

5-22-2024

## **Kludge Cataloging: Cobbling Together Hebrew Bibliographic Records When You Can't Read Hebrew**

Angela Kroeger

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/crisslibfacproc>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Please take our feedback survey at: [https://unomaha.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8cchtFmpDyGfBLE](https://unomaha.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8cchtFmpDyGfBLE)

א  
ב  
ג  
ד  
ה  
ו  
ז  
ח  
ט  
י  
כ  
ל  
מ  
נ  
ס  
ע  
פ  
צ  
ק  
ר  
ש  
ת

א  
ב  
ג  
ד  
ה  
ו  
ז  
ח  
ט  
י  
כ  
ל  
מ  
נ  
ס  
ע  
פ  
צ  
ק  
ר  
ש  
ת

# Kludge Cataloging:

## Cobbling Together Hebrew Bibliographic Records When You Can't Read Hebrew

Angela Kroeger  
Metadata Coordinator, Archives & Special Collections  
University of Nebraska at Omaha

NLA C&U/TSRT Joint Spring Meeting, May 22, 2024, Doane University  
Director's Cut Edition: Includes Slides Not Shown During Lighting Round

# Kripke-Veret Collection of the Jewish Federation at the University of Nebraska at Omaha

- 30,000+ volumes
- received in 2020
- mostly in English
- 1,700+ in Hebrew
- 200+ in Yiddish
- 100+ in Aramaic
- a few in German, French, Polish, etc.



From left: Jen Conway (UNO), Shirly Banner (JFO), Sharon Comisar-Langdon (JFO), Bob Goldberg (JFO), Dave Richards (UNO), Angela Kroeger (UNO) and Amy Schindler (UNO)

<https://www.unomaha.edu/news/2023/08/uno-libraries-largest-ever-book-donation.php>

# Cataloging challenges

- Left-to-Right text (English) and Right-to-Left text (Hebrew) in same field or subfield not handled well by any system
  - Inserted text, subfield codes, and leading/trailing spaces may jump around unexpectedly (copy and paste may not put things where you expect)
  - Behaves differently in WorldCat versus my local system (Alma)
- When two title pages are present (English and Hebrew), cataloging rules only require transcription of statement of responsibility and publication information from one, omitting valuable information
  - Consider adding notes with transcribed text from added title page
- Some WorldCat records have Hebrew text without accompanying romanization
  - Must add linked fields with romanized text (or derive CatL:eng record, if appropriate)
- Some WorldCat records have romanized Hebrew without the original script
  - Must add linked fields with Hebrew script

# Things I look for in (or add to) a bibliographic record for a bilingual text

OCLC 1432310502 Held by NBU - no other holdings

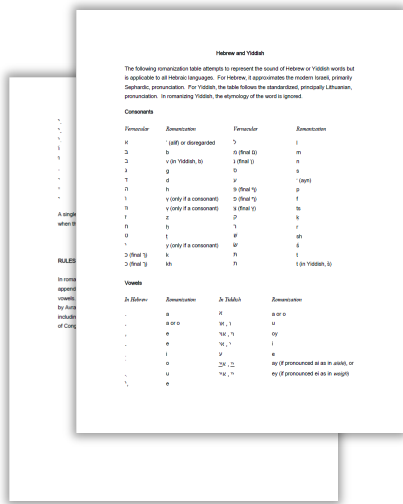
Books	Rec stat	c	Entered	20240501	Replaced	20240501112037.6
Type a	ELvl	Srcce	d	Audn	Ctrl	Lang heb
BLvl m	Form	Conf	0	Biog	MRec	Ctry nyu
	Cont	GPub		LitF	0	Indx 0
Desc i	llls	a f	Fest	0	DtSt	s Dates 1941

040		NBU	#b	eng	#e	rda	#c	NBU	#d	NBU
066		#c	(2)							
041	1	heb	#a	eng	#h	heb				
049		NBUA								
130	0	Haggadah.	#l	English & Hebrew.						
-245	1	0								סדר הגדה של פסח : #b עם עטורים וציורים / #c מאת אשר פורסט.
-245	1	0	Seder hagadah shel Pesah :	#b	'im	'iturim ye-tsiyurim / #c	me-et	Asher	Forst,	
246	1	5	Haggada of Passover / #g	with a new translation by Abraham Regelson ; illustrated by Siegmund Forst						
-246	1	4								הגדה של פסח
-246	1	4	Hagadah shel Pesah							
246	1	4	Passover Haggada							
-264	1									נייורק : #b הוצאת שילה, #c [1941].
-264	1		Nuyork :	#b	Hotsa'at	Shiloh, #c	[1941].			
264	4		#c	©1941						
300			42, 42	pages, 8 unnumbered leaves of plates :	#b	illustrations (some color) ; #c	32	cm		
336			text	#b	txt #2	rdacontent				
337			unmediated	#b	n #2	rdamedia				
338			volume	#b	nc #2	rdacarrier				
500			"Copyright 1941 by Zevi Scharfstein."	--Title page verso.						
500			Issued with gold cover. Text and some illustrations printed in black. Plates printed in brown, blue, and red ink.							
546			Vocalized Hebrew and English on facing pages.							
630	0	0	Haggadah	#x	illustrations.					
650	0		Seder	#x	Liturgy.					
650	0		Haggadot	#v	Texts.					
-700	1									רגלסון, אברהם.
-700	1		Regelson, Abraham,	#d	1896-1981, #e	translator. #1	<a href="https://id.oclc.org/worldcat/entity/E39PBJyhhYb4rbBTQ68dhdhHC">https://id.oclc.org/worldcat/entity/E39PBJyhhYb4rbBTQ68dhdhHC</a>			
-700	1									פורסט, סיגמונד.
-700	1		Forst, Siegmund,	#e	illustrator.					
700	1		Scharfstein, Zevi,	#d	1884-1972, #e	publisher.				

