

3.0 Character Blocks

The character codes in these charts are the core of the Unicode standard. The characters cover modern communication and computer usage in the major scripts of the world and consist of approximately 2,300 general (alphabetic or syllabic) letters, 1,200 textual symbols, and 3,300 CJK phonetics, punctuation, symbols, and Korean Hangul syllables. Over 20,000 Han (East Asian ideographic) characters are covered, beginning with U+4000.

The following block descriptions are written so that they can be read alone, but by themselves are not sufficient to implement the Unicode character encoding. It is also vital to understand the general architecture of the Unicode standard (covered in Chapter 2).

The block introductions and character blocks are ordered by their code range location. Thus, the character blocks are ordered in the following sequence: General Scripts, Symbols, CJK Symbols, CJK Ideographs, and User and Compatibility Zones. (See Figure 1-1 for an overview of scripts included in version 1.0 of the Unicode standard.)

