



Sam Houston Writing Center



French Keyboard Shortcuts for International Characters

When you are writing a paper in French you can format your text with keyboard shortcuts or numerical commands as follows:

(refer to your textbook or professor for clarification on the use of accents on capital letters)

Symbol	Keyboard Command	Numerical Command
À	ctrl + shift + `(accent grave), a	Alt + 0192
à	ctrl + `(accent grave), a	Alt + 0224
Â	Ctrl + shift + ^(caret), a	Alt + 0194
â	Ctrl + ^(caret), a	Alt + 0226
È	ctrl + shift + `(accent grave), e	Alt + 0200
è	ctrl + `(accent grave), e	Alt + 0232
É	ctrl + shift + '(apostrophe), e	Alt + 0201
é	ctrl + '(apostrophe), e	Alt + 130 Or Alt + 0233
Ê	Ctrl + shift + ^(caret), e	Alt + 0202
ê	Ctrl + ^(caret), e	Alt + 0234
ë	Ctrl + shift + : (colon), e	Alt + 0137
Î	Ctrl + shift + ^(caret), i	Alt + 0206
î	Ctrl + ^(caret), i	Alt + 0238
Ô	Ctrl + shift + ^(caret), o	Alt + 0212
ô	Ctrl + ^(caret), o	Alt + 0244
Û	Ctrl + shift + `(accent grave), u	Alt + 0217
û	Ctrl + shift + ^(caret), u	Alt + 0219
ù	Ctrl + ^(caret), u	Alt + 0251
ù	Ctrl + `(accent grave), u	Alt + 0249
Ç	Ctrl + ,(comma), shift + c	Alt + 0199
ç	Ctrl + ,(comma), c	Alt + 0231
€	2,0,a,c, alt + x	Alt + 0128

If the keyboard shortcut has a "+" you need to hold the keys down at the same time.
 If the keyboard shortcut has a "," between keys, then you just enter the keys in that sequence.
 To create some characters, you must press two or three keys simultaneously, followed by another key.
 To type a lower case character when the SHIFT key is part of the keys used, hold down the CTRL+SHIFT+*symbol* keys simultaneously, and then release them before typing the letter.