

Free Typing Tutorials and Tests

Notes for people with disabilities:

1. There are techniques for one-handed typing using a standard keyboard and special keyboards available.
2. Don't underestimate the progress that's been made in OCR (optical character recognition – harvesting electronic characters from paper documents) and in speech/voice recognition software (you talk, machine captures what you say, and your editing instructions), included in Office 2010 as well as available separately (e.g. Dragon Naturally Speaking).

Features you may want in a typing program:

- Lessons on HOW to type, if you never learned touch-typing
- On-screen keyboard (with F and J marked as on a real keyboard) so you can watch the screen rather than the keyboard. You will never develop great typing speed if you can't break the habit of looking at your hands and the keyboard.
- Drills to practice small groups of keys or fingers (home row, right hand, etc.) and evaluations to motivate additional progress
- Analysis of results – extra practice for keys frequently missed, targeted drills
- Once enough letters are mastered, drills that use words and sentences rather than nonsense characters
- Backspace/delete keys enable you to correct mistakes on the fly
- Enough tests so that your speeds aren't increasing because of repeated tests.
- Long tests, short tests

Downloadable freeware:

CNET is a trusted source for downloads and reviews of software. Make sure you pay attention as you make your selections during the download process.

http://download.cnet.com/Klavaro-Touch-Typing-Tutor/3000-2051_4-10794529.html

http://download.cnet.com/Rapid-Typing-Tutor/3000-2051_4-10666000.html

Online only:

Sites change. Do your homework before visiting these sites, which are often blocked by our anti-malware program.

<http://www.typingtest.com>