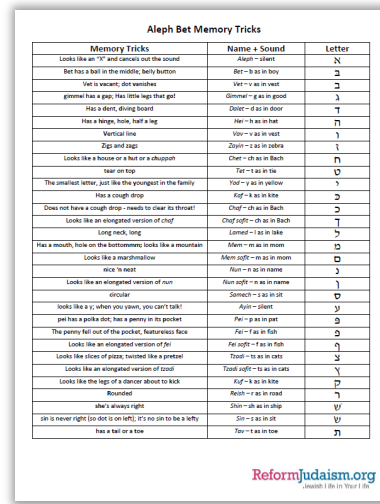
- Hebrew script and romanization in linked fields
- Transcription of statement of responsibility from added title page
- MARC 041 and 546 fields for languages

# The four sheets of paper I keep close at hand



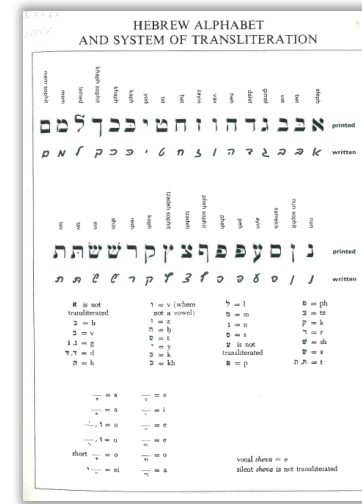
ALA Hebrew and Yiddish Romanization Table

<https://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/romanization/hebrew.pdf>



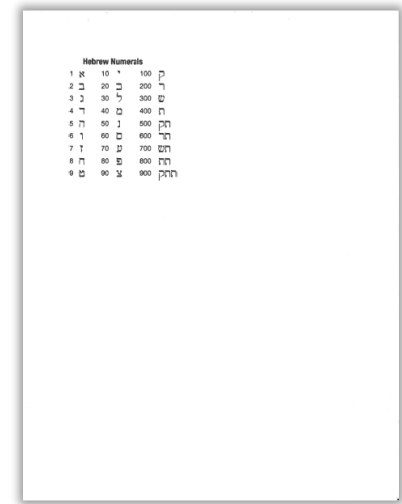
Aleph Bet Memory Tricks from ReformJudaism.org

Not available on the open web, but a very similar resource can be found here: <https://images.shulcloud.com/1239/uploads/Documents/For-Website/Aleph-Bet-Memory-Tricks.pdf>



Hebrew Alphabet and System of Transliteration [with Hebrew Cursive]

Photocopied from: Widoger, Deborah. *The International Jewish Encyclopedia*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1973



Hebrew Numerals chart

Yocheved, Kochava. "When Hebrew Letters Are Actually Numbers." *You're Not Crazy* [blog]. September 19, 2011. <https://buildingajewishlife.com/2011/09/when-hebrew-letters-are-actually-numbers/>

# ALA Hebrew and Yiddish Romanization Table

Additional resources necessary “for the purpose of supplying vowels.”



**Hebrew and Yiddish**

The following romanization table attempts to represent the sound of Hebrew or Yiddish words but is applicable to all Hebraic languages. For Hebrew, it approximates the modern Israeli, primarily Sephardic, pronunciation. For Yiddish, the table follows the standardized, principally Lithuanian, pronunciation. In romanizing Yiddish, the etymology of the word is ignored.

**Consonants**

Vernacular	Romanization	Vernacular	Romanization
א	' (alif) or disregarded	ל	l
ב	b	מ (final ם)	m
ב	v (in Yiddish, b)	נ (final ן)	n
ג	g	ס	s
ד	d	ע	' (ayn)
ה	h	פ (final ף)	p
ו	v (only if a consonant)	פ (final ף)	f
ו	v (only if a consonant)	צ (final ץ)	ts
ז	z	ק	k
ח	h	ר	r
ט	t	ש	sh
י	y (only if a consonant)	שׁ	ś
כ (final ך)	k	ת	t
כ (final ך)	kh	ת	t (in Yiddish, ś)

**Vowels**

In Hebrew	Romanization	In Yiddish	Romanization
א	a	א	a or o
א	a or o	א, ו	u
א	e	א, ו	oy
א	e	א, י	i
א	i	ע	e
א	o	א, א	ay (if pronounced ai as in <i>aisle</i> ), or
א	u	א, א	ey (if pronounced ei as in <i>weigh</i> )
א	e		

א	ai
א	e
א	i
א	o
א	u
א	e or disregarded
א	a
א	e
א	o

A single prime (') is placed between two letters representing two distinct consonantal sounds when the combination might otherwise be read as a digraph.

hishtid                      היסחיד

**RULES OF APPLICATION**

In romanizing Hebrew, it is often necessary to consult dictionaries and other sources as an appendage to the romanization table presented here, primarily for the purpose of supplying vowels. The principal dictionary used is *ha-Milon ha-ḥadash* (Jerusalem: Kiryat-sefer, 1966-1970) by Avraham Even-Shoshan. More detailed instructions on romanization of Hebrew and Yiddish, including cataloging guidelines, can be found in *Hebraica Cataloging* (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, Cataloging Distribution Service, 1987) by Paul Maher.

**RULES OF APPLICATION**

In romanizing Hebrew, it is often necessary to consult dictionaries and other sources as an appendage to the romanization table presented here, primarily for the purpose of supplying vowels. The principal dictionary used is *ha-Milon ha-ḥadash* (Jerusalem: Kiryat-sefer, 1966-1970) by Avraham Even-Shoshan. More detailed instructions on romanization of Hebrew and Yiddish, including cataloging guidelines, can be found in *Hebraica Cataloging* (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, Cataloging Distribution Service, 1987) by Paul Maher.

<https://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsoromanization/hebrew.pdf>

# ALA Hebrew and Yiddish Romanization Table

- “The principal dictionary used is *ha-Milon he-ḥadash* (Jerusalem: Kiryat-sefer, 1966-1970) by Avraham Even-Shoshan.”
  - Seven volume set
  - We have this . . . somewhere in the boxes of uncataloged materials
- “More detailed instructions on romanization of Hebrew and Yiddish, including cataloging guidelines, can be found in *Hebraica Cataloging* (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, Cataloging Distribution Service, 1987) by Paul Maher.”
  - 2005 edition of Maher’s work is 64 pages long
  - Probably superseded by *Hebraica Cataloging RDA*, by Joan Biella, Benjamin Fryser, and Heidi Lerner (2019 edition, 90 pages)
  - Assumes user already knows Hebrew basics



# Learning the Aleph-Bet

א ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י כ ל מ נ ס ע פ פ פ צ ק ר ש ש ת

- *Learn to Read Hebrew for Adults*
  - 10-week online course from the Union for Reform Judaism
  - Focused on teaching the letters, with minimal vocabulary and no grammar
  - By the end of the course, I still couldn't read Hebrew, but I could reliably identify the consonants in most common fonts and the vowels in vocalized text (but, alas, most Hebrew text is unpointed)
- Flash cards
  - Repetition is the key to learning (and the key to learning is repetition)
  - Repetition is the key to learning (so said my high school chemistry teacher)
  - Repetition is the key to learning (I'm having flashbacks to high school)

# Learning the Aleph-Bet

- Memory tricks to help associate the letter with the sound
- Resource from the *Learning to Read Hebrew for Adults* class
- Similar Hebrew alphabet mnemonics are available on the open web
- Similar mnemonics are often available for other non-roman languages

