

## Phonetic Alphabet for Sounds of English

(based on a Midwestern dialect pronunciation)

### Consonants

[p]	as in pie, spin, apple, tap	[f]	as in fluffy, sphinx, half, cough
[b]	as in bubble, tab	[v]	as in very, gravel, save, of
[t]	‡as in tie, stick, mat	[θ]	as in thin, ether, teeth, bath
[d]	‡as in daddy, handed, pad	[ð]	as in then, either, bathe
[k]	as in cap, skip, character, kick	[s]	as in see, psycho, peace, pass
[g]	as in goggle, linger, log	[z]	as in zoo, Xerox, jazz, kisses
[m]	as in mommy, seem	[ʃ] or [ʒ]	as in shoe, ship, nation, wish
[n]	as in noon, sunny, sign	[ʒ] or [ʒ]	as in vision, casualty, garage
[ŋ]	as in sing, think, fingering	[č] or [tʃ]	as in chop, church, match
[l]	as in lily, palace, call	[j] or [dʒ]	as in judge, George, region
[r]	as in read, error, cruel	[h]	as in hit, rehash, whole, who
[w]	as in wet, away, cow, one	[ʔ]	as in uh-oh!, or sometimes
[hw] or [ʍ]	*as in which, where, whale (some dialects)		in button, bottle (a glottal stop
[y]	as in yet, usual, onion, buy		or <u>catch</u> , <i>not</i> a dental /v/ sound)

### Vowels

FRONT		BACK	
[i]	as in beat, see, receive	[u]	as in boot, suit, cute, two, to
[ɪ] or [ɪ]	as in it, sit, bin, ring	[ʊ] or [ʊ]	as in book, could, put, foot
[e]	‡as in bait, great, eight, ate, say	[o]	‡as in boat, soak, go, grow, toe
[ɛ]	as in bet, dead, said, end	[ɔ]	*as in wrong, ball, caught, saw
[æ]	as in cat, bag, anger, laugh	[ɑ]	as in father, cot, palm, army

### CENTRAL

[ɹ]	as in roses, just (adv.), children (sometimes included in [ə.])
[ə]	as in Rosa's, about, sofa
[ʌ]	as in just (adj.), but (sometimes these are included in [ə])

\*Not all dialects distinguish the following:

[a] and [ɔ] (cot vs. caught), [w] and [hw] (wail vs. whale),  
[er], [ɛr], and [æɪ] (Mary, merry, marry), [ur] and [or] (poor vs. pour)

### Diphthongs (vowel plus glide)

[ay] (or [əy])	as in cry, bite, buy, sign, island	[aw] (or [əw] or [æw])	as in now, cow, ouch
[ɔy] or [oy]	as in boy, coy, oily		(depending on regional accent)

‡Many other English vowels are in fact pronounced as diphthongs in most dialects, e.g.:

[sɪy] 'see', [beyt] or [beyt] 'bait', [buwt] 'boot', [bowt] (Am.) or [bəwt] (Br.) 'boat'

‡In American English, /v/ and /d/ are often pronounced as a voiced alveolar flap [ɾ] or [D] before unstressed vowels.

Phonetic transcriptions are written within square brackets:

[fə'neɪDɪk træ'nskɪpʃənz ar 'ɪ'ŋ wɪ'ðɪn skweɪr 'brækɪts]