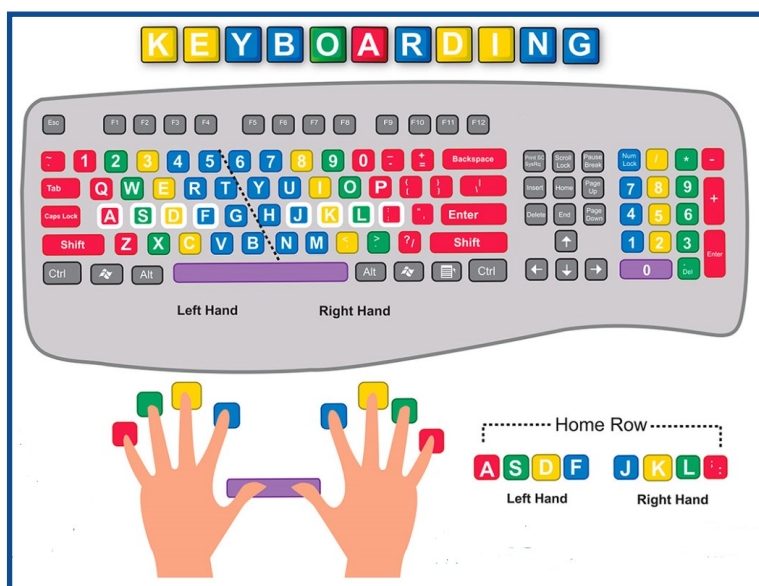# KEYBOARDING

QWERTY

Most computers use a standard **QWERTY** keyboard. If you look at the top row, you will notice the QWERTY sequence it is named after. All alphabetical and numeric keys will appear in the same place on all QWERTY keyboards, but some symbols, punctuation marks, or special keys may differ. Other keyboard layouts exist, including the Dvorak keyboard for English and keyboard layouts for other languages. Today, we will be focusing on the QWERTY keyboard. We will be practicing **touch typing**—typing without looking at the keyboard.

QWERTY keys were arranged diagonally on typewriters to provide space for the levers. This layout was kept for electronic keyboards. Each diagonal column has a dedicated finger.

ASDF are the home keys for your left hand.

JKL; are the home keys for your right hand.

Every keyboard should have **bumps on the F and J key** so your fingers can find the home keys via touch.

Resources

Typist—Typist is available on the Mac computers in the Computer Lab and for download from App Store.

Keybr.com—Free online typing speed test and typing lessons. Keybr.com teaches touch typing, and progress can be tracked with a user profile. Keybr.com offers multiplayer competition to make practice entertaining.

Typing.com—Free online typing lessons, used often for teachers and students. Free to create an account, and progress is tracked by earning badges. Offers typing tests and typing games to make practice fun.

TypingClub.com—Free online typing lessons, that include games and tests along the way. Create a free account to track your progress.

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