

To: UTC
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Subject: Bidi Examples
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This document presents examples to help users determine the Bidi_Class for digits and text. Bidi_Class values (AL, EN, R etc.) are defined in [Table 13 in TR#44](#). For more details on bidi, see [UAX #9 Unicode Bidirectional Algorithm](#).

For just sequences of digits, or digits plus common separators (commas, for example), there is no difference whatsoever. The differences set in when number sequences are decorated with European separators (like a hyphen-minus, etc.) and/or European terminators (like currency signs). The collection of rules then conspires to force European style numerical sequences, including currency signs etc., to retain their overall LTR order in Hebrew contexts, while they reorder just like the Arabic-Indic sequences in Arabic contexts.

The distinction is fairly subtle, because you can only invoke it when you add the European separators and terminators to numerical sequences, and then plunk them down into either a bc=AL (Arabic) surrounding context or a bc=R (Hebrew) surrounding context.

Bidi Examples

Some examples to test what a browser does with various combinations of bc=AL or bc=R letters and bc=AN or bc=EN digits.

Basic pattern. No difference between AL/R, AN/EN:

AL AL AL AN AN AN AL AL AL: ابة١٢٣

AL AL AL EN EN EN AL AL AL: ابة123

R R R AN AN AN R R R: אבג١٢٣

R R R EN EN EN R R R: אבג123

Adding a common separator in the digits. No change:

AL AL AL AN AN CS AN AL AL AL: ابة١٢,٣

AL AL AL EN EN CS EN AL AL AL: ابة12,3

R R R AN AN CS AN R R R: אבג١٢,٣

R R R EN EN CS EN R R R: אבג12,3

Adding a European separator in the digits. This has an impact:

AL AL AL AN AN ES AN AL AL AL: ابة٣-١٢

AL AL AL EN EN ES EN AL AL AL: ابة٣-12

R R R AN AN ES AN R R R: אבג٣-١٢

R R R EN EN ES EN R R R: אבג12-3

Adding a European separator and a European terminator in the digits. This has an impact:

AL AL AL ET AN AN ES AN AL AL AL: ابة٣-١٢\$

AL AL AL ET EN EN ES EN AL AL AL: ابة٣-12\$

R R R ET AN AN ES AN R R R: אבג٣-١٢\$

R R R ET EN EN ES EN R R R: אבג\$12-3

Fourth example restructured as tables, with more information:

ا	ب	ة	\$	١	٢	-	٣	ا	ب	ة
AL	AL	AL	ET	AN	AN	ES	AN	AL	AL	AL
ابة٣-١٢\$										
	ا	٣	-	١٢	\$					ا
	←	→	←		→	←				←

א	ב	ג	\$	1	2	-	3	א	ב	ג
AL	AL	AL	ET	EN	EN	ES	EN	AL	AL	AL
אבג\$12-3										
		אבג	3	-	12	\$	אבג			
		←	→	←	→	←	←			

א	ב	ג	\$	1	2	-	3	א	ב	ג
R	R	R	ET	AN	AN	ES	AN	R	R	R
אבג\$12-3										
		אבג	3	-	12	\$	אבג			
		←	→	←	→	←	←			

א	ב	ג	\$	1	2	-	3	א	ב	ג
R	R	R	ET	EN	EN	ES	EN	R	R	R
אבג\$12-3										
		אבג	\$12-3				אבג			
		←	→				←			