

Hebrew Alphabet Chart

Name	Block	Print	Transliteration	Sound
'alef	א	א	ʾ	Silent or glottal stop
Bet	ב	ב	b	b in ball
	ב	ב	<u>b</u>	v in very
Gimmel	ג	ג	g	g in good
	ג	ג	g	g in good
Dalet	ד	ד	d	d in dog
	ד	ד	<u>d</u>	d in dog
He	ה	ה	h	h in house
Vav	ו	ו	v or w	v in very or w in win
Zayin	ז	ז	z	z in zoo
Het	ח	ח	<u>h</u>	ch in Bach
Tet	ט	ט	<u>t</u>	t in top
Yod	י	י	y	y in yes
Kaf	כ	כ	k	k in kick
	כ	כ	<u>k</u>	ch in Bach
Final Kaf	כּ	כּ	<u>k</u>	ch in bach
Lamed	ל	ל	l	l in look
Mem	מ	מ	m	m in mom
Final Mem	ם	ם	m	m in mom
Nun	נ	נ	n	n in noon
Final Nun	ן	ן	n	n in noon
Samek	ס	ס	s	s in sit
'ayin	ע	ע	ʿ	silent or glottal stop

Pe	פ	פּ	p	p in pig
	פ	פֿ	p̄	f in fun
Final Pe	ף	פּף	p̄	f in fun
Tsade	צ	צּ	ṣ	ts in hats
Final Tsade	ץ	צּץ	ṣ	ts in hats
Qof	ק	קּ	q	k in kick
Resh	ר	רּ	r	Spanish r in pero
Sin	ש	שׁ	ś	s in seen
Shin	ש	שׂ	š	sh in sheen
Tav	ת	תּ	t	t in top
	ת	תֿ	t̄	t in top or th in thing

The Hebrew alphabet has 22 consonants (שׁ and שׂ count as 1).

Six consonants at one time had alternate pronunciations with a dot (called “dagesh”). Three of these letters now have different pronunciations, the other three don’t change pronunciation (though some scholars use alternate pronunciations). These letters are known as the “BeGaDKePaT” letters.

ב	b	בּ	v	כ	k	כּ	ch
ג	g	גּ	g (gh)	פ	p	פּ	f
ד	d	דּ	d (dh)	ת	t	תּ	t (th)

Five consonants have alternate forms if they occur at the end of a word

Final Kaf	ף
Final Mem	ם
Final Nun	ן
Final Pe	ף
Final Tsade	ץ

Some Consonants have the same or similar sounds.

א	ע	silent or glottal stop
ב	ו	v
כ	ח	ch
ט	ת	t
ק	ק	k
ס	ש	s

Some letters have similar shapes and are easily confused “look-alike letters”

ב	bet	ט	tet
כ	kaf	מ	mem
ג	gimmel	ם	final mem
נ	nun	ס	samek
ז	zayin	ע	‘ayin
ו	vav	צ	tsade
ן	final nun		
ד	dalet	ש	sin
ר	resh	ש	shin
ך	final kaf		
ה	he		
ה	het		
ת	tav		

Hebrew Vowels

<u>Alphabet</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Transliteration</u>	<u>Pronunciation</u>
Short vowels			
אֲ	1 Patah	a	a as in car
אֵ	Segol	e	e as in met
אִ	Hiriq	i	i as in sit
אָ	Qamats Hatuf	o	o as in cost
אֻ	Qubbutz	u	u as in put
Long vowels			
אֶ	Qamats ²	ā	a as in car
אֵ	Tsere	ē	e as in obey
אֹ	Holem	ō	o as in obey
Vowel letters			
אָ	Qamats He	ā ^h	a as in car
אֲ	Patah He	a ^h	a as in car
אֵי	Tsere yod	ê	e as in obey
אִי	Segol yod	ê	e as in obey
אֶה	Tsere He	ē ^h	e as in obey
אֵה	Segol He	e ^h	e as in obey
אִי	Hiriq yod	î	i as in machine
אֹה	Holem He	ō ^h	o as in obey
וּ	Holem vav	ô	o as in obey
וּ	Shuruq	û	u as in rule
Half vowels and shewa			
אֲ	Hataf-patah	ă	a as in al-a-mode
אֱ	Hataf-segol	ĕ	e as in met
אֳ	Hataf-qamats	ǒ	o as in oat
אֶ	Shewa (vocal)	e	e as in mathematics
אֻ	Shewa (silent) ³	none	Silent letter

¹ The alef is only being used to show the position of the vowel points and is not part of it.

² Qamats-hatuf and qamats are written the same but pronounced differently. The rules indicating which is being used are complicated, but qamats is far more common, so assume that it is qamats (a).

³ The difference between the vocal and silent shewa is fairly complicated, but the basic idea is that the silent shewa is used to mark the end of a syllable.

