The Decuma Script

The Decuma script is a syllabary that has single glyphs that are slightly modified in predictable ways to form different syllables. To illustrate how this works, here's a single consonant iterated for each vowel:

SEQUENCE	GLYPH	VALUE	KEYSTROKE(S)
BA	ק	[ba]	ba
BE	כ	[be]	be
BI	כּ	[bi]	bi
BO	⊏	[bo]	bo
BU	ס	[bu]	bu

For a single consonant (C), the form is identical to the Ce form. Thus, כ can be read [be] or simply [b].

In addition to this basic set of syllables, vowels will appear in a raised form when they occur after another vowel. The vowels themselves are reduced in appearance when raised:

SEQUENCE	GLYPH	VALUE	KEYSTROKE(S)
BAA	קᵀ	[baa]	baa
BAE	קᵒ	[bae]	bae
BAI	קᵒ	[bai]	bai
BAO	קᵁ	[bao]	bao
BAU	קᵁ	[bau]	bau

When a word begins with a vowel, a unique vocalic glyph is used. Below is a table that shows every consonant and vowel combination, in addition to the unique vocalic glyphs:

	A	E	I	O	U
—					
B					
D					
F					
G					
H					
K					
L					
M					
N					
P					
R					
S					
T					
W					
Y					

Here are the numerals of Decuma:

ROMANIZED FORM	Decuma SCRIPT	KEYSTROKE(S)
0		0
1		1
2		2
3		3
4		4
5		5

ROMANIZED FORM	Decuma SCRIPT	KEYSTROKE(S)
6	ö	6
7	日	7
8	日	8
9	∩	9

Numerals can be typed from left to right. I intended for a small space rather punctuation to separate the hundreds from the thousands and so forth:

ن∩日 398

০ن্ن্ট 4,235

ॻ日ن্ন্ট০ 1,832,564

There are only a few punctuation marks for Decuma. These can be used in between words, at the end of a sentence, or on either end of a sentence, depending on what looks good:

NAME	Decuma SCRIPT	KEYSTROKE(S)
Full Stop	∴	.
Question Mark	⫶	?
Middle Stop	:	; or :
Short Stop	··	, or -
Parentheses	·‖ ‖·	( )

Overall, the Decuma script should look alien, but not hostile—somewhat familiar, even:

To be sure the font is function properly, do the following test. With the font installed, open up a document or Photoshop file and type the number `koala`. If the test is a success, the word will look like this:

ᛋᛏᚱᚢ

If the test fails, though, you will get five unkerned glyphs that look like this:

ᚱᚴᛏᚢᛏ

If you see that, ligatures aren't functioning, and ligatures are crucial to the proper function of this font. Ensure that your program supports contextual ligatures, and if it does, be sure contextual ligatures are enabled. They should be enabled by default.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at <u>djpquery@gmail.com</u>. Enjoy!