

Albanian Style Guide

Contents

- What's New? 4
 - New Topics 4
 - Updated Topics..... 4

- Introduction..... 5
 - About This Style Guide 5
 - Style Guide Conventions 5
 - Sample Text..... 6
 - Recommended Reference Material 6
 - Normative References..... 6
 - Informative References 7

- Language Specific Conventions 9
 - Country/Region Standards 9
 - Characters 9
 - Date 11
 - Time..... 13
 - Numbers 15
 - Sorting 22
 - Geopolitical Concerns..... 24

- Grammar, Syntax & Orthographic Conventions 25
 - Adjectives 25
 - Articles..... 26
 - Capitalization 28
 - Compounds 29
 - Gender..... 31
 - Genitive 31
 - Modifiers 32
 - Nouns 32
 - Prepositions..... 32
 - Pronouns 34
 - Punctuation..... 34
 - Singular & Plural..... 36
 - Split Infinitive 36
 - Subjunctive 36
 - Symbols & Non-Breaking Spaces 36
 - Syntax..... 36
 - Verbs 37
 - Word Order..... 37

- Style and Tone Considerations..... 37
 - Audience..... 37
 - Style..... 38

| | |
|--|----|
| Tone | 38 |
| Voice..... | 39 |
| Localization Guidelines | 40 |
| General Considerations | 40 |
| Abbreviations..... | 40 |
| Accessibility | 42 |
| Acronyms..... | 42 |
| Applications, Products, and Features | 43 |
| Frequent Errors | 44 |
| Glossaries..... | 44 |
| Fictitious Information | 44 |
| Recurring Patterns | 44 |
| Standardized Translations..... | 44 |
| Unlocalized Items | 45 |
| Using the Word Microsoft..... | 47 |
| Software Considerations..... | 47 |
| User Interface..... | 47 |
| Messages | 48 |
| Keys..... | 53 |
| Document Translation Considerations | 57 |
| Titles | 57 |
| Copyright | 58 |

What's New?

Last Updated: February 2011

New Topics

The following topics were added:

- In Country/Region Standards, Kosovo and FYROM were added as countries where Albanian language is official and respective fields (phone, address, currency, etc.) were added or updated to reflect conventional usage in Albanian.

Updated Topics

The following topics were updated:

- In Country/Region Standards, digraphs were removed from the Extended Latin Characters list to the Notes section and date format was corrected by removing leading zero from day and month when these are represented with numbers.

Introduction

This Style Guide went through major revision in February 2011 in order to remove outdated and unnecessary content. It contains information pertaining to all Microsoft products and services.

About This Style Guide

The purpose of this Style Guide is to provide everybody involved in the localization of Albanian Microsoft products with Microsoft-specific linguistic guidelines and standard conventions that differ from or are more prescriptive than those found in language reference materials. These conventions have been adopted after considering context based on various needs, but above all, they are easy to follow and applicable for all types of software to be localized.

The Style Guide covers the areas of formatting, grammatical conventions, as well as language stylistic criteria. It also presents the reader with a general idea of the reasoning behind the conventions. The present Style Guide is a revision of our previous Style Guide version with the intention of making it more standardized, more structured, and easier to use as a reference. The guidelines and conventions presented in this Style Guide are intended to help you localize Microsoft products and materials. We welcome your feedback, questions and concerns regarding the Style Guide. You can send us your feedback via the [Microsoft Language Portal feedback page](#).

Scope of This Document

This Style Guide is intended for the localization professional working on Microsoft products. It is not intended to be a comprehensive coverage of all localization practices, but to highlight areas where Microsoft has preference or deviates from standard practices for Albanian localization.

Style Guide Conventions

In this document, a plus sign (+) before a translation example means that this is the recommended correct translation. A minus sign (-) is used for incorrect translation examples.

In Microsoft localization context, the word *term* is used in a slightly untraditional sense, meaning the same as e.g. a segment in Trados. The distinguishing feature of a term here is that it is translated as one unit; it may be a traditional term (as used in terminology), a phrase, a sentence, or a paragraph.

References to interface elements really only refer to translatable texts associated with those interface elements.

Example translations in this document are only intended to illustrate the point in question. They are not a source of approved terminology. Always check for approved translation in the Microsoft terminology database.

Sample Text

Përshëndetje Vesa,

Si po kalon? Letrën tënde e mora në kohën që po përgatitesha për në shkollë. Kjo letër më gëzoi shumë. Më shkruaje gjerë e gjatë për përshtatjen tënde me jetën e re. Më flisje për shoqërinë e re dhe kjo më qetësoi disi, meqë je me shokë e nuk mërzitesh. Unë nuk kam mundur të të shkruaj këto kohë, sepse kam qenë shumë e zënë. Kam ndërruar shtëpi dhe kjo gjë më ka marrë shumë kohë. Adresa ime e re është: Albana Krasniqi, Rr. "Pjetër Bogdani", nr. 39/1, Tiranë.

Numri im i ri është 00377-44-31-82-82. Shtëpia e re është e madhe dhe ndodhet në një lagje të mirë, afër punës sime. Pranë pallatit ndodhet një park i vogël dhe një kënd lojërash për fëmijë. Pasditeve, kur jam e lirë, rri në dritare dhe shikoj çapkënët e vegjël që luajnë plot zhurmë e gjallëri. Unë vazhdoj të punoj përsëri në shkollën ku kam qenë. Nuk ka pak ditë që ka filluar viti i ri shkollor. Tani po përcaktojmë oraret e reja. Mësuesi yt i klasës së parë ka dalë në pension. Gjithmonë të kujton si nxënësën më të mirë që ka pasur ndonjëherë. Edhe dje më tha që të të përshëndesja nga ana e tij kur të të shkruaja. Me shoqen tënde, Ermirën, takohem shpesh, sepse e ka shtëpinë pranë meje. Edhe ajo është e kënaqur me degën që ka zgjedhur. Shpesh bisedojmë dhe kujtojmë histori të ndryshme kur keni qenë më të vogla. Shumë çamarroke keni qenë. Vetëm kur shkonit në shkollë ishit të urta.

Si thua Vesë, ta mbyll, sepse po të nis me historitë tuaja, kjo letër s'do të ketë fund.

Pres të më shkruash sa më shpejt për ngjarjet e reja.

Të përqafoj me mall nga larg,

Tezja jote

Prishtinë, më 17.3.2011

It is an original composition.

Shkruar më 17.3.2011 në orën 18:44

Recommended Reference Material

Use the Albanian language and terminology as described and used in the following publications.

Normative References

These normative sources must be adhered to. Any deviation from them automatically fails a string in most cases. When more than one solution is allowed in these sources, look for the recommended one in other parts of the Style Guide.

1. *Drejtshkrimi i gjuhës shqipe*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë 1973 (<http://www.drejtshkrimi.net/>).
2. *Fjalori drejtshkrimor i gjuhës shqipe*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë 1976.
3. *Gjuha letrare shqipe për të gjithë*, Shtëpia botuese e librit shkollor, Tiranë, 1976.

4. *Fjalor i gjuhës së sotme shqipe*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë 1980.
5. *Fjalor i shqipes së sotme*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë, 1984.
6. *Për pastërtinë e gjuhës shqipe*. Grupi i përpunimit dhe i redaktimit: prof. Androkli Kostallari (kryetar), prof. Emil Lafe, prof. Jani Thomai, dr. Engjëll Angoni, Akademia e Shkencave e RSH, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë, 1998.
7. Samara, M., *Fjalor i antonimeve në gjuhën shqipe*, Akademia e Shkencave e RSH, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Shkup, 1998.
8. Thomai, J., *Fjalor frazeologjik i gjuhës shqipe*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë, 1999.
9. *Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe I*. Akademia e Shkencave. Tiranë, 2002.
10. *Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe II*. Akademia e Shkencave. Tiranë, 2002.
11. *Rregullat e pikësimit në gjuhën shqipe*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë 2002.
12. *Fjalor i shqipes së sotme*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë 2002.
13. *Fjalori sinonimik i gjuhës shqipe*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë 2004.
14. *Fjalor i gjuhës shqipe*, Akademia e Shkencave e Shqipërisë, Instituti i Gjuhësisë dhe i Letërsisë, Tiranë 2006.
15. Elezi, M., *Fjalor i gjuhës shqipe*, Enti botues "Gjergj Fishta", Tiranë, 2006.

Informative References

These sources are meant to provide supplementary information, background, comparison, etc.

1. *The IBM Dictionary of Computing* (on disk) based on the printed IBM Dictionary of Computing published by McGraw-Hill in 1994.
2. *Dictionary of computer and internet words*, by Steven Kleinedler, Houghton Mifflin Company, American Heritage Dictionary, American Heritage Publishing Company, 2001.
3. *Microsoft Computer Dictionary*, fifth edition, 2002.
4. *Dictionary of Computer and Internet terms*, seventh edition, Columbia Press, Copyright by Columbia University Press, New York, 2002.
5. *Dictionary of computer and internet terms*, seventh edition, Columbia Press, 2002.
6. *American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, This recommended English language reference is available online for free at <http://www.bartleby.com/61/>.
7. *Microsoft Computer Dictionary*, fifth edition, Microsoft Press, 2002.
8. *Fjalor i informatikës (anglisht – shqip; shqip – anglisht)*, Akademia e Shkencave dhe e Arteve e Kosovës, Nebi Caka, Agni Dika, Seb Rodiqi, red. Rexhep Ismajli, Prishtinë, 2005.

9. Mehmeti, A. Sh., *Fjalor enciklopedik nga teknologjia e informacionit*, anglisht – shqip – gjermanisht - frëngjisht, Prishtinë, 2006.
10. *Concise Oxford English Dictionary*, Tenth edition on CD-ROM 2001, version 1.1.
11. <http://anakin.ncst.ernet.in/~aparna/consolidated/>
12. <http://computerdictionary.tsf.org.za/dictionary/terms/computerdictionary-all.html#a>
13. <http://computing-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/batch+processing>
14. <http://l10n.openoffice.org/localization/translation.html>
15. <http://www.computer-dictionary-online.org/m.htm?q=~m>
16. <http://www.geocities.com/spanishlocalizer/files/websitelocalisation.PDF>
17. http://www.jostrans.org/issue08/art_pierini.pdf
18. <http://www.localizationworks.com/cgi/doc.cgi?loccareers.html>
19. http://www.shpresa-al.com/index.php?l=product_list&c=38
20. <http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/~oduibhin/tearmai/liosta.htm>
21. <http://www.stern.nyu.edu/it/faqs/glossary.html>
22. <http://www.webopedia.com/>
23. <http://www.acronymfinder.com/>
24. <http://www.wordesign.com/localization/index.htm>
25. <http://live.gnome.org/TranslationProject/DevGuidelines>
26. <http://java.sun.com/products/jlf/ed2/book/Appendix.C.html>

Language Specific Conventions

This part of the style guide contains information about standards specific to Albanian.

