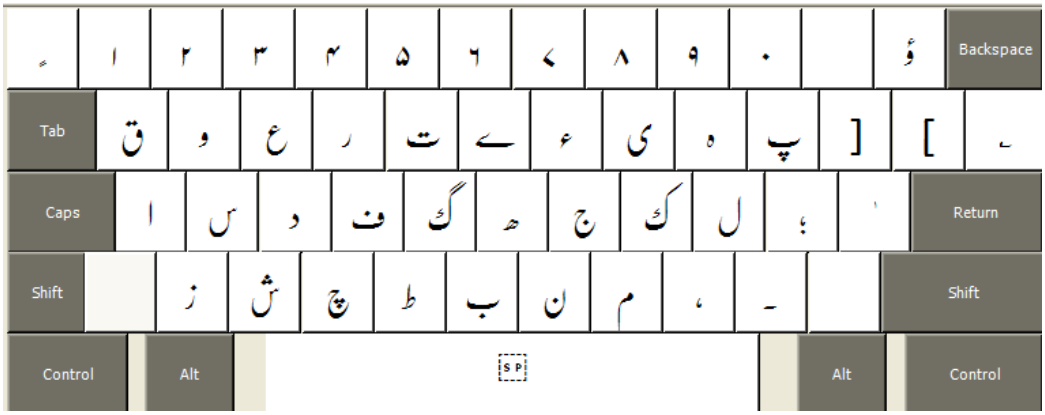
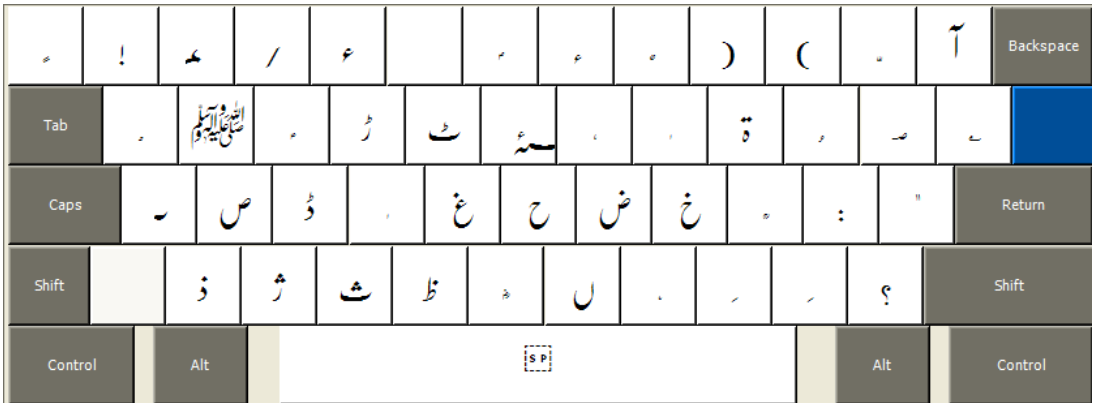
Keyboards for Urdu

Windows XP comes with an Urdu keyboard, but most users in Britain do not recognise it. A much more useful keyboard is the "phonetic keyboard" offered by the "CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN URDU LANGUAGE PROCESSING" (http://www.crulp.org/). We believe that this is becoming the standard and is very similar to the phonetic keyboard that some users may be familiar with from the use of the "in-page" software.

This keyboard can be set up for Windows XP and Windows 2000 and will then enable Urdu typing in Microsoft Office 2000 and later. None of the components of Office 97 will format Urdu properly; they do not seem to have the ability to join the characters.

Here is the Phonetic keyboard layout for Urdu:



and with the "Shift" key depressed: