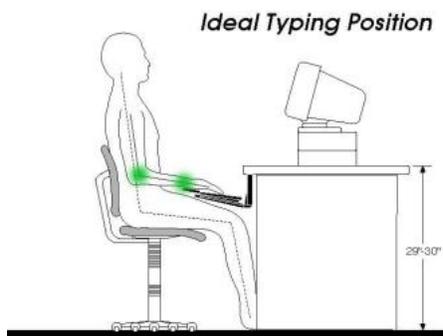# Typing Websites

Typing practice can enable a student to become an efficient, comfortable typist. Learning to type using all 10 fingers is suggested for most students, though some students will need to type with fewer fingers, or just one hand, due to processing or physical factors. Regardless of the number of fingers and hands used, short, frequent practice sessions with the support of a teacher and/or parent, will enable a student to improve his or her typing skills. Below is typing information about ergonomics, assessment, instruction and practice websites, games, one hand typing, and other resources.

Ergonomics

http://ergo.human.cornell.edu/ahtutorials/typingposture.html Cornell University provides good typing ergonomic positioning information at this website. The image above is instructive. Note the low position of the keyboard. Sometimes placing the keyboard in one's lap is a good option when the desk top is too high. Also note the top of the monitor at eye level. Students with physical disabilities may need to use modified ergonomics. Striving for good ergonomics is important for maintaining good health.

Typing Assessment

 http://10fastfingers.com/typing-test/english 10 Fast Fingers is a terrific website for assessing typing speed. One types the provided text for one minute, whereupon a words per minute rate is generated, corrected for errors. While a student types one can also observe the student's typing technique. This is a website useful for typists of all ages.

Typing Instruction and Practice

 http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/ BBC Dance Mat is a wonderful website for learning and practicing 10 finger typing, though students using fewer fingers or hands can benefit from typing practice at the site, as well. While the cartoon graphics are elementary student friendly, many older students will also enjoy the site.
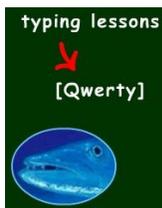
 http://www.typingweb.com/ Typing Web.com is a very popular website for learning to 10 finger type. Teachers can monitor students' progress. Good for students of any age.

 http://bigbrownbear.co.uk/learntotype/ Big Brown Bear starts with a short keyboard warm up activity, then proceeds with lessons. Press F1 for helping hands showing 10 finger placements, press F2 to display onscreen keys color coded for finger placement. The site is friendly for students of any age.

 http://games.sense-lang.org/ Sense-Lang.org offers typing instruction and a host of games. Fun for students of all ages.

 http://www.powertyping.com Power Typing.com has been around for awhile and is a little more primitive in design than some of the others. The practice exercises do offer the unique feature of providing rhythmic music for the typist to listen to while typing. There are a few games available at the site, too. Good for students of any age.

Typing Games

 http://www.nitrotype.com Nitrotype is a fun typing game for students of any age. One races a car along a track against other online anonymous typists. By registering, one can race against friends and classmates.

 http://www.freetypinggame.net Free Typing Game.net offers typing games along with typing instruction. Good for students of all ages, however, the site does display advertisements along the sides of the pages.

 http://www.abcya.com/ ABCYA.com provides typing games for students K-5, as well as math, letters, seasonal, and other educational online activities.

 http://www.gamequarium.org/dir/Gamequarium/Keyboarding/Games/ Gamequarium.org offers a number of typing games. While apparently designed for the upper elementary or middle grades student, students of all ages may enjoy the games.
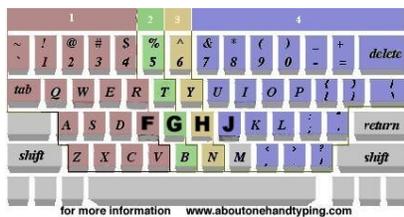
 http://play.typeracer.com/ Typeracer is an easy to use car racing typing game for students of any age.

One Hand Typing

 http://www.doorwayonline.org.uk Doorway Online distinguishes itself by offering one hand typing instruction and practice for student with orthopedic impairment using a standard keyboard. Finger placement layout charts for the left and right hands are provided. Good for students of any age.

 http://www.aboutonehandtyping.com/teaching.html. About One Hand Typing.com is more of an informational site than a typing practice site. The site advocates trying a standard keyboard for most one hand typists. Standard keyboards are ubiquitous and can be used for fast touch typing with practice in many cases. The finger placement chart provided at this site is the same for both the left and right hands and can be viewed in the image above and at the website.

Using MS Word for Typing Practice

 MS Word, or any other word processor, can be a useful tool for teaching students to type. Copying text is suggested, rather than asking the student to compose writing while learning the keyboard. Students could copy spelling or vocabulary words, or writing they have previously handwritten. Using a word processor for typing practice also gives the student the opportunity to further familiarize him or herself with word processor tools. Good for students of any age.