Country/Region Standards

Characters

| Country/region | Albania, Kosovo, FYROM | | |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Lower-case characters | a,b,c,ç,d,dh,e,ë,f,g,gj,h,i,j,k,l,ll,m,n,nj,o,p,q,r,rr,s,sh,t,th,u,v,x,xh,y,z,zh | | |
| Upper-case characters | A,B,C,Ç,D,Dh,E,Ë,F,G,Gj,H,I,J,K,L,LI,M,N,Nj,O,P,Q,R,Rr,S,Sh,T,Th,U,V,X,Xh,Y,Z,Zh | | |
| Characters in caseless scripts | n/a | | |
| Extended Latin characters | ç,ë Ç,Ë | | |
| Note on alphabetical order | Alphabetical order is necessarily indicative of sorting order. | | |
| Total number of characters | 36 | | |
| Unicode codes | Character | UNICODE | Unicode Standard Name |
| | A | 0041 | Latin capital letter a |
| | B | 0042 | Latin capital letter b |
| | C | 0043 | Latin capital letter c |
| | D | 0044 | Latin capital letter d |
| | E | 0045 | Latin capital letter e |
| | F | 0046 | Latin capital letter f |
| | G | 0047 | Latin capital letter g |
| | H | 0048 | Latin capital letter h |
| | I | 0049 | Latin capital letter i |
| | J | 004A | Latin capital letter j |
| | K | 004B | Latin capital letter k |
| | L | 004C | Latin capital letter l |
| M | 004D | Latin capital letter m | |

| Country/region | Albania, Kosovo, FYROM | | |
|----------------|------------------------|------|------------------------|
| | N | 004E | Latin capital letter n |
| | O | 004F | Latin capital letter o |
| | P | 0050 | Latin capital letter p |
| | Q | 0051 | Latin capital letter q |
| | R | 0052 | Latin capital letter r |
| | S | 0053 | Latin capital letter s |
| | T | 0054 | Latin capital letter t |
| | U | 0055 | Latin capital letter u |
| | V | 0056 | Latin capital letter v |
| | X | 0058 | Latin capital letter x |
| | Y | 0059 | Latin capital letter y |
| | Z | 005A | Latin capital letter z |
| | a | 0061 | Latin small letter a |
| | b | 0062 | Latin small letter b |
| | c | 0063 | Latin small letter c |
| | d | 0064 | Latin small letter d |
| | e | 0065 | Latin small letter e |
| | f | 0066 | Latin small letter f |
| | g | 0067 | Latin small letter g |
| | h | 0068 | Latin small letter h |
| | i | 0069 | Latin small letter i |
| | j | 006A | Latin small letter j |
| | k | 006B | Latin small letter k |
| | l | 006C | Latin small letter l |
| | m | 006D | Latin small letter m |
| | n | 006E | Latin small letter n |
| | o | 006F | Latin small letter o |
| | p | 0070 | Latin small letter p |
| | q | 0071 | Latin small letter q |

| Country/region | Albania, Kosovo, FYROM | | |
|----------------|---|------|---------------------------------------|
| | r | 0072 | Latin small letter r |
| | s | 0073 | Latin small letter s |
| | t | 0074 | Latin small letter t |
| | u | 0075 | Latin small letter u |
| | v | 0076 | Latin small letter v |
| | x | 0078 | Latin small letter x |
| | y | 0079 | Latin small letter y |
| | z | 007A | Latin small letter z |
| | Ç | 00C7 | Latin capital letter c with cedilla |
| | Ë | 00CB | Latin capital letter e with diaeresis |
| | ç | 00E7 | Latin small letter c with cedilla |
| | ë | 00EB | Latin small letter e with diaeresis |
| Notes | <p>Albanian uses the following digraphs: dh,gj,ll,nj,rr,sh,th,xh,zh Dh,Gj,Ll,Nj,Rr,Sh,Th,Xh,Zh These have not yet been implemented as extended characters.</p> | | |

Date

| Country/region | Albania, Kosovo, FYROM |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Calendar/Era | Gregorian Calendar/Dionysian “Common Era” |
| First Day of the Week | Monday |
| First Week of the Year | 1-7 January |
| Separator | . |
| Default Short Date Format | d.M.yyyy |
| Example | 17.3.2011 |
| Default Long Date Format | d MMMM yyyy |

| | |
|--|---|
| Country/region | Albania, Kosovo, FYROM |
| Example | 17 mars 2011 |
| Additional Short Date Format 1 | d.R.yyyy |
| Example | 17.III.2011 |
| Additional Short Date Format 2 | n/a |
| Example | n/a |
| Additional Long Date Format 1 | n/a |
| Example | n/a |
| Additional Long Date Format 2 | n/a |
| Example | n/a |
| Leading Zero in Day Field for Short Date Format | no |
| Leading Zero in Month Field for Short Date Format | no |
| No. of digits for year for Short Day Format | 4 |
| Leading Zero in Day Field for Long Date Format | no |
| Leading Zero in Month Field for Long Date Format | no |
| Number of digits for year for Long Day Format | 4 |
| Date Format for Correspondence | C, më d.M.yyyy or C, më d MMMM yyyy or C, më d.R.yyyy |
| Example | Tiranë, më 17.3.2011 |

| Country/region | Albania, Kosovo, FYROM |
|-------------------------------|--|
| | <p>or</p> <p>Tiranë, më 17 mars 2011</p> <p>or</p> <p>Tiranë, më 17.III.2011</p> |
| Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R is for month in Roman numerals. • C is for city name. |
| Abbreviations in Format Codes | <p>d is for day, number of d's indicates the format (d = digits without leading zero, dd = digits with leading zero, ddd = the abbreviated day name, dddd = full day name)</p> <p>M is for month, number of M's gives number of digits. (M = digits without leading zero, MM = digits with leading zero, MMM = the abbreviated name, MMMM = full name)</p> <p>y is for year, number of y's gives number of digits (yy = two digits, yyyy = four digits)</p> |

Time

| Country/region | Albania, Kosovo, FYROM |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 24 hour format | yes |
| Standard time format | HH:mm:ss |
| Standard time format example | 03:24:12 |
| Time separator | colon : |
| Time separator examples | 03:24:12 |
| Hours leading zero | yes |
| Hours leading zero example | 03:24:12 |
| String for AM designator | n/a |
| String for PM designator | n/a |
| Notes | n/a |

Days

Country/region: Albania, Kosovo, FYROM

| Day | Normal Form | Abbreviation |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| Monday | e hënë | n/a |
| Tuesday | e martë | n/a |
| Wednesday | e mërkurë | n/a |
| Thursday | e enjte | n/a |
| Friday | e premte | n/a |
| Saturday | e shtunë | n/a |
| Sunday | e diel | n/a |

First Day of Week: e hënë

Is first letter capitalized?: No

Notes:

- If the day of the week is the first word in a sentence the article is capitalized.
- There is no abbreviated form of days in Albanian, but sometime, due to restrictive space purposes on small calendars, these abbreviations are used:

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|----|
| Monday | e hënë | H |
| Tuesday | e martë | M |
| Wednesday | e mërkurë | M |
| Thursday | e enjte | E |
| Friday | e premte | P |
| Saturday | e shtunë | Sh |
| Sunday | e diel | D |

Months

Country/region: Albania, Kosovo, FYROM

| Month | Full Form | Abbreviated Form | Long Date Form |
|----------|-----------|------------------|----------------|
| January | janar | n/a | janar |
| February | shkurt | n/a | shkurt |
| March | mars | n/a | mars |

| Month | Full Form | Abbreviated Form | Long Date Form |
|-----------|-----------|------------------|----------------|
| April | prill | n/a | prill |
| May | maj | n/a | maj |
| June | qershor | n/a | qershor |
| July | korrik | n/a | korrik |
| August | gusht | n/a | gusht |
| September | shtator | n/a | shtator |
| October | tetor | n/a | tetor |
| November | nëntor | n/a | nëntor |
| December | dhjetor | n/a | dhjetor |

Is first letter capitalized?: No

Notes: The name of the month is capitalized only if it is the first word of a sentence, or if it is written as the full form of a national holiday or a great historical event.

Numbers

There is not any rule in Albanian for numbers less than 10. They can be written as words or as numerals. It depends on the requirements of the text translated. Number with more than four digits (excluding decimal digits) require a non-breaking space.

Phone Numbers

| Country/ region | International Dialing Code | Area Codes Used? | Number of Digits – Area Codes | Separator | Number of Digits – Domestic | Digit Groupings – Domestic |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Albania | 00355 | yes | 3 | - | 9 | (###) ###-### |
| Country/ region | Number of Digits – Local | Digit Groupings – Local | Number of Digits – Mobile | Digit Groupings – Mobile | Number of Digits – International | Digit Groupings – International |
| Albania | 6 | ###-### | 10 | ###-##-##- ### | 14 | (#####) (###) ###-### |

| Country/ region | International Dialing Code | Area Codes Used? | Number of Digits – Area Codes | Separator | Number of Digits – Domestic | Digit Groupings – Domestic |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Kosovo | 00377 | yes | 3 | - | 9 | (###) ###-### |
| Country/ region | Number of Digits – Local | Digit Groupings – Local | Number of Digits – Mobile | Digit Groupings – Mobile | Number of Digits – International | Digit Groupings – International |
| Kosovo | 6 | ###-### | 10 | ###-##-##- ### | 14 | (#####) (###) ###-### |

| Country/ region | International Dialing Code | Area Codes Used? | Number of Digits – Area Codes | Separator | Number of Digits – Domestic | Digit Groupings – Domestic |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| FYROM | 00389 | yes | 3 | - | 9 | (###) ###-### |
| Country/ region | Number of Digits – Local | Digit Groupings – Local | Number of Digits – Mobile | Digit Groupings – Mobile | Number of Digits – International | Digit Groupings – International |
| FYROM | 6 | ###-### | 10 | ###-##-##- ### | 14 | (#####) (###) ###-### |

Notes: N/A.

Addresses

Country/region: Albania

Disclaimer: Please note that the information in this entry should under no circumstances be used in examples as fictitious information.

Address Format:

1. [Title/Honorific] LastName LastName
2. [CompanyName]
3. [Address1]
4. [Address2]

5. [CountryCode-] PostalCode City
6. [Country]

Example Address:

Dr. Agim Fusha
Alba-Trans
Ismail Qemali, nr. 11
1000 Tiranë
Albania

Local Postal Code Format:

Albania: 1700

Notes: n/a

Country/region: Kosovo

Disclaimer: Please note that the information in this entry should under no circumstances be used in examples as fictitious information.

