

## Hiragana (Japanese)

Japanese uses four writing systems: Hiragana (shown here) by default, a similar system called Katakana for foreign words, Romaji (Latin letters) sometimes, and an awful system called Kanji.

N	W	R	Y	M	H	N	T	S	K	Vowels
ん <sup>(n)</sup>	わ <sup>(wa)</sup>	ら <sup>(ra)</sup>	や <sup>(ya)</sup>	ま <sup>(ma)</sup>	は <sup>(ha)</sup>	な <sup>(na)</sup>	た <sup>(ta)</sup>	さ <sup>(sa)</sup>	か <sup>(ka)</sup>	あ い う え お
		り		み	ひ	に	ち <sup>(chi)</sup>	し <sup>(shi)</sup>	き	
		る	ゆ	む	ふ <sup>(fu)</sup>	ぬ	つ <sup>(tsu)</sup>	す	く	
	を <sup>(wa)</sup>	れ		め	へ	ね	て	せ	け	
		ろ	よ	も	ほ	の	と	そ	こ	

Diacritics (gojūon with han'dakuten 半濁音)					Vowels
B	P	D	Z	G	あ い う え お
ば	ぱ <sup>o</sup>	だ	ざ	が	
び	ぴ <sup>o</sup>	ぢ <sup>(ji)</sup>	じ <sup>(ji)</sup>	ぎ	
ぶ	ぷ <sup>o</sup>	づ <sup>(zu)</sup>	ず	ぐ	
べ	ぺ <sup>o</sup>	で	ぜ	げ	
ぼ	ぽ <sup>o</sup>	ど	ぞ	ご	

(Chart from [www.jappleng.com](http://www.jappleng.com))

Examples:

ふくしまだいいち: Fukushima Daiichi, nuclear disaster site

ひろしま: Hiroshima, nuclear bomb site

ながさき: Nagasaki, nuclear bomb site

ときよ: Tokyo, capital of Japan

ほんしゅ: Honshu, the main island of Japan

ひらがな: Hiragana

ろっかしよ: Rokkasho, nuclear accident site.

ふあったづあ: "Fattavuva" (Nonsense string that displays less-common sounds.)

Try for yourself:

Your name

Tokaimura, nuclear accident site.

Onagawa, nuclear accident site.

Mihama, nuclear accident site

Kashiwazaki-Kariwa, nuclear plant shut down to avoid more disasters.

Cherokee: a syllabary

a	e	i	o	u	v [ǽ]
D a	R e	T i	Ꮞ o	Ꮝ u	i v
Ꮞ ga Ꮟ ka	Ꮞ ge	Ꮞ gi	A go	J gu	E gv
Ꮟ ha	Ꮞ he	Ꮞ hi	F ho	Ꮞ hu	Ꮞ hv
W la	Ꮞ le	P li	G lo	M lu	Ꮞ lv
Ꮞ ma	Ꮞ me	H mi	Ꮞ mo	Ꮞ mu	
Ꮞ na Ꮞ hna Ꮞ G nah	Ꮞ ne	Ꮞ ni	Z no	Ꮞ nu	Ꮞ nv
Ꮞ qua	Ꮞ que	Ꮞ qui	Ꮞ quo	Ꮞ quu	Ꮞ quv
Ꮞ s Ꮞ Ꮞ sa	Ꮞ se	Ꮞ si	Ꮞ so	Ꮞ su	Ꮞ sv
Ꮞ da Ꮞ W ta	Ꮞ de Ꮞ te	Ꮞ di Ꮞ ti	Ꮞ do	Ꮞ du	Ꮞ dv
Ꮞ dla Ꮞ Ꮞ tla	Ꮞ tle	Ꮞ tli	Ꮞ tlo	Ꮞ tlu	Ꮞ tlv
Ꮞ tsa	Ꮞ tse	Ꮞ tsi	Ꮞ tso	Ꮞ tsu	Ꮞ tsv
Ꮞ wa	Ꮞ we	Ꮞ wi	Ꮞ wo	Ꮞ wu	Ꮞ wv
Ꮞ ya	Ꮞ ye	Ꮞ yi	Ꮞ yo	Ꮞ yu	Ꮞ yv

Sequoyah = Si-quo-ya = ᏍᏎᏏ

ᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ  
ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ. ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ  
ᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ ᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎᏎ.

*Nigada aniyvwi nige guda'lvna ale unihloyi unadehna duyukdv gesv'i. Gejinela unadanvte hdi ale unohlisdi ale sagwu gesv junilvwisdanedi anahldin vdlv adanvdo gv hdi.*

(All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.)