Aleph Bet Memory Tricks

Memory Tricks	Name + Sound	Letter
Looks like an "X" and cancels out the sound	<i>Aleph</i> – silent	א
Bet has a ball in the middle; belly button	<i>Bet</i> – b as in boy	ב
Vet is vacant; dot vanishes	<i>Vet</i> – v as in vest	ב
gimmel has a gap; Has little legs that go!	<i>Gimmel</i> – g as in good	ג
Has a dent, diving board	<i>Dalet</i> – d as in door	ד
Has a hinge, hole, half a leg	<i>Hei</i> – h as in hat	ה
Vertical line	<i>Vav</i> – v as in vest	ו
Zigs and zags	<i>Zayin</i> – z as in zebra	ז
Looks like a house or a hut or a <i>chuppah</i>	<i>Chet</i> – ch as in Bach	ח
tear on top	<i>Tet</i> – t as in tie	ט
The smallest letter, just like the youngest in the family	<i>Yod</i> – y as in yellow	י
Has a cough drop	<i>Kaf</i> – k as in kite	כ
Does not have a cough drop - needs to clear its throat!	<i>Chaf</i> – ch as in Bach	כ
Looks like an elongated version of <i>chaf</i>	<i>Chafsofit</i> – ch as in Bach	ך
Long neck, long	<i>Lamed</i> – l as in lake	ל
Has a mouth, hole on the bottom; looks like a mountain	<i>Mem</i> – m as in mom	מ
Looks like a marshmallow	<i>Memsofit</i> – m as in mom	ם
nice 'n neat	<i>Nun</i> – n as in name	נ
Looks like an elongated version of <i>nun</i>	<i>Nunsofit</i> – n as in name	ן
circular	<i>Samech</i> – s as in sit	ס
looks like a y; when you yawn, you can't talk!	<i>Ayin</i> – silent	ע
pei has a polka dot; has a penny in its pocket	<i>Pei</i> – p as in pat	פ
The penny fell out of the pocket, featureless face	<i>Fei</i> – f as in fish	פ
Looks like an elongated version of <i>fei</i>	<i>Feisofit</i> – f as in fish	ף
Looks like slices of pizza; twisted like a pretzel	<i>Tzadi</i> – ts as in cats	צ
Looks like an elongated version of <i>tzadi</i>	<i>Tzadisofit</i> – ts as in cats	ץ
Looks like the legs of a dancer about to kick	<i>Kuf</i> – k as in kite	ק
Rounded	<i>Reish</i> – r as in road	ר
she's always right	<i>Shin</i> – sh as in ship	ש
sin is never right (so dot is on left); it's no sin to be a lefty	<i>Sin</i> – s as in sit	ש
has a tail or a toe	<i>Tav</i> – t as in toe	ת

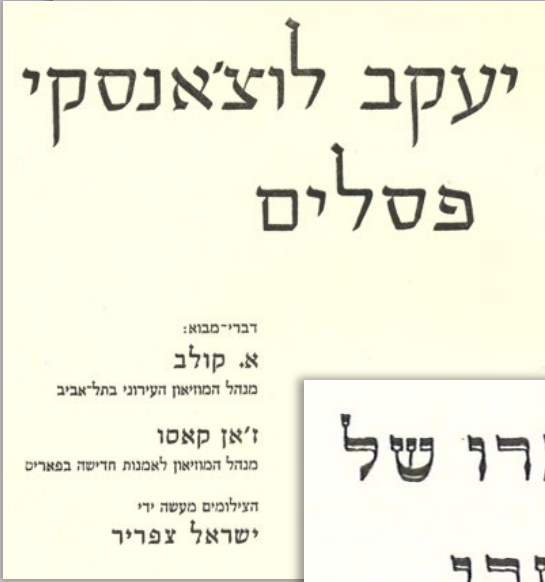
# Hebrew fonts

(sampled from random title pages in our collection)



ספר קנה

פיתוחי עץ סאת יעקב שטיינברג • כתוב בירי פונטיקה ברור

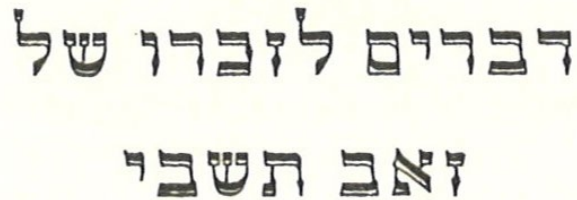


יעקב לוצ'אנסקי  
פסלים

דברי-מבוא:  
א. קולב  
מנהל המוזיאון הקירוני בתל-אביב

ז'אן קאסו  
מנהל המוזיאון לאמנות חדישה בפאריס

הצילומים מקשה ידי  
ישראל צפריד



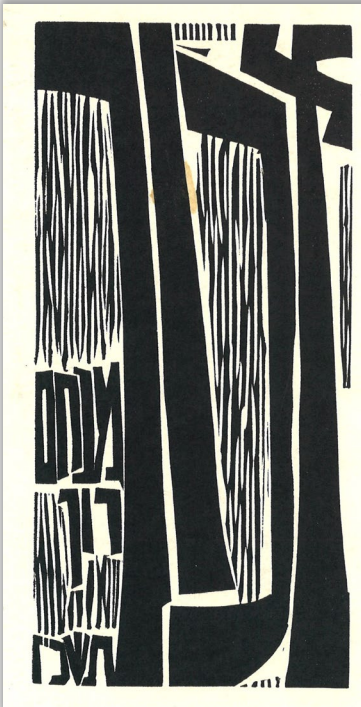
דברים לזכרו של  
זאב תשבי

Typical serif fonts



מגילת  
רות

Stylized, easy to read



אדם

Stylized, hard to read



אילן הייטנר

מלך החומוס  
ומלכת האמבטיה

Sans serif block letters



הגדה  
פסח

עם  
עטורים וציוורים  
מאת  
אשר פודסט

Vocalized! (Rare)

# Hebrew cursive

- Some letters unrecognizable compared with printed Hebrew
- The ALA Romanization Table is no help here
- This author in print letters:  
איילת ולדמן
- This title in print letters:  
אהבה ועוד משימות בלתי אפשריות

איילת ולדמן

אהבה

ועוד משימות בלתי אפשריות

מאנגלית: אסנת הדר







KRIPKE  
333 S. Union St.  
CHICAGO, IL 60604

# Hebrew cursive

- Photocopied from a print book:  
Widoger, Deborah. *The International Jewish Encyclopedia*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1973.
- Of limited help, when handwriting can vary so widely
- Must convert cursive to printed Hebrew for the bibliographic record

