

These instructions are taken from the help file of a free keyboard building app called Ukulele.

http://scripts.sil.org/cms/scripts/page.php?site_id=nrsi&id=ukelele

Installing a Keyboard Layout

There are several places on your computer where you can install a keyboard layout. The main difference between them is who is able to see and use the keyboard layout.

If you want the keyboard layout to be visible only to yourself and no other users on your computer, install it in the folder

`~/Library/Keyboard Layouts`

where `~` means your home folder. In other words, this is a folder called "Keyboard Layouts" (which you can create if it doesn't already exist) in the Library folder inside your home folder.

If you want the keyboard layout to be used by any user of your computer, the folder to install is:

`/Library/Keyboard Layouts`

That is a folder called "Keyboard Layouts" in the Library folder at the top level of your startup disk. Again, you can create it if it doesn't already exist.

Finally, if your computer is used as a server for other Macs, you can put the keyboard layout in the folder:

`/Network/Library/Keyboard Layouts`

That is a folder called "Keyboard Layouts" inside a folder called "Library" inside the Network folder at the top level of your startup disk. Again, you can create these folders as needed.

One final important word about installing a keyboard layout. The operating system scans these folders when you log in, and loads the keyboard layouts only if the folder has changed since you last logged in or the computer was restarted. Generally, this means that you can install your keyboard layout, log out, log in again, and the keyboard layout is available for use.

The difficulty is when you modify an already installed keyboard layout. In this case, the keyboard layout file has been modified, but the folder has

not changed, and so logging out and logging in again does not load the new version. In this case, what you should do is to drag the keyboard layout file out of the Keyboard Layouts folder, say to the desktop, and then drag it back in. This changes the folder, so that logging out and logging in again will load the new version.

Enabling and Using a Keyboard Layout

To enable and use a keyboard layout is a two-step process. The first step is accomplished in the System Preferences program, with the International pane. You need to click on the Input Menu tab (at least on 10.4 and 10.5).

In the list that is in the pane, you should be able to find the keyboard layout that you have installed. The name that the keyboard layout is given in Ukelele is the relevant one, not the file name. You can sort the table by various columns, so where it appears is dependent on which column is the sort column.

Once you have found your keyboard layout, you need to ensure that the check box in the first column is checked, which will not be the case when the keyboard layout is first installed. Also ensure that “Show input menu in menu bar” at the bottom of the window is checked.

The second step is to enable the keyboard from the Input menu. This menu is on the right of the menu bar, and usually has a flag there, corresponding to the current input source (keyboard layout or input method). If the Input menu is not shown, it has to be enabled in International Preferences. You then can activate your keyboard layout by selecting it from the menu.