## Cyrillic + Greek: alphabets

Russian Letter	Letter's Name, in Russian	How to Pronounce	П	"peh"	p in pet
А	"ah"	a in car	ρ	"ehr"	r in roll <sup>2</sup>
Б	"beh"	b in bit	С	"ehs"	s in see
В	"veh"	v in vine	Т	"teh"	t in tip
Г	"geh"	g in go	У	"oo"	oo in boot
Д	"deh"	d in do	Ф	"ehf"	f in face
Е	"yeh"	ye in yet	Х	"khah"	h in house <sup>3</sup>
Ё	"yo"	yo in yolk	Ц	"tseh"	ts in sits
Ж	"zheh"	s in pleasure	Ч	"ch eh"	ch in chip
З	"zeh"	z in zoo	Ш	"shah"	sh in shut
И	"ee"	ee in see	Щ	"shyah"	sh in sheep
Й	"ee kratkoyeh" "short ee"	y in boy	Ъ	"tvyordiy znahk" "hard sign"	<sup>4</sup>
К	"kah"	k in kitten	Ы	"i"	i in ill
Л	"ehl"	l in lamp	Ь	"myagkeey znahk" "soft sign"	<sup>5</sup>
М	"ehm"	m in map	Э	"eh"	e in met
Н	"ehn"	n in not	Ю	"yoo"	u in use
О	"oh"	o in folk	Я	"yah"	ya in yard

Mosvka = Москва

Tchaykovskiy =

Чайковский

intelligentsia =

интеллигенция

Try for yourself:

Your name

Russia

babushka

cosmonavt

alphabeta = αλφαβήτα

biologia = βιολογία

geometria = γεωμετρία

Try for yourself:

Your name

eureka

charisma

magma

Capital	Lower-case	Greek name	English	Capital	Lower-case	Greek name	English
A	α	Alpha	a	Ν	ν	Nu	n
B	β	Beta	b	Ξ	ξ	Xi	x
Γ	γ	Gamma	g	Ο	ο	Omicron	o
Δ	δ	Delta	d	Π	π	Pi	p
E	ε	Epsilon	e	Ρ	ρ	Rho	r
Z	ζ	Zeta	z	Σ	σ	Sigma	s
H	η	Eta	h	Τ	τ	Tau	t
Θ	θ	Theta	th	Υ	υ	Upsilon	u
I	ι	Iota	i	Φ	φ	Phi	ph
K	κ	Kappa	k	Χ	χ	Chi	ch
Λ	λ	Lambda	l	Ψ	ψ	Psi	ps
M	μ	Mu	m	Ω	ω	Omega	o

## Tengwar

Tengwar is the writing system created by J. R. R. Tolkien for the elves. There are several variants; this is one common one. Vowels are written as marks on the preceding consonant; fill in a short vertical line if there is no preceding consonant.

<b>Ṗ</b> t tinco (metal)	<b>Ṗ</b> p parma (book)	<b>ᑭ</b> c/k calma (lamp)	<b>ᑭ</b> kw quesse (feather)
<b>Ṗ</b> nd ando (gate)	<b>Ṗ</b> mb umbar (fate)	<b>ᑭ</b> ṅg anga iron	<b>ᑭ</b> ṅgw ungwe (spider's web)
<b>ḥ</b> th/s thúle/súle (spirit/wind)	<b>ḥ</b> f formen (north)	<b>ᑭ</b> kh harma/aha (treasure/rage)	<b>ᑭ</b> khw hwesta (breeze)
<b>ḥ</b> nt anto (mouth)	<b>ḥ</b> mp ampa (hook)	<b>ᑭ</b> ṅk anca (jaws)	<b>ᑭ</b> ṅkw unque (hollow)
<b>Ṣ</b> n númen (west)	<b>Ṣ</b> m malta (gold)	<b>ᑭ</b> ṅ ṅoldo/noldo (one of the Noldor)	<b>ᑭ</b> ṅw ṅnwalme (torment)
<b>ᑭ</b> r óre (heart / inner mind)	<b>ᑭ</b> v vala (angelic power)	<b>ᑭ</b> y anna (gift)	<b>ᑭ</b> w/v wilya/vilya (air/sky)

### Additional letters

<b>ᑭ</b> r rómen (east)	<b>ᑭ</b> rd arda (region)	<b>ᑭ</b> l lambe (tongue)	<b>ᑭ</b> ld alda (tree)
<b>ᑭ</b> s silme (starlight)	<b>ᑭ</b> s silme nuquerna (silme reversed)	<b>ᑭ</b> Z/r/ áze/áre/esse ss (sunlight/name)	<b>ᑭ</b> Z/r/ áze nuquerna ss (áze reversed)
<b>ᑭ</b> h hyarmen (south)	<b>ᑭ</b> d hwesta sindarinwa	<b>ᑭ</b> y yanta (bridge)	<b>ᑭ</b> w úre (heat)
<b>ᑭ</b> h halla (tall)	<b>ᑭ</b> I short carrier	<b>ᑭ</b> J long carrier	