HEBREW ALPHABET  
AND SYSTEM OF TRANSLITERATION

mem sophit	mem	lamed	kaph sophit	kaph	yod	tet	het	zayin	vav	heh	daleth	gimel	vat	bet	aleph	
															printed	
															written	
tav	tav	sin	shin	resh	kaph	tzadeh sophit	tzadeh	pheh sophit	pheh	peh	ayin	samekh	nun sophit	nun		
															printed	
															written	

<p>Ⓚ is not transliterated</p> <p>ב = b</p> <p>ב = v</p> <p>ג, ג = g</p> <p>ד, ד = d</p> <p>ה = h</p>	<p>ו = v (where not a vowel)</p> <p>ז = z</p> <p>ח = h</p> <p>ט = t</p> <p>י = y</p> <p>כ = k</p> <p>כ = kh</p>	<p>ל = l</p> <p>מ = m</p> <p>נ = n</p> <p>ס = s</p> <p>ע is not transliterated</p> <p>פ = p</p>	<p>פ = ph</p> <p>צ = tz</p> <p>ק = k</p> <p>ר = r</p> <p>ש = sh</p> <p>ש = s</p> <p>ת, ת = t</p>
---	---	---	--

<p>ַ = a</p> <p>ָ = a</p> <p>ֹ, ֻ = o</p> <p>ִ, ֵ = u</p> <p>short ַ = o</p> <p>ֵ = ei</p>	<p>ֶ = e</p> <p>ִ = i</p> <p>ֵ = e</p> <p>ֶ = e</p> <p>ֹ = o</p> <p>ֺ = o</p> <p>ֻ = a</p>
--	--

vocal sheva = e  
silent sheva is not transliterated

# Hebrew vocabulary freebie: מאת

- A word you'll see on many title pages: מאת
- Romanized: me-et
- Translated: by
- Usually a reliable indicator of where your MARC 245 \$c should begin

