

An Alphabetic Code Chart for English with the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

IPA symbols for phonemes and combined phonemes	Easy-to-use notation for units of sound	Graphemes, or spelling alternatives, within word examples which are code for the sounds	IPA symbols for phonemes and combined phonemes	Easy-to-use notation for units of sound	Graphemes, or spelling alternatives, within word examples which are code for the sounds
vowel sounds			consonant sounds		
/æ/	/a/	apple	/b/	/b/	bat rabbit builder
/ɛ/	/e/	egg head said	/k/	/k/	cat kit duck chameleon bouquet plaque
/ɪ/	/i/	insect cymbals	/d/	/d/	dig puddle rained
/ɒ/	/o/	octopus watch qualify salt	/f/	/f/	feathers cliff photograph laugh
/ʌ/	/u/	umbrella son touch thoroughfare	/g/	/g/	girl juggle guitar ghost catalogue
/eɪ/	/ai/	aid tray table sundae cake prey break eight straight	/h/	/h/	hat who
/i:/	/ee/	eel eat emu concrete key chief sardines	/dʒ/	/j/	jug cabbage gɜːbil giraffe gymnast fridge
/ɪ/ to /i:/	between /i-ee/	sunny monkey movie	/l/	/l/	ladder shell
/aɪ/	/igh/	night tie behind fly bike eiderdown	/ə/	/ul/	kettle pencil hospital camel
/əʊ/	/oa/	oak bow yo-yo oboe rope dough plateau	/m/	/m/	map hammer welcome thumb column
/j/ + /u:/	/y+oo/	statue unicorn tube new pneumatic	/n/	/n/	net bonnet knot gnome engine
/ʊ/	short /oo/	book should push wolf (wolves)	/ŋ/	/ng/	gong jungle /ŋ/+k/ /ng+k/ some programmes ink uncle
/u:/	long /oo/	moon blue flute fruit crew soup move through super	/p/	/p/	pan puppet
/ɔɪ/	/oi/	ointment toy	/k/ + /w/	/k+w/	queen awkward
/aʊ/	/ou/	ouch owl plough	/r/	/r/	rat arrow write rhinoceros
/ɑ:/	/ar/	artist father palm half calves	/s/	/s/	snake glass palace house cents city bicycle
/ɔ:/	/or/ or /aw/ (accent)	fork oars door snore four wardrobe quarter dawn sauce chalk caught thought water	/t/	/t/	scissors castle pseudonym tent letter skipped debt pterodactyl
/ɜ:/	/er/	mermaid birthday nurse earth world	/v/	/v/	violin dove
/ə/ "uh"	schwa /er/ or /u/	mixer humour theatre collar sailor above	/w/	/w/	web wheel penguin
/ɛə/	/air/	hair hare bear where	/k/ + /s/	/k+s/	fox (plurals: books ducks picnics cakes plaques)
/ɪə/	/eer/	deer ears adhere cashier	/g/ + /z/	/g+z/	exam (plurals: pegs eggs catalogues)
/j/ + /ʊə/	/y+oor/	pure	/j/	/y/	yawn
The complexities of the English Alphabetic Code: 1. One sound (phoneme) can be represented by one, two, three or four letters: e.g. /a/ a, /f/ ph, /igh/ igh, /ai/ eigh 2. One sound can be represented by multiple spelling alternatives (graphemes): e.g. /oa/: o, oa, ow, oe, o-e, eau, ough 3. One grapheme can represent multiple sounds: e.g. 'ough': /oa/ though, /or/ thought, /oo/ through, /ou/ plough, /u/ thorough On this chart, hollow letters (w qu e i y le lt m j) alert the reader to a possible pronunciation in certain words such as 'world' (in contrast to 'worn') and a specific pronunciation in some words (the 'soft c' principle) such as 'city'.			/z/	/z/	zebra jazz (plural: fries) cheese breeze xylophone
			/tʃ/	/ch/	chairs patch /tʃ/+ə/ /ch+u/ picture
			/ʃ/	/sh/	sheep chef station magician admission
			/θ/	unvoiced /th/	thistle /ð/ voiced /th/ there
			/ʒ/	/zh/	television treasure azure (blue) courgette collage

Contact: debbie@phonicsinternational.com No Alphabetic Code Chart can be definitive because of regional and national accents and the different interpretations people give to speech sounds and spelling alternatives.