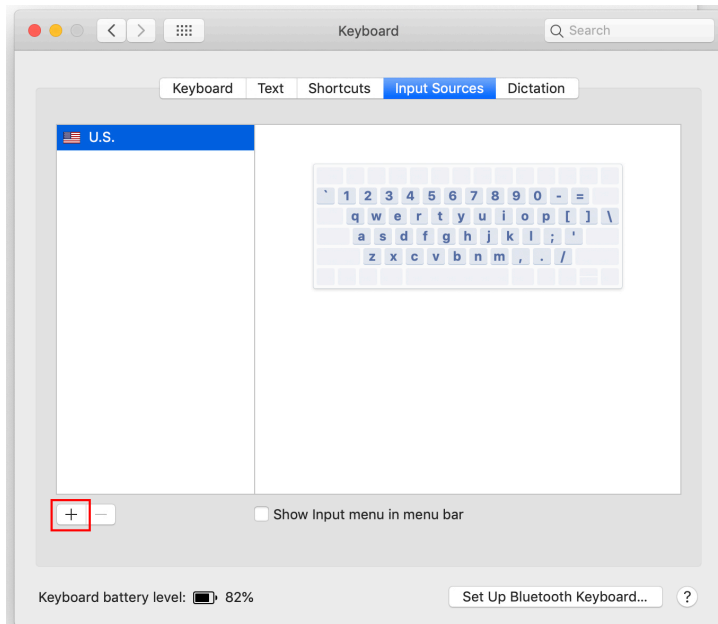
Now the below box will appear. Click on Language & Region.



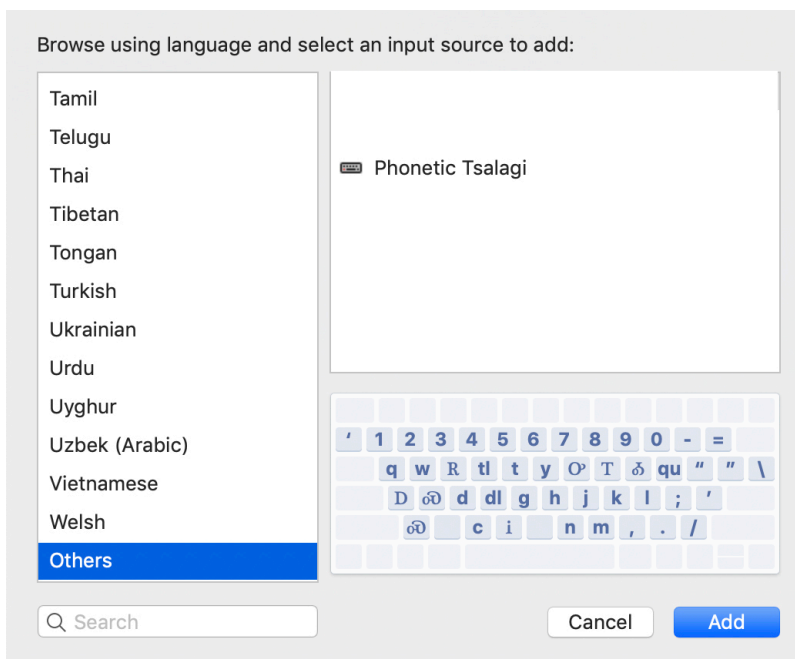
Then the Language & Region box will appear. Click on Keyboard Preferences.



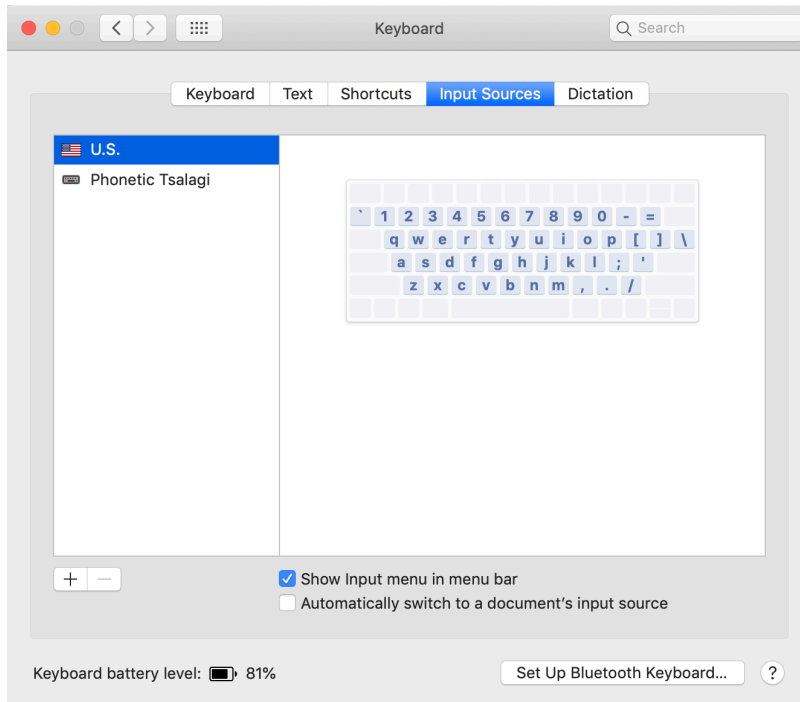
Now you will be taken to the Keyboard Input Sources box. Click on the Plus button to add a keyboard.



Scroll down to the very bottom of the keyboard selections, the last one will be Others. Click on this and in the right-hand pane Phonetic Tsalagi will appear. Click on this, then click the Add button. You have successfully installed the keyboard layout on your computer.



You will be returned to the Keyboard screen. Be sure to select Show Input menu in menu bar before exiting.



To access the new Phonetic Tsalagi keyboard you will notice in the top right icon bar an American Flag. Click on this and a drop down will appear. You will see Phonetic Tsalagi, select this to type Cherokee phonetically. Make sure your CAPS key is turned on to type Cherokee, turn it off to toggled between English and Cherokee.