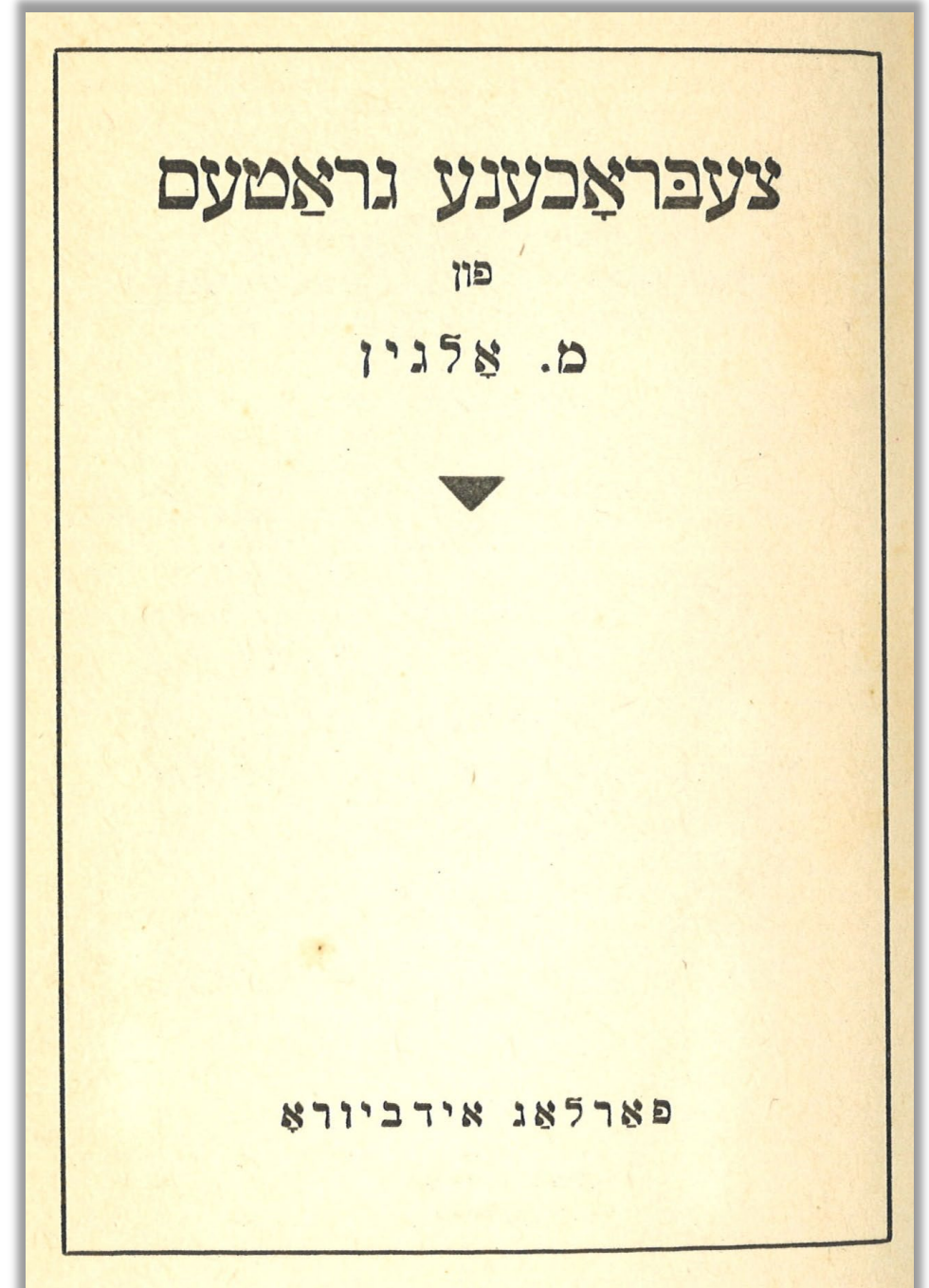
פיתוחי עץ מאת יעקב שטיינהרט

עם  
עטורים וציורים  
מאת  
אשר פודסט

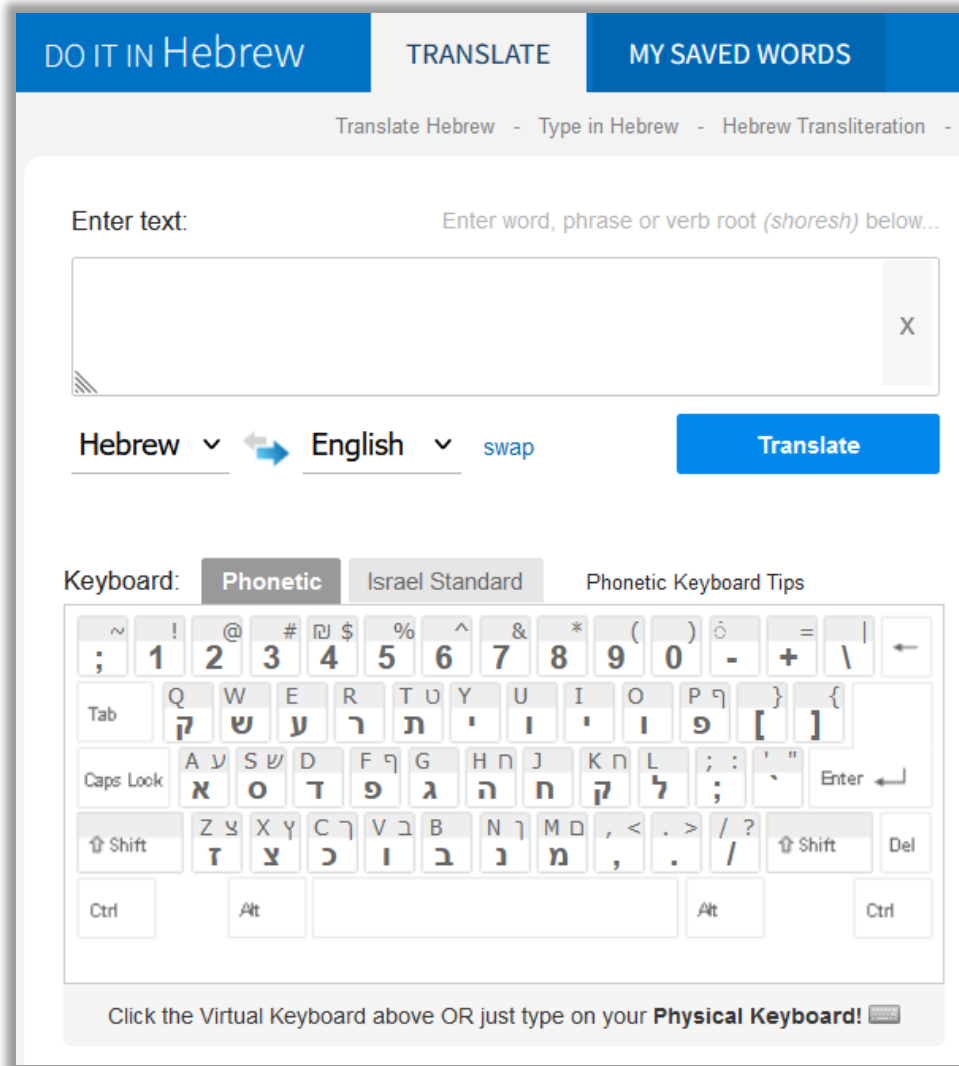


# Yiddish

- Uses the same letters as Hebrew
- Pronunciation and grammar are more closely related to German
- If you see פון (fun) where the title page layout would lead you to expect מאַ (me-et), it's a good indication that the book is in Yiddish



# Typing in Hebrew: The Way I Learned

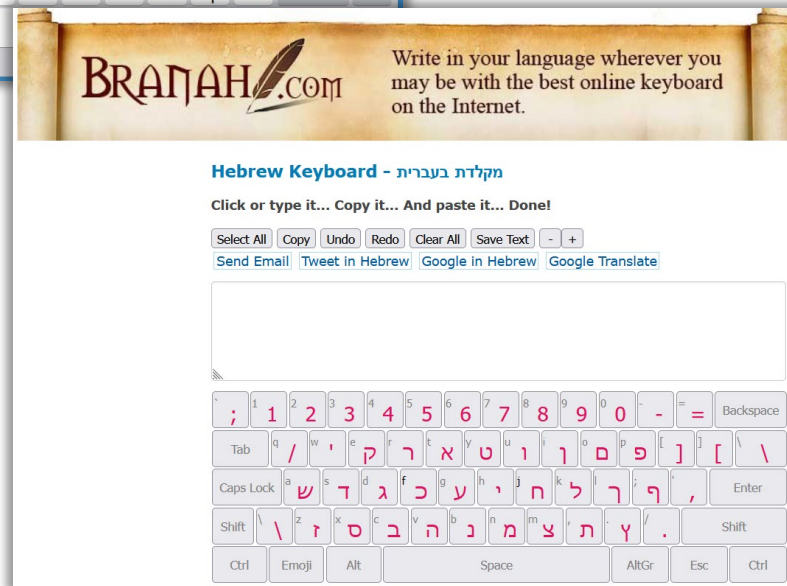
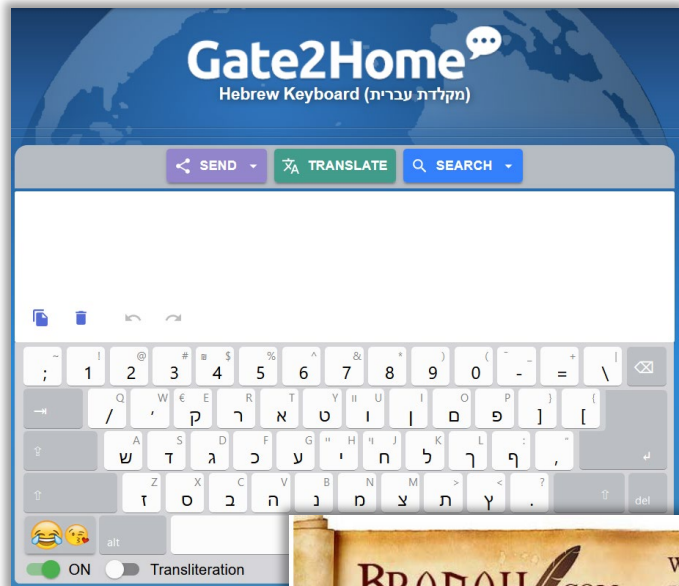


The screenshot shows the 'Do It In Hebrew' website interface. At the top, there are three tabs: 'DO IT IN Hebrew' (selected), 'TRANSLATE', and 'MY SAVED WORDS'. Below the tabs, the browser title is 'Translate Hebrew - Type in Hebrew - Hebrew Transliteration'. The main content area has an 'Enter text:' label and a text input field with a placeholder 'Enter word, phrase or verb root (shoresh) below...'. Below the input field, there are two dropdown menus for 'Hebrew' and 'English', a 'swap' button, and a blue 'Translate' button. At the bottom, there is a 'Keyboard:' section with three tabs: 'Phonetic' (selected), 'Israel Standard', and 'Phonetic Keyboard Tips'. Below the tabs is a virtual keyboard layout where English keys are mapped to Hebrew characters. For example, the 'Q' key is mapped to 'ק', 'W' to 'ש', 'E' to 'ע', 'R' to 'ר', 'T' to 'ת', 'U' to 'י', 'I' to 'ו', 'O' to 'י', 'P' to 'פ', and 'L' to 'ל'. The 'Enter' key is also shown. At the bottom of the keyboard area, there is a note: 'Click the Virtual Keyboard above OR just type on your Physical Keyboard!'.