Address Format:

1. [Title/Honorific] LastName LastName
2. [CompanyName]
3. [Address1]
4. [Address2]
5. [CountryCode-] PostalCode City
6. [Country]

Example Address:

Dr. Agim Fusha
Alba-Trans
Ismail Qemali, nr. 11
1000 Prishtinë
Kosovo

Local Postal Code Format:

Kosovo: 1700

Notes:n/a

Country/region: FYROM

Disclaimer: Please note that the information in this entry should under no circumstances be used in examples as fictitious information.

Address Format:

1. [Title/Honorific] LastName LastName
2. [CompanyName]

3. [Address1]
4. [Address2]
5. [CountryCode-] PostalCode City
6. [Country]

Example Address:

Dr. Agim Fusha
 Alba-Trans
 Ismail Qemali, nr. 11
 1000 Skopje
 FYROM

Local Postal Code Format:

FYROM: 1700

Notes: n/a

Currency

| Country/region | Albania |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Currency Name | lek (plural lekë) |
| Currency Symbol | n/a |
| Currency Symbol Position | n/a |
| Positive Currency Format | 86 978 400 lekë |
| Negative Sign Symbol | - |
| Negative Currency Format | -498 950 lekë |
| Decimal Symbol | , |
| Number of Digits after Decimal | 2 |
| Digit Grouping Symbol | (space) (from number 10,000 and up) |
| Number of Digits in Digit Grouping | 3 (from number 10,000 and up) |
| Positive Currency Example | 2850 lekë |
| Negative Currency Example | -388 900 lekë |
| ISO Currency Code | ALL |
| Currency Subunit Name | n/a |

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Country/region | Albania |
| Currency Subunit Symbol | n/a |
| Currency Subunit Example | n/a |

| | |
|---|--|
| Country/region | Kosovo |
| Currency Name | euro |
| Currency Symbol | € |
| Currency Symbol Position | after number |
| Positive Currency Format | 86 978 400 euro |
| Negative Sign Symbol | - |
| Negative Currency Format | -498 950 euro |
| Decimal Symbol | , |
| Number of Digits after Decimal | 2 |
| Digit Grouping Symbol | (space) (from number 10,000 and up) |
| Number of Digits in Digit Grouping | 3 (from number 10,000 and up) |
| Positive Currency Example | 2850 euro |
| Negative Currency Example | -388 900 euro |
| ISO Currency Code | EUR |
| Currency Subunit Name | qindarkë (plural qindarkë) |
| Currency Subunit Symbol | c |
| Currency Subunit Example | 50 cent |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Country/region | FYROM |
| Currency Name | denar (plural denarë) |
| Currency Symbol | n/a |
| Currency Symbol Position | n/a |

| Country/region | FYROM |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Positive Currency Format | 86 978 400 denarë |
| Negative Sign Symbol | - |
| Negative Currency Format | -498 950 denarë |
| Decimal Symbol | , |
| Number of Digits after Decimal | 2 |
| Digit Grouping Symbol | (space) (from number 10,000 and up) |
| Number of Digits in Digit Grouping | 3 (from number 10,000 and up) |
| Positive Currency Example | 2850 denarë |
| Negative Currency Example | -388 900 denarë |
| ISO Currency Code | MKD |
| Currency Subunit Name | deni |
| Currency Subunit Symbol | n/a |
| Currency Subunit Example | 50 denë |

Digit Groups

Country/region: Albania, Kosovo, FYROM

Decimal Separator: ,

Decimal Separator Description: comma

Decimal Separator Example: 876,73

Thousand Separator:

Thousand Separator Description: space

Thousand Separator Example: 84 848

Notes: The thousand separator is used only for numbers from 10,000 and up.

Measurement Units

Metric System Commonly Used?: Yes

Temperature: Celsius

| Category | English | Translation | Abbreviation |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Linear Measure | Kilometer | kilometër | km |
| | Meter | metër | m |
| | Decimeter | decimetër | dm |
| | Centimeter | centimetër | cm |
| | Millimeter | milimetër | mm |
| Capacity | Hectoliter | hektolitër | hl |
| | Liter | litër | l |
| | Deciliter | decilitër | dl |
| | Centiliter | centilitër | cl |
| | Milliliter | mililitër | ml |
| Mass | Ton | ton | t |
| | Kilogram | kilogram | kg |
| | Pound | paund | n/a |
| | Gram | gram | g |
| | Decigram | decigram | dg |
| | Centigram | centigram | cg |
| | Milligram | miligram | mg |
| English Units of Measurement | Inch | inç | n/a |
| | Feet | këmbë | n/a |
| | Mile | milje | n/a |
| | Gallon | galon | n/a |

Notes: N/A

Percentages

The percentage and per mil symbols should be written right next to value that precede it.

Example: 5%, 10‰.

Sorting

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Sorting rules</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capital letters and lowercase letters are not equal. A distinction is made between them. The lowercase letter sort before the same capital letter. 2. The extended characters ç and ë are not the equivalents of c and e but treated as separate letters of the alphabet. 3. The Characters Ä, ä, Ö, ö, ñ and Ü, ü (not used in Albanian, but may come up in German or Swedish examples or words imported from these languages) are sorted as a (Ä, ä), o (Ö, ö), n (ñ) and u (Ü, ü). 4. Other accented characters are equal with non-accented characters; so é and e are equal. 5. Non-alphabetical characters (i.e. symbols like @ ! #) sort before the letters of the alphabet. 6. Digits sort after the non-alphabetical characters and before the letters of the alphabet. 7. Double letters of Albanian dh, gj, ll, nj, rr, sh, th, xh and zh sorts as separate letters of the alphabet. | | | |
| <p>Character sorting order</p> | <p>a</p> <p>b</p> <p>c</p> <p>ç</p> <p>d</p> <p>dh</p> <p>e</p> <p>ë</p> <p>f</p> <p>g</p> <p>gj</p> <p>h</p> <p>i</p> <p>j</p> <p>k</p> <p>l</p> <p>ll</p> <p>m</p> <p>n</p> <p>nj</p> <p>o</p> <p>p</p> <p>q</p> | <p>0097</p> <p>0098</p> <p>0099</p> <p>0231</p> <p>0100</p> <p>0100+0104</p> <p>0101</p> <p>0235</p> <p>0102</p> <p>0103</p> <p>0103+0106</p> <p>0104</p> <p>0105</p> <p>0106</p> <p>0107</p> <p>0108</p> <p>0108+0108</p> <p>0109</p> <p>0110</p> <p>0110+0106</p> <p>0111</p> <p>0112</p> <p>0113</p> | <p>A</p> <p>B</p> <p>C</p> <p>Ç</p> <p>D</p> <p>Dh</p> <p>E</p> <p>Ë</p> <p>F</p> <p>G</p> <p>Gj</p> <p>H</p> <p>I</p> <p>J</p> <p>K</p> <p>L</p> <p>LI</p> <p>M</p> <p>N</p> <p>Nj</p> <p>O</p> <p>P</p> <p>Q</p> | <p>0065</p> <p>0066</p> <p>0067</p> <p>0199</p> <p>0068</p> <p>0068+0104</p> <p>0069</p> <p>0203</p> <p>0070</p> <p>0071</p> <p>0071+0106</p> <p>0072</p> <p>0073</p> <p>0074</p> <p>0075</p> <p>0076</p> <p>0076+0108</p> <p>0077</p> <p>0078</p> <p>0078+0106</p> <p>0079</p> <p>0080</p> <p>0081</p> |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|----|-----------|
| | r | 0114 | R | 0082 |
| | rr | 0114+0114 | Rr | 0082+0114 |
| | s | 0115 | S | 0083 |
| | sh | 0115+0104 | Sh | 0083+0104 |
| | t | 0116 | T | 0084 |
| | th | 0116+0104 | Th | 0084+0104 |
| | u | 0117 | U | 0085 |
| | v | 0118 | V | 0086 |
| | x | 0120 | X | 0088 |
| | xh | 0120+0104 | Xh | 0088+0104 |
| | y | 0121 | Y | 0089 |
| | z | 0122 | Z | 0090 |
| | zh | 0122+0104 | Zh | 0090+0104 |
| Examples of sorted words | @ | | | |
| | 1 | | | |
| | Aaron | | | |
| | andere | | | |
| | ändere | | | |
| | chaque | | | |
| | chemin | | | |
| | cote | | | |
| | coté | | | |
| | côte | | | |
| | côté | | | |
| | čučet | | | |
| | Czech | | | |
| | hiša | | | |
| | irdisch | | | |
| | lävi | | | |
| | lie | | | |
| | lire | | | |
| | Löwen | | | |
| | lõug | | | |
| | lòza | | | |
| | luck | | | |
| | luč | | | |
| | Lübeck | | | |
| | lye | | | |
| | llama | | | |
| | Männer | | | |

| |
|-----------|
| màšta |
| mîr |
| möchten |
| myndig |
| piña |
| pint |
| pylon |
| sämtlich |
| šàran |
| savoir |
| Šerbūra |
| Sietla |
| šlub |
| subtle |
| symbol |
| waffle |
| wood |
| vāga |
| verkehrt |
| vox |
| yen |
| yuan |
| yucca |
| žal |
| žena |
| Ženēva |
| zoo |
| Zürich |
| Zviedrija |
| zysk |
| zzlj |
| zzlz |
| zznj |
| zznz |

Geopolitical Concerns

Part of the cultural adaptation of the US-product to a specific market is the resolving of geopolitical issues. While the US-product should have been designed and developed with neutrality and a global audience in mind, the localized product should respond to the particular situation that applies within the target country/region.

Sensitive issues or issues that might potentially be offensive to the users in the target country/region may occur in any of the following:

- Maps
- Flags
- Country/region, city and language names
- Art and graphics
- Cultural content, such as encyclopedia content and other text where historical or political references may occur

Some of these issues are relatively easy to verify and resolve: the objective should be for the localizer to always have the most current information available. Maps and other graphic representations of countries/regions and regions should be checked for accuracy and existing political restrictions. Country/region, city and language names change on a regular basis and need to be checked, even if previously approved.

A thorough understanding of the culture of the target market is required for checking the appropriateness of cultural content, clip art and other visual representations of religious symbols, body and hand gestures.

Guideline

As country/region and city names can change, please use the most up-to-date Albanian list for every release of your product.

Grammar, Syntax & Orthographic Conventions

This section includes information on how to apply the general rules of the Albanian language to Microsoft products and documentation.

Adjectives

There are no specific rules in Albanian regarding the usage of adjectives in translations/localizations for Microsoft. The translator/reviewer should follow the strict rules for this matter, which can be found in respective books mentioned in the normative references.

