

# Phoneme Pronunciation Guide

This is a quick guide to pronouncing the 44 different sounds in the English language, plus the double letter sounds.

Remember to try and say the sound in the shortest possible way, without adding an 'uh' at the end of the sound eg, 'mmm', not 'muh'.

The way you say some of these sounds may differ slightly according to regional accent.

Sound	Example
s	'sss' as in 'sit'
a	'a' as in 'apple'
t	't' as in 'tip' (a short sound)
p	'p' as in 'pet' (a soft, gentle blowing sound)
i	'i' as in 'ink'
n	'nnn' as in 'neck'
m	'mmm' as in 'man'
d	'd' as in 'dog' (a short sound)
g	'g' as in 'goat' (a short, throaty sound)
o	'o' as in 'off'
c	'c' as in 'cat' (a short sound, no longer called 'curly kuh')
k	'k' as in 'kick' (a short sound, pronounced in the same way as 'c' and no longer called 'kicking kuh')
ck	'ck' as in 'duck' (a short sound, pronounced in the same way as 'c' and 'k')
e	'e' as in 'egg'
u	'u' as in 'umbrella'
r	'rrr' as in 'rug' (a growling sound)
h	'h' as in 'hot' (a short, breathy sound)
b	'b' as in 'bee'
f	'fff' as in 'frog'

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ff	'fff' as in 'puff' (pronounced in the same way as 'f')
l	'ull' as in 'lemon'
ll	'ull' as in 'pull' (pronounced in the same way as 'll')
ss	'sss' as in 'hiss' (pronounced in the same way as 's')
j	'j' as in 'jam' (a short sound)
v	'vvv' as in 'van'
w	'w' as in 'wish' (a quiet, whisper sound)
x	'ks' as in 'box'
y	'y' as in 'yellow'
z	'zzz' as in 'zip'
zz	'zzz' as in 'buzz'
qu	'kwuh' as in 'queen' (it is important to teach children that on its own the letter 'q' makes no sound).
ch	'ch' as in 'chips'
sh	'shhh' as in 'shed'
th	'thhh' as in 'teeth' (or a shorter sound, like 'th' as in 'the')
ng	'nnng' as in 'ring'
ai	'ay' as in 'train'
ee	'ee' as in 'see'
igh	'eye' as in 'light'
oa	'oh' as in 'boat'
oo	'ooo' as in 'food' (or a shorter sound, like 'u' as in 'book')
ar	'ah' as in 'park'
or	'or' as in 'fork'
ur	'er' as in 'burn'
ow	'ow' as in 'cow'
oi	'oy' as in 'coin'
ear	'ear' as in 'near'
air	'air' as in 'stairs'
ure	'your' as in 'pure'