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Vowel Phonemes			Consonant Phonemes		
01	/ɪ/	P <u>i</u> t	21	/p/	<u>p</u> it
02	/e/	pe <u>t</u>	22	/b/	<u>b</u> it
03	/æ/	pa <u>t</u>	23	/t/	ti <u>m</u> e
04	/ɒ/	po <u>t</u>	24	/d/	<u>d</u> oor
05	/ʌ/	lu <u>ck</u>	25	/k/	<u>c</u> at
06	/ʊ/	goo <u>d</u>	26	/g/	ge <u>t</u>
07	/ə/	<u>a</u> go	27	/f/	<u>f</u> an
08	/i:/	mea <u>t</u>	28	/v/	<u>v</u> an
09	/ɑ:/	ca <u>r</u>	29	/θ/	<u>th</u> ink
10	/ɔ:/	do <u>or</u>	30	/ð/	<u>th</u> at
11	/ɜ:/	gi <u>rl</u>	31	/s/	<u>s</u> end
12	/u:/	to <u>o</u>	32	/z/	<u>z</u> ip

13	/eɪ/	day	33	/m/	<u>man</u>
14	/aɪ/	sky	34	/n/	<u>nice</u>
15	/ɔɪ/	boy	35	/ŋ/	<u>ring</u>
16	/iə/	<u>beer</u>	36	/l/	<u>leg</u>
17	/eə/	<u>bear</u>	37	/r/	<u>rat</u>
18	/ʊə/	<u>tour</u>	38	/w/	<u>wet</u>
19	/əʊ/	<u>go</u>	39	/h/	<u>hat</u>
20	/aʊ/	<u>cow</u>	40	/j/	<u>yet</u>
			41	/ʃ/	<u>shop</u>
			42	/z/	<u>leisure</u>
			43	/tʃ/	<u>chop</u>
			44	/dʒ/	<u>jump</u>

Phonetic Alphabet

This table contains all the sounds used in the English language. For each sound, it gives:

- The symbol in the **IPA** — the **International Phonetic Alphabet**, used for writing [phonetic transcription](#).
- Two English **words** which use the sound. The underline shows where the sound is heard.
- The links labeled **Amer** and **Brit** play sound files (in [mp3 format](#)) where the words are [pronounced](#) in American and British English. The British version is given only where it is very different from the American version.
- If you want to speak good English, you have to know how to pronounce each of these sounds. You can learn more about each sound through the "**more**" link.

vowels		consonants	
IPA	words	IPA	words
ʌ	cup, <u>l</u> uck	b	<u>b</u> ad, lab <u>u</u>
a:	<u>a</u> rm, f <u>a</u> ther	d	<u>d</u> id, la <u>d</u> y
æ	<u>a</u> t, bla <u>ck</u>	f	<u>f</u> ind, i <u>f</u>
ə	<u>a</u> way, cine <u>a</u>	g	<u>g</u> ive, fla <u>g</u>
e	<u>e</u> t, be <u>d</u>	h	<u>h</u> ow, <u>h</u> ello
ɜ:	<u>u</u> rn, lea <u>r</u> n	j	<u>y</u> es, <u>y</u> ellow
ɪ	<u>h</u> it, <u>s</u> itt <u>i</u> ng	k	<u>c</u> at, ba <u>ck</u>
i:	<u>s</u> ee, hea <u>t</u>	l	<u>l</u> eg, <u>l</u> ittle
ɒ	<u>h</u> ot, ro <u>ck</u>	m	<u>m</u> an, le <u>m</u> on
ɔ:	<u>c</u> all, fo <u>u</u> r	n	<u>n</u> o, te <u>n</u>
ʊ	<u>u</u> t, cou <u>ld</u>	ŋ	<u>s</u> ing, fi <u>ng</u> er
u:	<u>b</u> lue, foo <u>d</u>	p	<u>p</u> et, ma <u>p</u>
aɪ	<u>f</u> ive, <u>e</u> ye	r	<u>r</u> ed, tr <u>y</u>
aʊ	<u>n</u> ow, <u>o</u> ut	s	<u>s</u> un, mi <u>ss</u>
əʊ	<u>g</u> o, <u>h</u> ome	ʃ	<u>s</u> he, cra <u>sh</u>
eə	<u>w</u> here, <u>a</u> ir	t	<u>t</u> ea, get <u>t</u> ing
eɪ	<u>s</u> ay, <u>e</u> ight	tʃ	<u>ch</u> eck, <u>ch</u> urch
ɪə	<u>n</u> ear, <u>h</u> ere	θ	<u>th</u> ink, bo <u>th</u>
ɔɪ	<u>b</u> oy, <u>j</u> oin	ð	<u>th</u> is, mo <u>th</u> er
ʊə	<u>p</u> ure, <u>t</u> our <u>i</u> st	v	<u>v</u> oice, <u>f</u> ive
		w	<u>w</u> et, <u>w</u> indow A

z	zoo, lazy	^ɹ
ʒ	pleasure, visio	^ɹ
dʒ	just, large	^ɹ

Optional *r*

Many dictionaries use another symbol which looks like this: ^ɹ. This is not a sound — it is a short way of saying that an **r** should be pronounced only in American English. No **r** is heard in British English.

For example, if you write that the pronunciation of *bar* is /bɑ:^ɹ/, you mean that it is /bɑ:r/ in American English, and /bɑ:/ in British English.

Syllabic *l* and *n*

The symbols ^{əl} and ^{ən} show that the consonant **l** or **n** is pronounced as a separate syllable. Before the **l** or **n**, there is a very small vowel, which usually is even shorter than an **ə** sound.

You can hear the syllabic **l** in words like *little* /'lɪt^{əl}/ and *uncle* /'ʌŋk^{əl}/. The syllabic **n** can be heard in *written* /'rɪt^{ən}/ and *listen* /'lɪs^{ən}/.

Instead of the ^ə symbol, some dictionaries simply give an **l** or **n**, so that *little* is transcribed /'lɪtl/. Other dictionaries use the ^ə symbol (/ 'lɪtəl/).

The apostrophe (word stress)

Most dictionaries use the apostrophe symbol (') to show word stress. Usually, the apostrophe is placed before the stressed syllable in a word. [Word stress](#) is explained in our article about phonetic transcription.