The only thing to bear in mind is that adjectives can also have negative meaning through the use of a derivative marker. The following examples show how to do this in Albanian. During the translation into Albanian, the negative meaning of adjectives is expressed by different negative markers, for example: *jo-*, *pa-*, *mos-* etc. These negative markers are written jointly in unarticulated adjectives and are written separately in articulated adjectives and nouns.

| English example | Albanian example |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| non-member | (+) joanëtar |
| undefined | (+) i papërcaktuar |
| invisible | (+) i padukshëm |

| English example | Albanian example |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| unavailable | (+) jo në dispozicion |

| |
|------------------------------|
| H ap |
| Hap në <u>d</u> ritare të re |
| K opjo |
| Hig |
| P araafisho |
| Printo |
| E shih |

Possessive adjectives

The frequent use of possessives is a feature of English language.

Articles

General considerations

Many error messages in English vary with regard to the use of articles, demonstrative and possessive pronouns. Please be consistent in how you deal with such variation in Albanian.

- The definite article is used always in Albanian, even if it is not present in English examples.
- The demonstrative pronouns are generally used in Albanian examples.
- The possessive pronouns are not always used, depending on the context.

| English example | Albanian example | Explanation |
|--|--|---|
| File already exists The file already exists This file already exists | (+) Skedari tashmë ekziston | In complete sentences, use determiners consistently even if the US string does not. |
| Not enough memory to complete this operation. | (+) Nuk ka memorie të mjaftueshme për të përfunduar këtë operacion. | No need to use a demonstrative construction, unless it is important in context. |
| Windows Vista cannot start your system. If the problem persists, | (+) Windows Vista nuk mund të nisë sistemin. Nëse problemi përsëritet sërish, kontakto | Avoid using possessive marker “your” unless ownership is |

| English example | Albanian example | Explanation |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| contact your network administrator. | administratorin e rrjetit. | important in context. |

Unlocalized Feature Names

- Microsoft product names and non-translated feature names are used without definite or indefinite articles in the English language. Non-translated feature names should be used without a hyphen or article in Albanian language, for example:

| English example | Albanian example |
|--|---|
| <i>Windows password</i> | (+) <i>Fjalëkalimi i Windows</i> |
| | (-) <i>Fjalëkalimi i Windows-it</i> |
| <i>Microsoft SQL Server Database</i> | (+) <i>Baza e të dhënave e Microsoft SQL Server</i> |
| <i>Microsoft BackOffice product family</i> | (+) <i>Familja e produktit të Microsoft.</i> |

Localized Feature Names

By contrast, translated feature names are used with a definite or indefinite article as they are not treated as proper names.

Example:

| English example | Albanian example |
|--|--|
| Hide the Task Manager when it is minimized | (+) Fshih Menaxherin e detyrës kur minimizohet |
| Check for updates in your installed Media Player's language | (+) Kontrolllo për përditësime në gjuhën e Lexuesit të medias të instaluar |

Articles for English Borrowed Terms

When faced with an English loan word previously used in Microsoft products, consider the following options:

- Motivation: Does the English word have any formally motivated features that would allow a straightforward integration into the noun class system of Albanian language? Analogy: Is there an equivalent Albanian term whose article could be used?
- Frequency: Is the term used in other technical documentation? If so, what article is used most often?

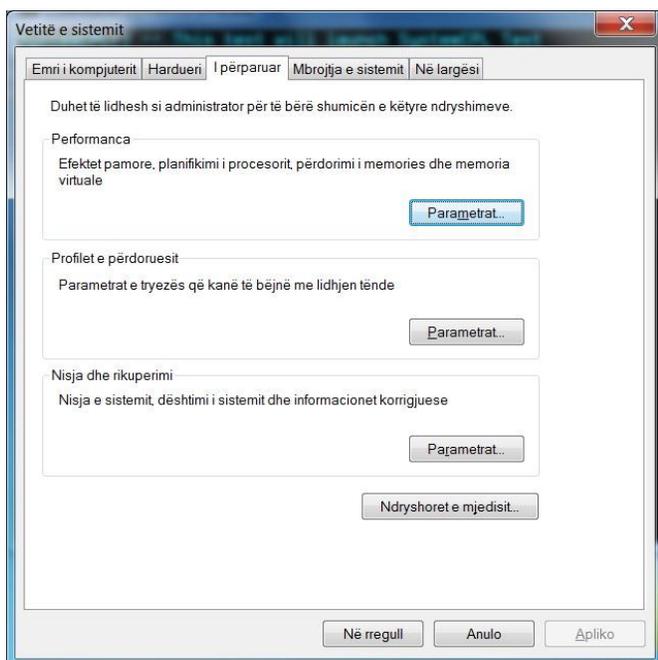
The internet may be a helpful reference here.

Example:

| English example | Anglicism in target language | Correct example |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Accidental CapsLock | (-) CapsLock aksidental | (+) CapsLoc i rastësishëm |
| Excellent! | (-) Ekselent! | (+) Shkëlqyeshëm! |
| Accommodate learning abilities | (-) Akomodo aftësitë e mësimit | (+) Vendos aftësitë e mësimit |
| Explicit Eap failure received | (-) Dështim eksplicit i Eap-it të marrë | (+) Dështim i qartë i Eap-it të marrë |
| Invalid device command | (-) Komandë invalide e pajisjes | (+) Komandë e pavlefshme e pajisjes |

Capitalization

The rules of capitalization in English source are not always followed in Albanian, because the English language tends to overuse capitals. For example, in “Using File Properties” every word is written in capitals, but in Albanian only the first word is written in capital “Përdorimi i vetive të skedarit”.



In Albanian the names of weeks, months, languages and ethnonyms are not written in capital: e hënë, e diel; janar, qershor; shqip, anglisht; shqiptar, anglez etc.

For detailed rules of capitalization, please refer to the respective reference in the normative reference section.

Some strings are concatenated “at run-time” and you will occasionally find strings that seem to lack a subject or simply start in the middle. Be careful not to start such strings with an upper-case letter, unless the spelling rules of your language require it.

Example of a string:

is trying to connect to this computer. If you allow, you will be disconnected, but you can resume later. Do you want to allow this connection?\r\n

| English example | Albanian example |
|--------------------------------|---|
| unknown software exception\r\n | (+) përjashtim i panjohur i softuerit\r\n |
| Using File Properties | (+) Përdorimi i vetive të skedarit |
| Monday | (+) e hënë |
| January | (+) janar |
| English | (+) anglisht |
| Albanian | (+) shqiptar |

Should an English noun be capitalized in the source string and be translated by two words in the target language, be consistent in capitalizing either both words, and neither word, or capitalize one word and not the other. Be consistent in the application of spelling rules.

Compounds

Generally, compounds should be understandable and clear to the user. Overly long or complex compounds should be avoided. Keep in mind that unintuitive compounds are ultimately an intelligibility and usability issue. Noun and verb compounds are a frequent word formation strategy in English. Product user interfaces, online help, and documentation contain a number of such examples. However, not all languages use compounding to create complex word meanings.

Albanian language employs compounding as a word formation strategy. There is no length restriction that Albanian places on the formation of compounds. The Albanian compounds spelled jointly, or delimited by hyphens.

Generally, compounds should be understandable and clear to the user. Overly long or complex compounds should be avoided by verbally expressing the relationship among the various compound components. Keep in mind that unintuitive compounds are ultimately an intelligibility and usability issue.

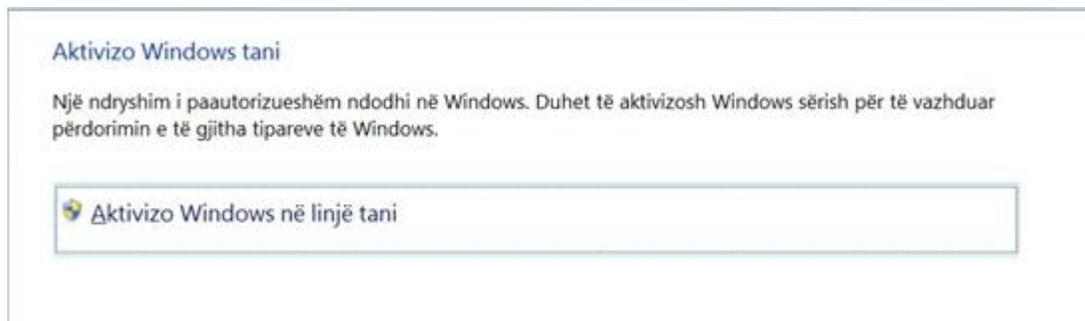
| English examples | Albanian example |
|---------------------------|--|
| Internet Accounts | (+) Llogaritë në internet |
| Logon script processing | (+) Përpunimi i skriptit të lidhjes |
| Workgroup Administrator | (+) Administratori i grupit të punës |
| Internet News Server Name | (+) Emri i serverit të të reja në internet |

Compounds with Product or Component Names

The compounds below contain both, product and component names. The product names are marked in red. Product names are usually trademarked and, therefore, must remain unchanged. Additions to a product or component name are added with a hyphen or, if that is not appropriate, you need to create a periphrastic construction.

The product names must remain unchanged, but they will be accompanied by an additional Albanian word according to Albanian's word order.

| English example | Albanian example |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Windows password | (+) Fjalëkalimi i Windows |
| Microsoft Word document | (+) Dokument në Microsoft Word |
| Microsoft SQL Server Database | (+) Baza e të dhënave e Microsoft SQL Server |
| Microsoft BackOffice product family | (+) Familja e produktit të Microsoft BackOffice |
| ActiveX Control | (+) Kontrolli ActiveX |



Note: These are considered product names and they are always used without a hyphen or article in any language:

- Microsoft Office System
- Microsoft Windows Server System
- Windows Mobile

Compounds with Acronyms, Abbreviations or Numerals

The compounds below contain either an abbreviation or a numeral followed by a component name. The abbreviation or numeral is marked in red in the English example. The Albanian example below show how such constructions should be translated.

| English example | Albanian example |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| CD-ROM drive | (+) Njësia e diskut CD-ROM |
| 2-D gridlines | (+) Vijat e rrjetës 2-D |
| 24 bit color value | (+) Vlera e ngjyrës 24 bit |
| 3.5 Floppy | (+) Disketa 3.5 |
| 5 1/4-inch Floppy | (+) Disketa 5 1/4-inch |
| 35mm slides | (+) Pamje rrëshqitëse 35mm |

Gender

There are no specific rules in Albanian regarding this issue, and for neutral usage the masculine form is preferred. It does not stress gender differences or reinforce stereotypical distinctions between men and women. So the masculine form will be used during the localization into Albanian language.

Genitive

The genitive case in Albanian is formed with the articles *i/e/të/së* according to the respective rules of inflection.