<b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b> / <b>ᑭ</b>	<b>ᑭ</b>	
a	e	i	o	u	y	á/aa	é/ee	í/ii	ó/oo	ú/uu	ý/yy

(Chart from mareritt.com)

Examples: **ᑭᑭᑭ** Tengwar

**ᑭᑭᑭᑭ** Silmaril

## Korean Alphabet

### Consonants

ㄱ ㅋ ㄴ ㄷ ㄹ ㅁ ㅂ ㅅ ㅇ ㅈ ㅊ ㅋ ㅌ ㅍ ㅎ  
 g,k n d,t r,l m b,p s ng j ch k t p h

↑  
 silent in initial position

ㄱ ㅋ ㅍ ㅈ ㅊ  
 kk tt pp ss jj

### Vowels

ㅏ ㅑ ㅓ ㅕ ㅗ ㅛ ㅜ ㅠ ㅡ ㅣ  
 a ya eo yeo o yo u yu eu i  
 father saw home moon put meet

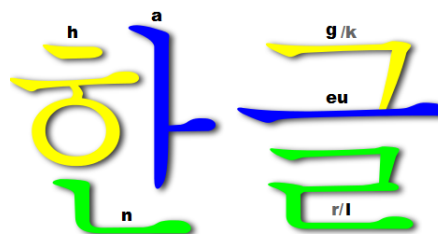
ㅘ ㅙ ㅚ ㅜ ㅞ ㅟ ㅠ ㅢ  
 ae yae e ye wa wae oe wo we wi ui  
 hand set wet

Revised Romanization.

Pronunciations shown here are only rough approximations.

## Hangeul: a featural alphabet

Hangeul has individual letters for individual sounds -- like an alphabet -- but stacks the sounds together into syllables. Because Hangeul is featural, it is easy to memorize.



banana → **banana** → 바나나

radio → **radio** → 라디오

orange → **orenji** → 오렌지

chocolate → **chokollit** → 초콜릿

Canada → **kaenada** → 캐나다

tennis → **teniseu** → 테니스

video → **bidio** → 비디오

menu → **menyu** → 메뉴

### Try for yourself:

cha

ham & cheese sandwich (haem chijeu saendeuwichi)

kimchi

taekwondo

juice

Samsung (Samseong)

your name

## International Phonetic Alphabet

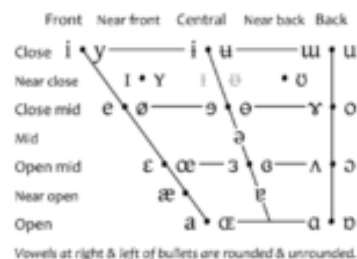
The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is an attempt at a one-to-one matching of sounds in all the world's languages to symbols. Most of these sounds aren't in English.

the international phonetic alphabet (2005)

consonants (pulmonic)	LABIAL		CORONAL				DORSAL				RAPICAL		LARYNGEAL
	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palato-alveolar	Retroflex	Alveolo-palatal	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Epi-glottal	Glottal
Nasal	m	ɱ		n		ɳ	ɲ	ɳ	ŋ	ɴ			
Plosive	p b			t d		ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ	ʔ	
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ	
Approximant		ʋ		ɹ		ɻ	j		ɰ				ɦ ʕ
Tap, flap		ⱱ		ɾ		ɽ							
Trill	ʙ			ʀ						ʀ			ʀ
Lateral fricative				ɬ ɮ		ɮ	ɬ	ɬ	ɬ				ɬ
Lateral approximant				ɭ		ɭ	ɭ	ɭ	ɭ				ɭ
Lateral flap				ɭ		ɭ	ɭ	ɭ	ɭ				ɭ

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a modally voiced consonant, except for marmarred ʕ. Shaded areas denote articulations judged to be impossible. Light grey letters are unofficial extensions of the IPA.

vowels



The sounds of the above that are in English are here; you can infer some of the rest from them.

### Consonants:

Mom			Nun					-ing					
Pop/Bob			Tot/Dad					Kick/Gig					
	Fife/Vie	Thin/This	See/Zoo	She/Azure									He
			Row				You						
			Low										

### Vowels:

Me/				/Boo
	Mitt/		/Put	
Bait/				/Boat
		Putt		
Pet/				Gut/Lore
Pat/				
Stock/				Hot/