

**00:25**

Alphabet learned  
in 25 minutes by  
this 11 year old

## Is it easy to learn the EkaPad? Find out from others.

"In just 25 minutes, I learned the alphabet, except for q and u," said Chris, an 11 year old. "In my second hour I was composing sentences with punctuation, and navigating the cursor with the EkaPad." See his story, *Chris does it. pdf*, at [ekatetra.com/support](http://ekatetra.com/support).

**Prototype beta test**; see *BetaTestLearning\_Poster\_8x11.pdf* at [ekatetra.com/support](http://ekatetra.com/support).

**01:30**

Alphabet learned  
in 1.5 to 3 hours  
by 30 testers  
using prototype

The first prototypes of the EkaPad were tested plugged into PDAs. This prototype did not have the elegant ergonomics of the current USB model.

Participants were thirty users; of various ages, walks of life, and technical ability. Few of these participants were familiar with PDA's, and even fewer were long term users, or had data entry needs. Half were students at a local University who were studying Human Interface Design and Ergonomics.

Participants actually enjoyed the learning system and reached alpha-numeric functionality in 1.5 to 3 hours, depending on their choice of learning path. They completed the extended training in another hour.

The participants' typing tests showed a range of 8 to 16 words per minute.

Previous independent research shows that qwerty learners have reached 14 wpm, but only after 11 hours of training (Gopher & Raij, 1983), and users of the experimental Chording Glove reached 17 wpm, but also, only after 11 hours of training (Rosenberg, 1998). Long term users of the EkaPad have passed 20 wpm after 6 hours of use.

Suggestions have been implemented to streamline our three path system and to add a fourth path of alpha-only drills, and now another utilizing the 26 letter sentence scheme.

**00:30**

Alphabet learned  
in 30 minutes by  
this old codger

"Being an old codger of 72 didn't stop me from mastering the EkaPad alphabet in 30 minutes," remarked George. "One Saturday, I set the EkaPad up with the *EkaTetra Exercise Book.pdf*, Exercises 3 - 7. For 5 minutes at a time, 6 sessions, between chores, I did one exercise each session. For the last session I worked on 26 letter sentences."

"At the end of the day I knew the alphabet and most of the punctuation chords. I now use the EkaPad all the time; it's my only keyboard." PS: George is CEO at EkaTetra.

### Comments from users

Magnificent!

I learned quickly  
Manual is clear  
No fatigue  
Light hearted  
New brain use

This is a magnificent device! Great fun to play with! Tatyana Z.

I was VERY surprised how quickly I learned to type with this. I thought it would take at least a few weeks. It totally surprised me. Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade son asked to try it and it was hard to get him to stop. Mariah G.

I did find the [Learning] manual to be clear and moved me along quite successfully. I saw where it was going, and could follow my options. Virgil F.

I have chronic Tendonitis from a repetitive stress injury. Using the EkaPad, there seems to be almost no fatigue, even after more than an hour of practice. ... If I owned one I could foresee using it 90 - 100% of the time. Allison K.

Midway through the exercises I started to experience times when I would type characters without having to think about finger positions. Shannon D.

I like the "tone" of the instructions -- the light heartedness makes practicing seem like less "drudgery"... I not like I remember learning to type the "1<sup>st</sup>" time on QWERTY. Mike M.

It [made me use] a part of my brain that I have not used in a while. Student Tester