Convention 1

Follow all general rules regarding the inflection in the genitive case, except for unlocalized product/feature names which should not take any flections. (e.g. Attaching genitive flections to (trademarked) product names is not feasible, as it could be interpreted as a modification of such names.)

Example:

Microsoft IME (+) IME e Microsoft
 (-) IME e Microsoftit

Modifiers

In Albanian localized text you often need to use modifiers expressed in adjectives, pronouns, numerals or another noun that are part of a group lead by a noun, or a part of a noun group. Use of modifiers should follow general usage rules of Albanian as mentioned in the normative reference books.

Example:

Run a custom dialog box.

Ekzekuto një kuti **dialogu** të përshtatur. (modifier expressed with another noun)

Nouns

General considerations

Nouns are naming words: they can be particular names of particular people or things, or generic designations. The noun is characterized in its morphology by grammatical categories of gender, number, case and definiteness. Each noun has a specific gender on its own in contrast with adjectives whose gender depends on the noun they modify.

Inflection

In Albanian there are two major types of noun inflection, conventionally called Masculine (because most nouns that designate males follow this inflection pattern) and Feminine (because most nouns that designate females follow this inflection pattern). To know whether a noun is masculine or feminine there is a simple rule of thumb: most nouns whose citation form ends in a consonant are masculine; most nouns whose citation form ends in a vowel are feminine.

Plural Formation

The nouns in Albanian form their plural form in several ways, including taking of suffixes, such as -a, -ra, -sh, etc., and preserving their form as in singular.

There are a lot of rules which apply for the plural formation of nouns in Albanian and they cannot be mentioned all here. For detailed rules please refer to reference books mentioned in the normative reference.

Prepositions

Pay attention to the correct use of the preposition in translations. Influenced by the English language, many translators omit them or change the word order.

Prepositional phrases in English need to be translated according to their context; anglicisms should be avoided. The table below contains frequently used verbs and the prepositions that follow them. Please use this table as a reference.

| US-English expression | Albanian expression | Comment |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| migrate to | (+) migro në | |
| Migrate from | (+) Migro nga | |
| import to | (+) importo në | |
| import from | (+) importo nga | |
| export to | (+) eksporto në | |
| export from | (+) eksporto nga | |
| update to | (+) përditëso në | |
| upgrade to | (+) përmirëso në | |
| change to | (+) ndrysho në | |
| click on | (+) kliko në | |
| connect to | (+) lidhu në | This can be translated “lidhu me” depending on the context. |
| welcome to | (+) mirëserdhe në ... | |

The examples below contain frequently occurring noun phrases that are preceded by a preposition. Please use this table as a reference.

Usually, the prepositions “in” and “on” are translated with the same preposition “në” in Albanian.

| US-English expression | Albanian expression | Comment |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| in the toolbar | (+) në shiritin e veglave | |
| on the tab | (+) në skedë | |
| on the menu | (+) në meny | |
| on the net | (+) në rrjet | |
| on the Internet | (+) në internet | |
| on the Web | (+) në ueb | |
| on a web site | (+) në sajtin e uebit | |
| on a web page | (+) në faqen e uebit | |

Pronouns

The characteristic semantic of pronouns is to refer rather than designate. While nouns, adjectives and numbers have specific, independent and fixed meanings, pronouns indicate their referents as to certain categorical properties, so that a given pronoun may refer to quite different referents in different contexts. Depending on their meaning and function, pronouns in Albanian may be classified in some types, such as personal pronouns, reflexive pronouns, relative pronouns etc. For the complete rules of pronouns please refer to normative reference.

Punctuation

Please follow the following basic rules for the use of punctuation marks in Albanian. If your language uses a character set that is based on the Latin alphabet, make sure to include a space after commas and periods. For the complete punctuation rules please refer to the respective book mentioned in the normative reference.

The punctuation in Albanian is not very different from English, but there are some exceptions.

- Usually there is no space before the signs of punctuation.
- At the beginning of a consecutive sentence, one space is used before the first word.
- At the end of a sentence or paragraph, they also serve as the final period.
- Suspension points are not used after the word “etc.”

Comma

In a series consisting of three or more elements with similar grammatical function, the elements will be separated with commas.

In a list, a comma is not used before “and” and before “etc”.

Colon

Colons are used to introduce lists and explanations. A colon is used at the end of an introductory phrase even if it is not a complete sentence.

The word following a colon is not capitalized unless the colon is at the end of a heading or the text following the colon is a complete quotation.

Example:

English

Backup from: backup disc.

Albanian

(+) Rezervo nga: disku i kopjes rezervë.

Dashes and Hyphens

Three different dash characters are used in English:

Hyphen

The hyphen is used to divide words between syllables, to link parts of a compound word, and to connect the parts of an inverted or imperative verb form.

En Dash

The en dash is used as a minus sign, usually with spaces before and after. This is mainly used in direct speech.

Em Dash

The em dash should only be used to emphasize an isolated element or introduce an element that is not essential to the meaning conveyed by the sentence. This is used between words that express distance and time frames.

Example: (+) distanca Tokë–Hënë, (+) periudha janar–maj.

Ellipses (Suspension Points)

Instead of three periods for suspension points the ellipsis character “...” must be used in printed documentation.

When indicating an omitted word, it is used before and after the ellipsis.

Period

In Albanian a single space is used after the period.

A period is used in all complete sentences, i.e. sentences with a conjugated verb. For the complete rules of period in Albanian please refer to punctuation rules book mentioned in normative reference.

Example:

English

Albanian

Verify data after the backup completes.

(+) Verifiko të dhënat pasi të përfundojë rezervimi.

Quotation Marks

Quotation marks indicate repeated words, clauses, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs spoken or written by someone else, that is, from another source.

In US source strings, you may find software references surrounded by English quotation marks. Please follow the following basic rules for the use of quotation marks in Albanian.

- The English quotation marks are used during Albanian localization.
- The sign of punctuation that follow the last quotation mark is used after the quotation mark (not before).
- When quotation marks are within other quotation marks, the insider quotation marks are single.

Example:

| English example | Albanian example |
|---|--|
| To install the license on this computer, click "Install license". | (+) Për të instaluar licencën në këtë kompjuter, kliko "Instalo licencën". |

Parentheses

In English, there is no space between the parentheses and the text inside them. The same rule applies for the usage of parenthesis in Albanian. They are preceded and followed by a space before and after them. Example:

English

Backup Wizard (Advanced)

Albanian

(+) Eksperti për rezervim (I përparuar)

Singular & Plural

For singular and plural the general rules of Albanian grammar should be followed, according to the books in the reference section.

Split Infinitive

The split infinitive is not used in Albanian, while the preferred form of the verb is the first person singular.

Example: (+) “përpunoj” and not (-) “me përpunu”

Subjunctive

Subjunctive mood is basically the mood that indicates dependency of the verb. The subjunctive mood has a present tense and three past tenses: imperfect, perfect, and past perfect. Please refer to Albanian grammatical rules for further reference.

Symbols & Non-Breaking Spaces

The symbols used in Albanian are mainly from scientific fields. Regarding the symbol entered in Albanian recently, their usage should follow the English one.

Example: 90°C, 100Ω, © Microsoft Corporation, etc.

Non-breaking spaces in Albanian should be used in the following cases:

- Between a number and a unit of measurement
- As the thousands separator

Example: 10 cm, 66 040.

Syntax

Syntax and register differ between Albanian and English in the following ways:

Difference #1

The most typical difference between English and Albanian syntax is that in English the verb always requires a subject, whereas in Albanian the subject is not always obligatory because it is implied by the ending the verb gets when it is conjugated.

Example: I will come later.

(+) Do të vij më vonë.

Verbs

The verb in English is conjugated only in the simple present tense, third person singular when it ends in (-s/-es). Whereas in Albanian has got six persons.

The verb in English has got tenses and moods, same as in Albanian, but the difference is that the verb changes only from infinitive to the past, for instance, and not for each person.

Example: (+) shkoj/shkon/shkojmë/shkoni/shkojnë (go/go/goes/go/go)

(+) Shkova/shkove/shkoi (went)

Continuous operations are usually expressed in English with a gerund, which should be translated into Albanian using the verb form “duke + verb participle”.

Example: Downloading files ...

(+) Duke shkarkuar skedarët...

Word Order

English language has got almost a fixed word order: Subject - Verb- Object.

Thus the noun preceding the verb is always the subject of the verb, and the noun that follows the verb is always the object of the sentence. If this word order is changed without making the necessary changes to the verb, the meaning of the sentence changes.

Example: (+) The fisherman caught the fish. (+) Peshkatari kapi peshkun.

(-) The fish caught the fisherman. (-) Peshku kapi peshkatarin.

Style and Tone Considerations

This section focuses on higher-level considerations for audience, style, tone, and voice.

Audience

You should always recognize your audience’s sensitivity to male and female stereotypes. Instead of stressing gender differences or reinforcing stereotypical distinctions between men and women, use language that is as neutral as possible. The neutral approach also applies to the localization of scenarios, comparisons, examples, illustrations, and metaphors.

Create a balance when assigning roles and functions to men and women (active vs. passive roles, leading vs. secondary roles, technical vs. non-technical professions, and so on). Scenarios, pictures, metaphors, and comparisons should be based on areas and attributes common to both genders.

Example:

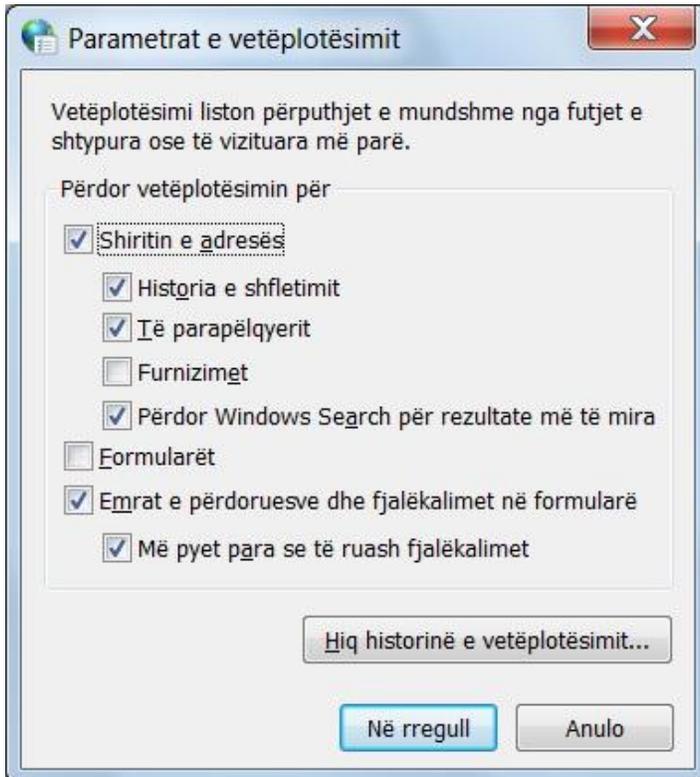
| Linguistic method | Example | Context |
|--|---------------------|---|
| Use a Neutral noun | person, njeri, vetë | In some special contexts. |
| Combine both genders by means of a slash | ai/ajo, ata/ato | Only in exceptional cases such as License Terms, sometimes in tables (headers or column/row titles, for example) |

Style

There is no specific rule regarding the style of writing. The language in Microsoft products should sound natural, as if part of a spoken conversation.

