

Common Conjunct Consonants

Conjunct consonants are formed when two (or occasionally more) consonants combine without an intervening vowel. Below are a few frequently used ones. The tables also contain an example word and reference to Patañjali's Yoga Sūtras (**PYS ref**) containing that word.

Ligatures

Some conjunct consonant shapes are noticeably different from its constituents. Some examples that occur quite frequently are listed below:

Conjunct	Components	Transliteration	Example Word	Meaning, PYS ref
क्ष	क् + ष	<i>kṣa</i>	क्षेत्र (<i>kṣetra</i>)	field PYSII.4
त्र	त् + र	<i>tra</i>	त्रय (<i>traya</i>)	triad PYSIII.4
ज्ञ	ज् + ज	<i>jñā</i>	ज्ञान (<i>jñāna</i>)	knowledge, PYSI.8
श्र	श् + र	<i>śra</i>	श्रद्धा (<i>śraddhā</i>)	faith PYSI.20

Half Forms

In some cases the constituents are somewhat recognisable in the final conjunct shape. Generally speaking, when a consonant contains a vertical line to the right it is usually dropped when combining. Eg: स् (s) + म (ma) = स्म (sma)

Conjunct	Components	Transliteration	Example Word	Meaning, PYS ref
क्ल	क् + ल	<i>kla</i>	क्लेश (<i>kleśa</i>)	affliction PYSII.3
क्र	क् + र	<i>kra</i>	क्रम (<i>krama</i>)	order PYSIII.22
ष्ट	ष् + ट	<i>ṣṭa</i>	अष्टाङ्ग (<i>aṣṭāṅga</i>)	eight-fold PYSII.29
स्थ	स् + थ	<i>stha</i>	स्थिर (<i>sthira</i>)	stable PYSII.46
त्त	त् + त	<i>tta</i>	चित्त (<i>citta</i>)	consciousness PYSI.2
स्म	स् + म	<i>sma</i>	स्मृति (<i>smṛti</i>)	memory PYSI.11
द्य	द् + य	<i>dya</i>	विद्या (<i>vidyā</i>)	knowledge PYSII.3
द्र	द् + र	<i>dra</i>	द्रष्टुः (<i>draṣṭuḥ</i>)	seer PYSI.3
न्य	न् + य	<i>nya</i>	शून्य (<i>śūnya</i>)	zero, devoid PYSI.9

Note: The *halant* (aka *virama*) ◌̣ is the diacritic mark that removes the inherent vowel from a consonant