- Do It In Hebrew  
<https://doitinhebrew.com/>
- Offers multiple definitions with corresponding vocalizations
- Easy to type because Hebrew letters are matched with English letters that have the same sound (example: ל is on the L key)
- Not a standard Hebrew keyboard layout



# Typing in Hebrew: Hebrew Keyboard



- Might have been better to learn a standard Hebrew keyboard layout
- Gate2Home Hebrew Keyboard  
<https://gate2home.com/Hebrew-Keyboard>
- Branah Hebrew Keyboard  
<https://www.branah.com/hebrew>
- Neither offers any help with vocalization
- Both Gate2Home and Branah also have keyboards for many other languages

# Hebrew numerals written with Hebrew letters

- Page numbers and volume numbers may be in Hebrew letters (in Aleph-Bet order)
- Neither *Hebrew Cataloging* (2005) nor *Hebrew Cataloging RDA* (2019) explain this
- Chart taken from: Yocheved, Kochava. "When Hebrew Letters Are Actually Numbers." *You're Not Crazy* [blog]. September 19, 2011. <https://buildingajewishlife.com/2011/09/when-hebrew-letters-are-actually-numbers/>
- Page number קפ"ט = 189

1	א	10	י	100	ק
2	ב	20	כ	200	ר
3	ג	30	ל	300	ש
4	ד	40	מ	400	ת
5	ה	50	נ	500	תק
6	ו	60	ס	600	תר
7	ז	70	ע	700	תש
8	ח	80	פ	800	תת
9	ט	90	צ	900	תתק

# Hebrew dates

- Google Translate will erroneously tell you that the date shown here is 2015
- Hebrew year 5715 began September 28, 1954, and ended September 16, 1955
- Without month and day to clarify, MARC 264 \$c would read [1954 or 1955], with fixed fields DtSt q and Dates 1954, 1955



# Hebrew dates

- JewishGen date converter:  
[https://www.jewishgen.org/infofiles/m\\_jyear.htm](https://www.jewishgen.org/infofiles/m_jyear.htm)
- Look up the year on Hebrew Wikipedia  
<https://he.wikipedia.org/>
- תשט"ו  
=  
5715  
=  
1954/1955

תשט"ו

# Gershayim



(the encoding of which caused me many headaches)

- Symbol commonly used in Hebrew abbreviations, including dates
  - Encoded in wildly different ways in various WorldCat records
- *Hebraica Cataloging* (2005 edition) instructs use of the double quote mark for the gershayim
- *Hebraica Cataloging RDA* (2019 edition) instructs use of the “w” key on the Hebrew keyboard
  - Produces a single geresh, so press twice for gershayim
  - Following these instructions produces something that visually looks like a gershayim, but which computers do not recognize as such
  - I have yet to encounter a record in WorldCat with the gershayim encoded this way
  - Examples copied and pasted from the *Hebraica Cataloging RDA* PDF consistently have the gershayim encoded as a single character ("), so they are not following their own instructions
- Hebrew keyboards I’ve looked at have separate keys for the geresh and gershayim, with the gershayim encoded as a single character

# Gershayim

(the encoding of which caused me many headaches)



- So how should the Hebrew year 5715 (1954/1955) be transcribed in the bib record?
  - תשט"ו (copied and pasted from Hebrew Wikipedia, with gershayim as a single character)
  - תשט"ו (typed in Do It In Hebrew, using the gershayim key; vertical strokes)
  - תשט"ו (typed in Gate2Home, using the gershayim key; angled strokes)
  - תשט"ו (typed in Gate2Home, using the "w" key twice as recommended by *Hebraica Cataloging RDA*)
  - תשט"ו (copied and pasted from WorldCat record 1296687556, created by DLC in 2022 using RDA, with gershayim encoded as a single character)
- " seems to be the winner, but I've seen a lot of records with "

# Now the hard part: Figuring out the vowels

סנופי

ניקוד אוטומטי חכם, הנוח ביותר לשימוש! העתק טקסט קצר ולחץ על נקד.  
כדי להחליף ניקוד שים את הסמן בתוך המילה ולחץ על הכפתור תקן.  
השרות נתמך בעיקר בדפדפן כרום.

רישומים

נקד הכל   תקן מילה   מחק ניקוד   בטל

רישומים  
ם עצם, נפרד, נסמך, זכר, רבים

- Nakdan (נקדן) vocalizer  
<https://www.nakdan.com/Default.aspx>
- Works best in Chrome
- Second button from the right shows common vocalizations (תקן מילה = teḵen milah = fix a word)
- A combination of consonants may represent multiple words with different vocalizations (context is important in romanization)

# Romanization

- ALA romanization rarely matches the romanization that may appear in Hebrew sources, particularly with names
- Follow the ALA Hebrew and Yiddish Romanization Table because the rules require it, but also . . .
- If alternative romanization of a personal name appears on the piece itself, even if not on the title page, add it to a note field to facilitate keyword searching
- If in doubt whether your romanization is correct, look at Library of Congress records for other books that include the same words, to see how DLC romanized them

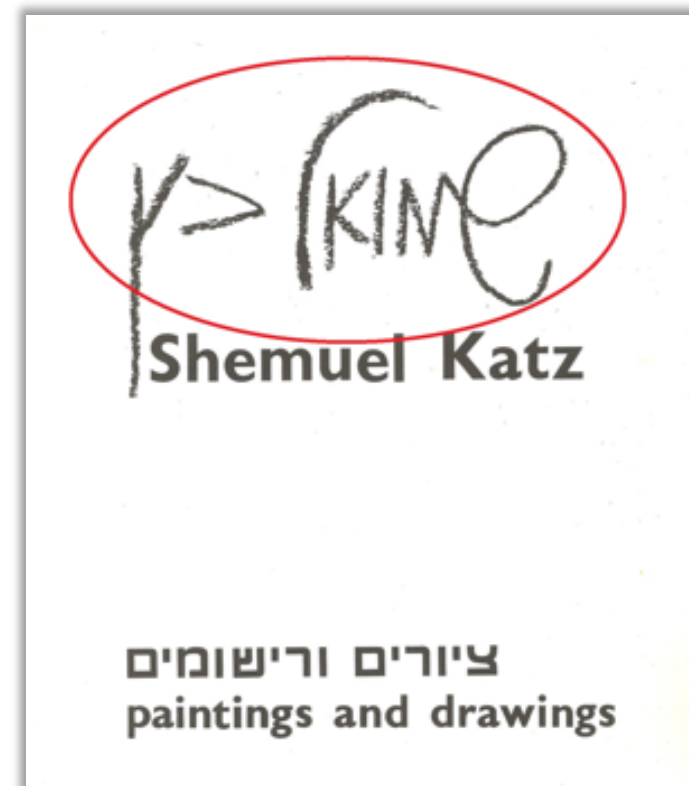


# Romanization



Authorized name:  
Katz, Shmuel, 1914-  
2008

- Name on both title pages:  
שמואל כץ
- ALA romanization:  
Shemu'el Kats
- Different people with different authorized forms, neither matching ALA romanization