Tone

The tone of the Albanian translation should mimic the tone of the source product, but should also be respectful. Any word forms that are specific to a particular dialect should be avoided.



Voice

In many cases the imperative form of the verbs is used, but not in arrogant tone. "You" must be translated in singular form "ti". It will not be necessary to use it every time, because in Albanian language it is implied by the form of the verb.

Example:

| English | Translation |
|--|---------------------------------|
| You are now connected to the Internet. | Tani je i lidhur me internetin. |

Localization Guidelines

This section contains guidelines for localization into Albanian.

General Considerations

Localization conventions ensure that localized products meet user expectation in terms of functionality, usability, and productivity. For these reasons, translated products should be accurate, suitable for the local audience, and consistent from a functional, style and terminology point of view.

Abbreviations

Common Abbreviations

You might need to abbreviate some words in the UI (mainly buttons or options names) due to lack of space. This can be done in the following ways:

- Using standardized abbreviations commonly used in the local culture, in the industry or the market and documented by Microsoft reference material or other authoritative source of references.
- Using general criteria for shortening words, such as:
 - Omit at least two letters.
 - Truncate a word so that it ends with a consonant and place a period after it.

Example:

Vizualizimi > Vizual.

Gjeografike > Gjeogr.

List of common abbreviations:

| Expression | Acceptable Abbreviation |
|------------|-------------------------|
| shekull | shek. |
| numër | nr. |
| domethënë | d.m.th. |
| zoti | z. |
| zonja | znj. |
| e të tjera | etj. |
| gram | g |

| Expression | Acceptable Abbreviation |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| apartament | ap. |
| rruga | rr. |
| shkalla | sh. |
| profesor | prof. |
| doktor | dr. |
| Celsius | C |
| metër | m |
| centimetër | cm |
| kilometër | km |
| faqe (njëjës) | fq. |
| faqe (shumës) | f. |
| gigabajt | gb |
| gigabit | gbit |
| kilobajt | kb |
| kilobit | kbit |
| megabajt | mb |
| megabit | mbit |
| terrabajt | tb |
| terrabit | tbit |
| krahaso | khs. |
| autori | aut. |
| për shembull | p.sh. |
| janar | jan. |
| e shtunë | sht. |
| e diel | die. |

Abbreviations should be avoided whenever possible, especially in words that do not have a widely used abbreviated form.

Accessibility

Accessibility enables people of all abilities to use their full potential. Microsoft provides people with disabilities with more accessible products and services. These may not be available in Albanian speaking market. During localization of accessibility features such as speech recognition software etc, please double-check with the appropriate subsidiary or through your Microsoft Program Manager.

Localizers should make sure to translate accurately all features (e.g. ALT texts for image, strings for TTS, and so on).

Acronyms

Acronyms are words made up of the initial letters of major parts of a compound term. Some well-known examples are WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get), OLE (Object Linking and Embedding), or RAM (Random Access Memory).

Generally, during the localization into Albanian, the acronyms will be kept in English, but they will be accompanied with a generic term in Albanian, that is part of the acronym, according to Albanian's word order.

- (+) **gjuha** HTML
- (+) **numri** PIN

Localized Acronyms

In online help or documentation, spell out the words that comprise an acronym or abbreviation the first time that acronym is used in the text. You should include the language-specific translation, the US term, and the acronym as in the following example:

- (+) **Objektet e qasjes së të dhënave** (Data Access Objects, DAO)
- (+) **Objektet e të dhënave ActiveX** (ActiveX Data Objects, ADO)

In the user interface, there is usually not enough space for all three terms (US term, language-specific translation, and the acronym); only in wizards, the acronym can easily be spelled out and localized on first mention. If there are space constraints or there is no “first” occurrence, it is up to you to judge to the best of your knowledge whether the acronym or abbreviation can be left as is or should be spelled out and localized.

You should also consider that different users will have different levels of knowledge about a product. Also try to be consistent within a product with your use of acronyms and initializations.

Note: Although the English acronym cannot generally be derived from the language-specific translation, creating a new acronym derived from the language-specific translated term is not an option. For example, do not replace an English acronym with a language-specific acronym; instead, leave the English acronym or abbreviation intact, as in the following examples “where DLL” and “DPI” are correctly rendered as “DLL” and “DPI”:

| Language | English example | Acceptable translation |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Hausa | Application Initialization DLL | Farawa Afilikeshon DLL |
| Kiswahili | DPI Scaling | Urekebishaji DPI |
| Albanian | NTFS file system | Sistemi i skedarit NTFS |

Unlocalized Acronyms

Many abbreviations and acronyms are standardized and remain untranslated. They are only followed by their full spelling in English if the acronym needs to be explained to the speakers of a different language. In other cases, where the acronym is rather common, adding the fully spelled-out form will only confuse users. In these cases, the acronym can be used on its own.

The following list contains examples of acronyms and abbreviations that are considered commonly understood; these acronyms and abbreviations should not be localized or spelled out in full in English:

- ANSI (American National Standards Institute)
- ISO (International Standards Organization)
- ISDN
- DOS
- DSL
- CD
- DVD

magazinë

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Madhësia totale e diskut(qeve) të ngurtë(a) | 233 GB |
| Ndarja e diskut (C:) | 27 GB I lirë (40 GB totali) |
| Ndarja e diskut (D:) | 19 GB I lirë (20 GB totali) |
| Ndarja e diskut (E:) | 173 GB I lirë (173 GB totali) |
| Njësia e diskut e medias (F:) | CD/DVD |

If you are unsure what an acronym or abbreviation stands for or refers to, please contact the Moderator responsible for this Style Guide.

Applications, Products, and Features

Application/product names are often trademarked or may be trademarked in the future and are therefore rarely translated. Occasionally, feature names are trademarked, too (e.g. IntelliSense™). Before translating any application, product, or feature name, please verify that it is in fact translatable and not protected in any way.

Frequent Errors

Please refer to the previous sections on Grammar and Style for examples of some of the most frequent errors that occur during the localization of Microsoft products.

Glossaries

You can find the translations of terms and UI elements of Microsoft products at Microsoft Language Portal (<http://www.microsoft.com/Language/en-US/Default.aspx>).

Fictitious Information

Fictitious content is legally sensitive material and as such cannot be handled as a pure terminology or localization issue. Below is some basic information and contact points when dealing with fictitious content:

Vendors and Localizers are not allowed to create their own fictitious names. You must either use the source names or use the list of legally approved names.

Please contact your product team representative for further information on how to deal with fictitious companies, names, addresses, email addresses, phone numbers, etc. in your product. For technical products, you may also check with the product team representative whether localized fictitious content is required or not (e.g. Visual Studio).

Recurring Patterns

In many cases when the word *user* in English is followed by another name, the translation in Albanian should be *përdorim* and not *përdorues*.

Example:

user manual = manual përdorimi

user interface = ndërfaqe përdorimi

user error = gabim përdorimi

Standardized Translations

There are a number of standardized translations mentioned in all sections of this Style Guide. In order to find them more easily, the most relevant topics and sections are compiled here for your reference.

[Albanian Style in Status bar Messages](#)

[The importance of standardization](#)

[Standard Phrases in Error Messages](#)

[Standard Shortcut Keys](#)

Unlocalized Items

Trademarked names and the name Microsoft Corporation shouldn't be localized. A list of Microsoft trademarks is available for your reference at the following location: <http://www.microsoft.com/trademarks/t-mark/names.htm>.

| Word | Comment |
|--------------|-----------|
| Caps Lock | key name |
| Shift | key name |
| Ctrl | key name |
| Alt | key name |
| Tab | key name |
| Enter | key name |
| Backspace | key name |
| Delete | key name |
| Num Lock | key name |
| Home | key name |
| End | key name |
| Page Up | key name |
| Page Down | key name |
| Insert | key name |
| Print Screen | key name |
| Scroll Lock | key name |
| Num Lock | key name |
| Escape | key name |
| Pause | key name |
| Break | key name |
| ActiveX | Term |
| ANSI | Term |
| Arial | Font name |
| ASCII | Term |

| Word | Comment |
|----------|----------------------|
| CD | Term |
| CD-ROM | Term |
| COM+ | Term |
| DirectX | Term |
| Ethernet | Term |
| FTP | Term |
| HTML | Term |
| HTTP | Term |
| Internet | Term |
| IP | Term |
| ISDN | Term |
| Java | Programming language |

The above list is not exhaustive, but only contains some of the most common examples.

Please see also some general guidelines below that determine localizability in Microsoft products:

- Trademarks or registered trademarks should be kept in English.
- Product names should be kept in English.
- All font names are not localized.
- User and group role names are not localized: e.g. Administrator, User, Guest.
- Key names are not localized, except for: Space (hapësirë), Up Arrow (shigjeta lart), Down Arrow (shigjeta poshtë), Left Arrow (shigjeta majtas) and Right Arrow (shigjeta djathtas).
- Most English technical acronyms and abbreviations do not get localized, e.g. ASCII, URL, CC, CD, I/O, ISDN, MIDI, MS-DOS, NTSC, OS, PC, TCP/IP.
- File name extensions are not localized.
- Programming language and command-line commands are not localized.
- Names of programming elements such as classes, objects, methods, variables, attributes are generally not localized.
- Names of particular technologies are not localized (e.g. DirectDraw, DirectShow, DirectX, ActiveX, TrueType).

Using the Word Microsoft

In English, it is prohibited to use MS as an abbreviation for Microsoft. The same rule applies for the translation in Albanian as well.

Software Considerations

This section refers to all menus, menu items, commands, buttons, check boxes, etc., which should be consistently translated in the localized product.

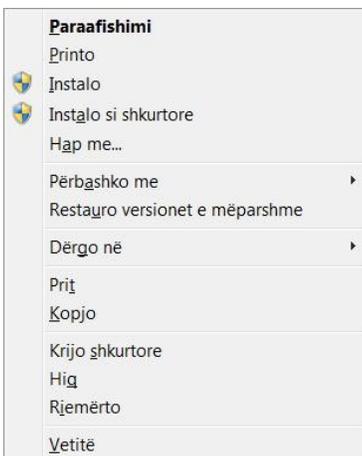
Refer to <http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/aa511258.aspx> for a detailed explanation of the Windows user interface guidelines (English).

