

Phonetic alphabets reference

The *IPA* column contains the symbol in the International Phonetic Alphabet, as used in phonemic transcriptions in modern English dictionaries.

The *ASCII* column shows the corresponding symbol in the Antimoon ASCII Phonetic Alphabet, which can be used to type the pronunciation of words on a computer without the use of special fonts.

For a full description of the alphabets + audio recordings of the sounds, visit www.antimoon.com/ipa

vowels

IPA	ASCII	examples
ʌ	^	cup, luck
ɑ:	a:	arm, father
æ	@	cat, black
ə	..	away, cinema
e	e	met, bed
ɜ:ʳ	e:(r)	turn, learn
ɪ	i	hit, sitting
i:	i:	see, heat
ɒ	o	hot, rock
ɔ:	o:	call, four
ʊ	u	put, could
u:	u:	blue, food
aɪ	ai	five, eye
aʊ	au	now, out
oʊ/əʊ	Ou	go, home
eəʳ	e..(r)	where, air
eɪ	ei	say, eight
ɪəʳ	i..(r)	near, here
ɔɪ	oi	boy, join
ʊəʳ	u..(r)	pure, tourist

consonants

IPA	ASCII	examples
b	b	bad, lab
d	d	did, lady
f	f	find, if
g	g	give, flag
h	h	how, hello
j	j	yes, yellow
k	k	cat, back
l	l	leg, little
m	m	man, lemon
n	n	no, ten
ŋ	N	sing, finger
p	p	pet, map
r	r	red, try
s	s	sun, miss
ʃ	S	she, crash
t	t	tea, getting
tʃ	tS	check, church
θ	th	think, both
ð	TH	this, mother
v	v	voice, five
w	w	wet, window
z	z	zoo, lazy
ʒ	Z	pleasure, vision
dʒ	dZ	just, large

special symbols

IPA	ASCII	meaning
ˈ	,	ˈ is placed before the stressed syllable in a word. For example, the noun <i>contract</i> is pronounced /ˈkɒntrækt/, and the verb <i>to contract</i> is pronounced /kənˈtrækt/.
ʳ	(r)	/ka:ʳ/ means /ka:r/ in American English and /ka:/ in British English.
i	i(:)	/i/ means /i/ or /ɪ/ or something in between. Examples: <i>very</i> /ˈveri/, <i>ability</i> /əˈbɪlɪti/, <i>previous</i> /ˈpri:vɪəs/.
˚l	.l	˚l/ shows that the consonant /l/ is pronounced as a syllable. This means that there is a short vowel (shorter than the /ə/ sound) before the consonant. Examples: <i>little</i> /ˈlɪt˚l/, <i>uncle</i> /ˈʌŋk˚l/.
˚n	.n	˚n/ shows that the consonant /n/ is pronounced as a syllable. Examples: <i>written</i> /ˈrɪt˚n/, <i>listen</i> /ˈlɪs˚n/.