Authorized name:  
Katz, Shemuel, 1926-  
2010

# Scavenging WorldCat one word at a time

(I should be ashamed of this, but sometimes ya gotta get stuff done by hook or by crook)

- Step 1: Type the word or name using the online Hebrew keyboard of your choice
- Step 2: Copy and paste that word or name into a WorldCat search with the following other search parameters:
  - Source: DLC
  - Apply Language of Cataloging Limiter: English (& box checked)
  - Years: 2011-2024
    - Note: 2011 is the date of the current ALA Hebrew and Yiddish Romanization Table
- Step 3: Look through the search results record by record to see how the word or name is romanized (ideally finding multiple examples with the same romanization)

# Change on the Horizon (LOC memo to PCC)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum



DATE: April 15, 2024

**To:** Program for Cooperative Cataloging  
Library of Congress Constituents

**From:** Beacher Wiggins, Director  
Acquisitions & Bibliographic Access

**Subject:** Phased Implementation of Non-Latin Script Input in BIBFRAME and LCAP/FOLIO

To prepare for BIBFRAME implementation at the Library of Congress in spring 2025 as part of the LCAP (Library Collections Access Platform) FOLIO implementation, the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA) will be adopting best practices for non-Latin script input for bibliographic descriptions. These best practices will place a greater emphasis on original scripts, and less emphasis on romanization of original script. The best practices will be introduced in a phased approach and will develop over time into official Library of Congress policies for non-Latin script input for bibliographic descriptions.

Until spring 2025, ABA will collaborate with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate this transition, to ensure that the best practices are shared with the broader cataloging community. The phased approach and proposed timeline are outlined below. Note that this timeline may change based on the rolling implementation plan for Metadata Management in the LCAP/FOLIO environment. Updates will be provided as necessary.

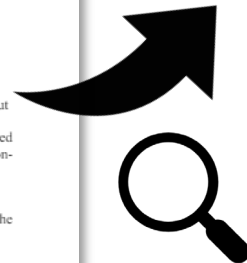
### Phase 1: spring 2025

Start with JACKPHY+CAT (Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Hebrew, Yiddish + Cyrillic, Armenian, and Thai) languages, currently included in Voyager.

### Phase 2: summer 2025

Implement languages and scripts beyond the MARC-8 repertoire for which transliteration tools are available in ScriptShifter. ScriptShifter is an open access set of romanization tools being developed at the Library of Congress. ScriptShifter is currently being enhanced to enable romanization of Asian Slavic languages, several South and Southeast Asian languages, and Amharic, among others.

To prepare for BIBFRAME implementation at the Library of Congress in spring 2025 as part of the LCAP (Library Collections Access Platform) FOLIO implementation, the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA) will be adopting best practices for non-Latin script input for bibliographic descriptions. These best practices will place a greater emphasis on original scripts, and less emphasis on romanization of original script. The best practices will be introduced in a phased approach and will develop over time into official Library of Congress policies for non-Latin script input for bibliographic descriptions.



“These best practices will place a greater emphasis on original scripts, and less emphasis on romanization of original script.” (Coming spring 2025.)

# Other miscellaneous resources

- Google Translate <https://translate.google.com/>
  - I don't use these translations in the bib record, but just as an aid to help determine the subject of the book
- Hebrew Date Converter <https://www.shiva.com/learning-center/resources/date-conversion>
  - Goes both ways from Gregorian to Hebrew and Hebrew to Gregorian
  - Helpful when you've got a month and day along with the year
- Converting between Hebrew Print and Cursive <https://stevemorse.org/hebrew/printcurs.html>
  - Includes both Ashkenazi Cursive and Sephardic Cursive
- Association of Jewish Libraries, Research Libraries, Archives, and Special Collections Division (AJL RAS) Cataloging Community Wiki <http://rascat.pbworks.com/w/page/7836007/Home>
  - Links to many resources for Hebraica Cataloging

# Thank you!

**Angela Kroeger**

Metadata Coordinator

Archives and Special Collections

UNO Libraries | Criss Library 107

University of Nebraska at Omaha | [unomaha.edu](http://unomaha.edu)

402.554.4159

[akroeger@unomaha.edu](mailto:akroeger@unomaha.edu)

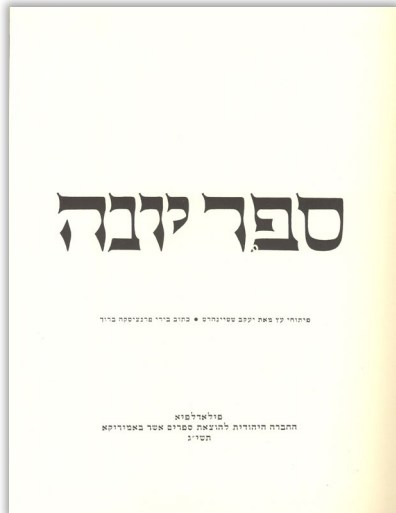
They | Them | Their

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Omaha



# References

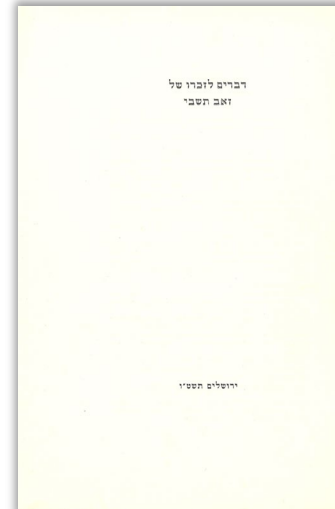
(title pages used as examples, in order of first appearance; see WorldCat for full citations)



ספר יונה / יעקב שטיינהרט  
Sefer Yonah / Ya'akov Shṭeinhardt  
Book of Jonah / Jacob Steinhardt

1953  
OCLC #49191658  
UNO call number: Rare OS 223.3 J690

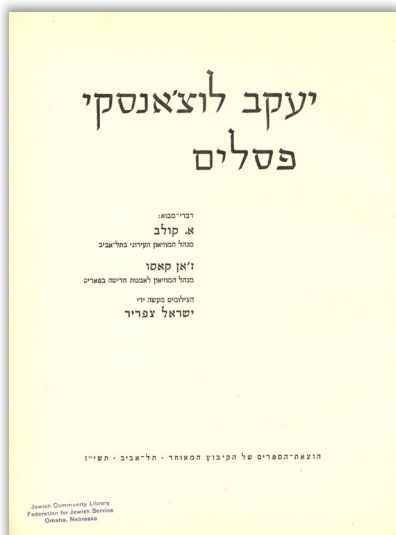
Used as example for:  
Hebrew fonts: Typical serif fonts  
Hebrew vocabulary freebie: מאת