User Interface

The User Interface is made up of elements such as menus, commands, dialogs and their options. UI items are usually translated following the source, that is:

English nouns with Albanian nouns (Tools > Veglat)

Imperative for English verbal forms (View > Shiko)



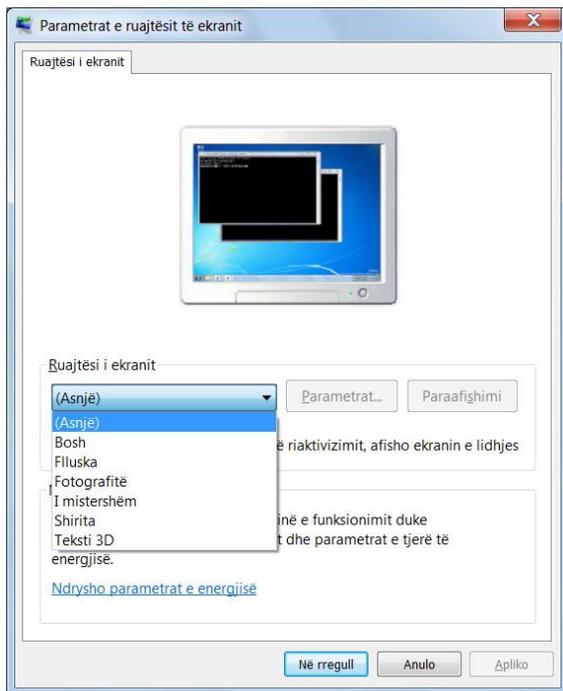
Dialog titles should be translated the same as the command that opens the dialog.

Prepositions should not be omitted in software strings, where required.

Example:

Screensaver

Ruajtësi i ekranit (*preposition is used always*)



Messages

Messages are used to provide instructions, warnings, descriptions, information about product functionality and issues. Therefore, they should be accurate and consistent both in style and terminology. In general, the impersonal form should be used for messages and the second person singular for instructions.

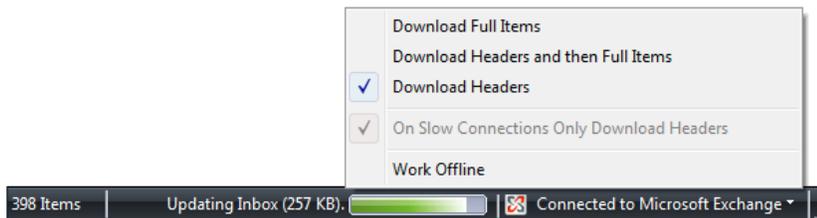
Example:

You have not selected a printer. Press OK to go back and make a selection that matches your printer
Printeri nuk është zgjedhur. Shtyp Në rregull për t'u kthyer dhe për të kryer zgjedhjen që përputhet me printerin.

Status Messages

What is a Status Bar Message?

A status bar message is an informational message about the active document or a selected command as well as about any active or selected interface item. Messages are shown in the status bar at the bottom of the window when the user has chosen a menu, a command or any other item, or has started a function. The status bar messages refer to actions being performed or already complete (for example in Outlook below).



Albanian Style in Status bar Messages

In English, the status bar messages have different forms dependent on the information they must convey. In *Albanian*, menu and commands status bar messages should follow the format below.

| Name | AlbanianName | Category | English Status Bar message | Albanian Status Bar message |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------|---|---|
| Edit | (+) Redaktimi | menu | Contains editing commands | (+) Përmban komanda redaktimi |
| Copy to Folder... | (+) Kopjo në dosjen... | menu | Copies the selected items to a new location | (+) Kopjon elementet e zgjedhura në vendndodhjen e re |
| New | I ri | command | Creates a new document | (+) Krijon document të ri |
| | | | Make object visible? | (+) Të bëhet i dukshëm objekti? |
| | | | Word is converting the document. Press Esc to stop. | (+) Word po konverton dokumentin. Shtyp Esc për të ndaluar. |
| | | | Datasheet View | (+) Pamja e fletës së të dhënave |
| | | | Done | (+) U krye |

The importance of standardization

In the US product you can often find messages that are phrased differently even though they have the same meaning. Try to avoid this in the localized Albanian version. Use one standard translation as in the examples below:

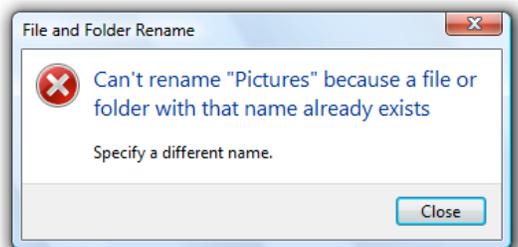
| English term | Correct Albanian translation |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Press F1 to get Help | (+) Shtyp F1 për ndihmë |
| If you want Help press F1 | |

| English term | Correct Albanian translation |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| To get Help press F1 | |
| Not enough memory | (+) Memorie e pamjaftueshme |
| Insufficient memory | |
| There is not enough memory | |
| Save changes to %1? | (+) Të ruhen ndryshimet te %1? |
| Do you want to save changes to %1? | |

Error Messages

What Is An Error Message?

Here is an example:



Error messages are messages sent by the system or a program, informing the user that there is an error that must be corrected in order for the program to keep running. For example, the messages can prompt the user to take an action or inform the user of an error that requires rebooting the computer.

Albanian Style in Error Messages

It is important to use consistent terminology and language style in the localized error messages, and not just translate as they appear in the US product.

In English error messages, names of products, features and devices are often used as the subject of the sentence. In Albanian, this kind of personalization should be avoided. Therefore, if the product the message refers to is obvious and implied based on context, it can be omitted. On the contrary, in complex products such as operating systems where more components run simultaneously and could be the cause of an error, use the following pattern:

[ProductName]: [message translated in the impersonal form]

Examples:

Word cannot open this document

Dokumenti nuk mund të hapet

Data Protection Manager could not copy the files to the selected location

Data Protection Manager: Skedari nuk mund të kopjohet në vendndodhjen e zgjedhur

When personalization cannot be avoided, otherwise important information would be lost, bring the object at the beginning of the sentence and move the subject at the end.

Example:

The driver cannot recognize the specified command

Komanda e përcaktuar nuk njihet nga drejtuesi

RASMXS.DLL cannot load RASSER.DLL

RASSER.DLL nuk mund të ngarkohet nga RASMXS.DLL

Whenever possible, the "to be" auxiliary is omitted in error messages.

Example:

The function is not supported

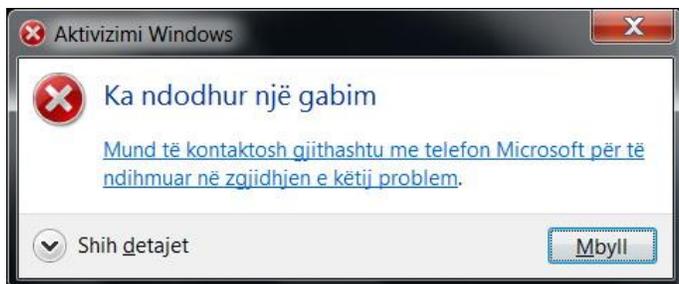
Funksioni nuk mbështetet

An error number was specified that is not defined in the system

Numri i specifikuar i gabimit nuk përcaktohet në sistem

An invalid parameter was passed to a system function,

Një funksion i sistemit ka marrë parametër të pavlefshëm



Standard Phrases in Error Messages

When translating standard phrases, standardize. Note that sometimes the US uses different forms to express the same thing.

Examples:

| English | Translation | Example | Comment |
|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Cannot ... | (+) Skedari nuk mund të gjendej | File could not be found | |
| Could not ... | (+) Skedari nuk mund të gjendet | File cannot be found | |

| English | Translation | Example | Comment |
|--|---|---|---------|
| Failed to ... Failure of ... | (+) Dështoi të lidhej | Failed to connect Failure to connect | |
| Cannot find ... Could not find ... Unable to find ... Unable to locate ... | (+) Nuk mund të gjejë softuerin e drejtuesit (+) Nuk mund të gjente softuerin e drejtuesit (+) Nuk është në gjendje të gjejë softuerin e drejtuesit (+) Nuk është në gjendje të gjejë vendndodhjen e softuerit të drejtuesit | Cannot find driver software Could not find driver software Unable to find driver software Unable to locate driver software | |
| Not enough memory Insufficient memory There is not enough memory There is not enough memory available | (+) Memorie e pamjaftueshme (+) Memorie e pamjaftueshme (+) Nuk ka memorie të mjaftueshme (+) Nuk ka memorie të mjaftueshme në dispozicion | Not enough memory Insufficient memory There is not enough memory There is not enough memory available | |
| ... is not available ... is unavailable | (+) Komanda nuk është në dispozicion (+) Komanda nuk është në dispozicion | The command is not available The command is unavailable | |

Error Messages Containing Placeholders

When localizing error messages containing placeholders, try to find out what will replace the placeholder. This is necessary for the sentence to be grammatically correct when the placeholder is replaced with a word or phrase. Note that the letters used in placeholders convey a specific meaning, see examples below:

%d, %ld, %u, and %lu means <number>

%c means <letter>

%s means <string>

Examples of error messages containing placeholders:

"Checking Web %1!d! of %2!d!" means "Checking Web <number> of <number>".

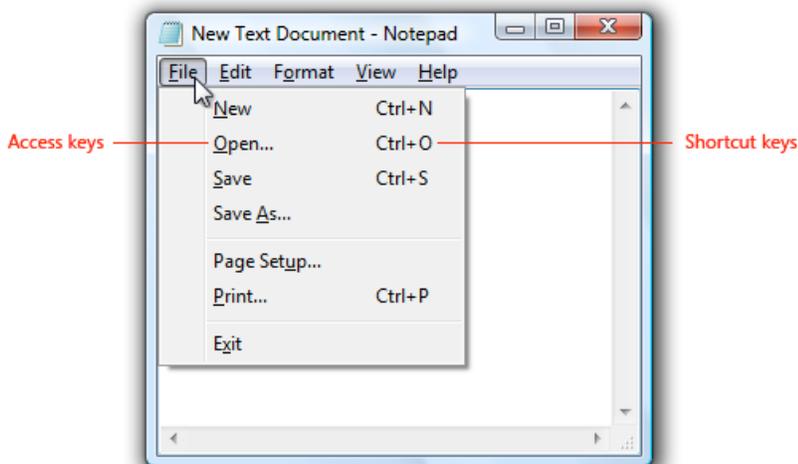
"INI file "%1!-.200s!" section" means "INI file "<string>" section".

Keys

The *keyboard* is the primary input device used for text input in Microsoft Windows. For accessibility and efficiency, most actions can be performed using the keyboard as well. While working with Microsoft software, you use keys, key combinations and key sequences.

In English, References to key names, like arrow keys, function keys and numeric keys, appear in normal text (not in small caps).

Access Keys/Hot keys



Sometimes, there are underlined or highlighted letters in menu options, commands or dialog boxes. These letters refer to access keys (also known as hot keys) that allow you to run commands, perform tasks, etc. more quickly.

The following table lists special options for hot keys in US-English interfaces and describes whether each option is allowed in Albanian:

| Hot Key Special Options | Usage: Is It Allowed? | Notes |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| "Slim characters", such as l, I, t, r, f can be used as hot key | yes | Usually "Slim characters" are not used as hot keys. They are used as hot keys only when there is no other choice. |
| Characters with downstrokes, such | yes | Usually "Characters with down |

| Hot Key Special Options | Usage: Is It Allowed? | Notes |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| as g, j, y, p and q can be used as hotkeys | | strokes” are not used as hot keys. They are used as hot keys only when there is no other choice. |
| Extended characters can be used as hotkeys | yes | Usually “Extended characters” are not used as hot keys. They are used as hot keys only when there is no other choice. |
| An additional letter, appearing between brackets after item name, can be used as hotkeys | yes | It is not preferred to use additional letters as hot keys. They are used as hot keys only when there is no other choice. |
| A number, appearing between brackets after item name, can be used as hotkey | yes | It is not preferred to use numbers as hot keys. They are used as hot keys only when there is no other choice. |
| A punctuation sign, appearing between brackets after item name, can be used as hotkey | no | |
| Duplicate hotkeys are allowed when no other character is available | no | |
| No hotkey is assigned when no more characters are available (minor options only) | yes | |

Additional notes: N/A.

Arrow Keys

The arrow keys move input focus among the controls within a group. Pressing the right arrow key moves input focus to the next control in tab order, whereas pressing the left arrow moves input focus to the previous control. Home, End, Up, and Down also have their expected behavior within a group. Users can't navigate out of a control group using arrow keys.

Numeric Keypad

It is recommended that you avoid distinguishing numeric keypad keys from the other keys, unless it is required by a given application. In case which keys to be pressed is not obvious, provide necessary explanations.

Shortcut Keys

Shortcut keys are keystrokes or combinations of keystrokes used to perform defined functions in a software application. Shortcut keys replace menu commands and they are sometimes given next to the command they represent. In opposition to the access keys, which can be used only when available on the screen, shortcut keys can be used even when they are not accessible on the screen.

Standard Shortcut Keys

| US Command | US English Shortcut Key | Albanian Command | Albanian Shortcut key |
|---|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| General Windows Shortcut keys | | | |
| Help window | F1 | Dritarja e ndihmës | F1 |
| Context-sensitive Help | Shift+F1 | Ndihma në kontekst | Shift+F1 |
| Display pop-up menu | Shift+F10 | Shfaq meny kërcyese | Shift+F10 |
| Cancel | Esc | Anulo | Esc |
| Activate\Deactivate menu bar mode | F10 | Aktivizo/Çaktivizo modalitetin e shiritit të menysë | F10 |
| Switch to the next primary application | Alt+Tab | Kalo në aplikacionin tjetër parësor | Alt+Tab |
| Display next window | Alt+Esc | Shfaq dritaren tjetër | Alt+Esc |
| Display pop-up menu for the window | Alt+Spacebar | Shfaq menynë kërcyese për dritaren | Alt+Spacebar |
| Display pop-up menu for the active child window | Alt+- | Shfaq menynë kërcyese për dritaren bijë aktive | Alt+- |
| Display property sheet for current selection | Alt+Enter | Shfaq fletën e veçorive për përzgjedhjen aktuale | Alt+Enter |
| Close active application window | Alt+F4 | Mbyll dritaren aktive të aplikacionit | Alt+F4 |
| Switch to next window within (modeless-compliant) application | Alt+F6 | Kalo në dritaren tjetër brenda aplikacionit (që përputhet me mungesën e modalitetit) | Alt+F6 |
| Capture active window image to the Clipboard | Alt+PrntScrn | Fotografo pamjen e dritares aktive në kujtesën e fragmenteve | Alt+PrntScrn |
| Capture desktop | PrntScrn | Fotografo pamjen e tryezës në | PrntScrn |

| US Command | US English Shortcut Key | Albanian Command | Albanian Shortcut key |
|---|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| image to the Clipboard | | kujtesën e fragmenteve | |
| Access Start button in taskbar | Ctrl+Esc | Hap butonin Nisja në shiritin e detyrave | Ctrl+Esc |
| Display next child window | Ctrl+F6 | Shfaq dritaren tjetër bijë | Ctrl+F6 |
| Display next tabbed pane | Ctrl+Tab | Shfaq panelin tjetër me skeda | Ctrl+Tab |
| Launch Task Manager and system initialization | Ctrl+Shift+Esc | Hap menaxherin e detyrave dhe nisjen e sistemit | Ctrl+Shift+Esc |
| File Menu | | | |
| File New | Ctrl+N | Skedari i ri | Ctrl+N |
| File Open | Ctrl+O | Skedari Hape | Ctrl+O |
| File Close | Ctrl+F4 | Skedari Mbylle | Ctrl+F4 |
| File Save | Ctrl+S | Skedari Ruaje | Ctrl+S |
| File Save as | F12 | Skedari Ruaje si | F12 |
| File Print Preview | Ctrl+F2 | Skedari Paraafishimi i printimit | Ctrl+F2 |
| File Print | Ctrl+P | Skedari Printoje | Ctrl+P |
| File Exit | Alt+F4 | Skedari Dil | Alt+F4 |
| Edit Menu | | | |
| Edit Undo | Ctrl+Z | Redakto Zhbëje | Ctrl+Z |
| Edit Repeat | Ctrl+Y | Redakto Përsërite | Ctrl+Y |
| Edit Cut | Ctrl+X | Redakto Prite | Ctrl+X |
| Edit Copy | Ctrl+C | Redakto Kopjoje | Ctrl+C |
| Edit Paste | Ctrl+V | Redakto Ngjite | Ctrl+V |
| Edit Delete | Ctrl+Backspace | Redakto Hiqe | Ctrl+Backspace |
| Edit Select All | Ctrl+A | Redakto Zgjidhi të gjitha | Ctrl+A |
| Edit Find | Ctrl+F | Redakto Gjej | Ctrl+F |
| Edit Replace | Ctrl+H | Redakto Zëvendëso | Ctrl+H |

| US Command | US English Shortcut Key | Albanian Command | Albanian Shortcut key |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Edit Go To | Ctrl+B | Redakto Shko te | Ctrl+B |
| Help Menu | | | |
| Help | F1 | Ndihmë | F1 |
| Font Format | | | |
| Italic | Ctrl+I | Pjerrët | Ctrl+I |
| Bold | Ctrl+G | Trashë | Ctrl+G |
| Underlined\Word underline | Ctrl+U | Nënvizuar/Nënvizim fjale | Ctrl+U |
| Large caps | Ctrl+Shift+A | Kapitale të mëdha | Ctrl+Shift+A |
| Small caps | Ctrl+Shift+K | Kapitale të vogla | Ctrl+Shift+K |
| Paragraph Format | | | |
| Centered | Ctrl+E | Qendëruar | Ctrl+E |
| Left aligned | Ctrl+L | Drejtvendosur majtas | Ctrl+L |
| Right aligned | Ctrl+R | Drejtvendosur djathtas | Ctrl+R |
| Justified | Ctrl+J | Drejtvizuar | Ctrl+J |

Document Translation Considerations

Document localization may require some specific considerations that are different from software localization. This section covers a few of these areas.

Titles

In English the titles for chapters usually begin with "How to ..." or with phrases such as "Working with ..." or "Using ...". In the Albanian version of Microsoft documentation, titles should be rendered with nouns and not verbs.

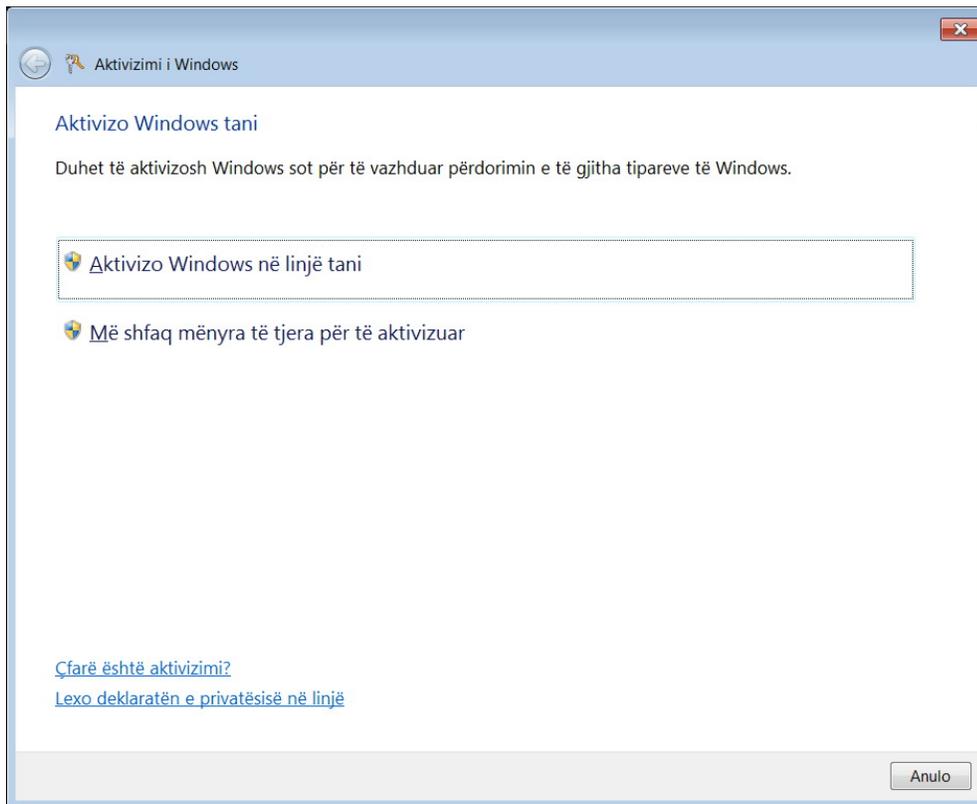
Example:

How to install Microsoft Office

Instalimi i Microsoft Office

Configuring Windows Update

Konfigurimi i Windows Update



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The following translations must be used:

| English text | Albanian translation |
|-----------------------|--|
| Copyright | (+) E drejta e autorit |
| All rights reserved | (+) Të gjitha të drejtat të rezervuara |
| Microsoft Corporation | (+) Microsoft Corporation |