דברים לזכרו של זאב תשבי  
Devarim le-zikhro shel Ze'ev Tishbi  
[Memorials to Ze'ev Tishby]

1954  
OCLC #1428794995  
UNO call number: Rare OS 740.92 T523z

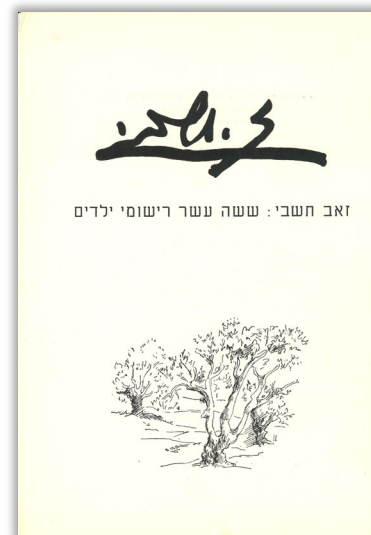
Used as example for:  
Hebrew fonts: Typical serif fonts  
Hebrew dates (תשט"ו)



פסלים / יעקב לוצ'אנסקי  
Pesalim / Ya'akov Lutsi'anski  
Sculptures / J. Loutchansky

1957  
OCLC #54612383  
UNO call number: Rare OS 735.92 L936

Used as example for:  
Hebrew fonts: Typical serif fonts



זאב תשבי : ששה עשר רישומי ילדים  
Ze'ev Tishbi : shishah 'asar rishume yeladim

1954  
OCLC #1428794995  
UNO call number: Rare OS 740.92 T523z

Not shown in the presentation, but this the portfolio to which the above booklet is a supplement, sharing the same bibliographic record

# References

(title pages used as examples, in order of first appearance; see WorldCat for full citations)



מגילת רות / דוד דוידוביץ  
Megilat Rut / David Davidovits  
Book of Ruth / David Davidovitch

1977  
OCLC #25657079  
UNO call number: Rare OS 224.42 D280b

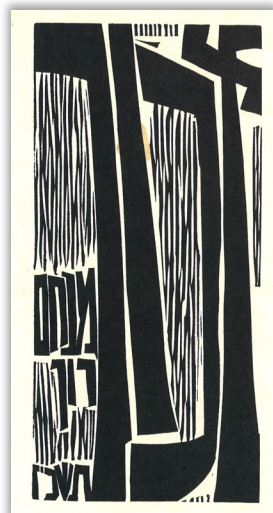
Used as example for:  
Hebrew fonts: Stylized, easy to read



מלך החומוס ומלכת האמבטיה / אילן הייטנר  
Melekh ha-ḥumus u-malkat ha-ambatyah / Ilan Haiṭner

2004  
OCLC #57522383  
UNO call number: Rare HF Heitn

Used as example for:  
Hebrew fonts: Sans serif block letters



יזכור / מנחם רון  
Yizkor / Menaḥem Ron

1965 or 1966  
OCLC #1193258051  
UNO call number: Rare OS 940.497 R666y

Used as example for:  
Hebrew fonts: Stylized, hard to read



סדר הגדה של פסח / אשר פורסט  
Seder haggadah shel Pesah / Asher Forst  
Haggada of Passover / Siegmund Forst

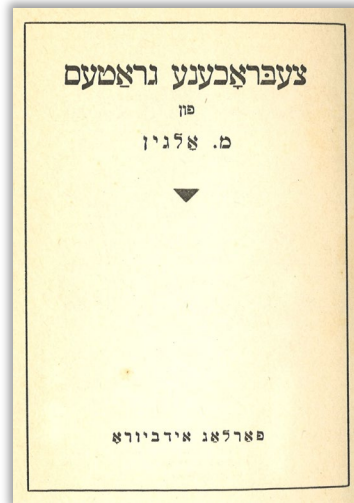
1941  
OCLC #1432310502  
UNO call number: Rare OS 262.5 R262hf

Used as example for:  
Hebrew fonts: Vocalized! (Rare)  
Hebrew vocabulary freebie: מאת



# References

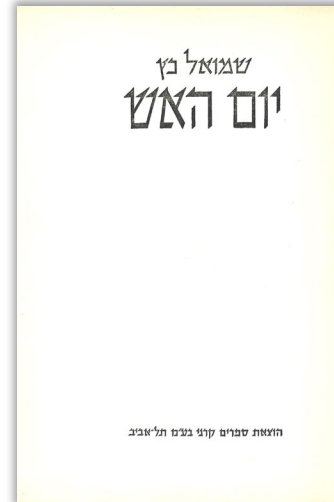
(title pages used as examples, in order of first appearance; see WorldCat for full citations)



צעבראכענע גראטעס / מ. אלגין  
Tsebrokhene graṭes / M. Olgin

1937  
OCLC #7412297  
UNO call number: Rare 947 OL2t

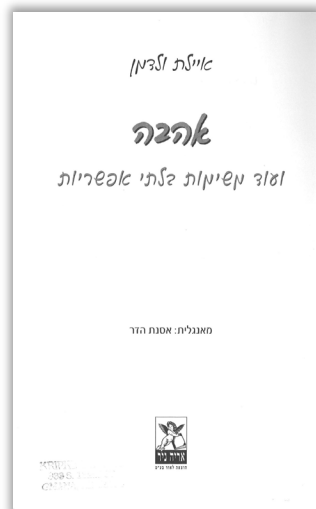
Used as example for:  
Yiddish



יום האש / שמואל כץ  
Yom ha-esh / Shemu'el Kats

1966  
OCLC #19146653  
UNO call number: Rare ISC 950.1 K159y

Used as example for:  
Romanization  
Katz, Shmuel, 1914-2008



אהבה ועוד משימות בלתי אפשריות /  
Ahavah ve-'od mešimot bilti efshariyot /  
Ayelet Valdman

2007  
OCLC #137301254  
UNO call number: Rare HF Wald

Used as example for:  
Hebrew cursive



ציורים ורישומים / שמואל כץ  
Tsiyurim ve-rishumim / Shemu'el Kats  
Paintings and drawings / Shemuel Katz

1967  
OCLC #16314179  
UNO call number: Rare OS 755.92 K160p

Used as example for:  
Romanization  
Katz, Shemuel, 1926-2010