

لِلْعَالَمِينَ



# MY BOOK OF ARABIC LETTERS PRONUNCIATION GUIDE FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS





# LONG VOWELS IN ARABIC

**Long Vowels in Arabic:** These vowels have "elongated" forms, which are always stressed. These are transliterated with special characters (ā, ī, and ū) in English to distinguish them from the short vowel sounds:

1. ā (ا)

- Sound: Pronounced as a long /aa/ sound, similar to "father."

2. ī (ي)

- Sound: Pronounced as a long /ee/ sound, similar to "see" or "tree."

3. ū (و)

- Sound: Pronounced as a long /oo/ sound, similar to "moon."



## أ (ʾAlif)

- Pronunciation: /a/ as in "apple."
- Example Word: أسد (ʾAsad)
- Meaning: "Lion"

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Note: ء (Hamza)

Symbol: (ʾ)

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**Pronunciation:** Represents a glottal stop, similar to the break in sound in "uh-oh." It's a brief pause made by closing the vocal cords.

The Hamza (ʾ) is a unique Arabic letter that can appear at the beginning, middle, or end of a word. It often sits on top of Alif (أ) but can also appear on other letters, such as Yāʾ (ي) or Wāw (و), or even alone (ء), depending on its position and the surrounding vowels.



## ب (Bā')

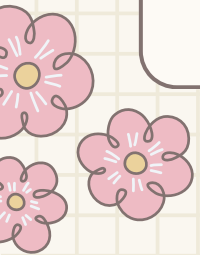
- Pronunciation: /b/ as in "bat."
  - Example Word: بحر (Baḥr)
  - Meaning: "Sea"
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## ت (Tā')

- Pronunciation: /t/ as in "top."
  - Example Word: تمر (Tamr)
  - Meaning: "Dates" (the fruit)
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## ث (Thā')

- Pronunciation: /θ/ as in "think."
- Example Word: ثياب (Thiyāb)
- Meaning: "Clothes"



## ج (Jīm)

- Pronunciation: /ʒ/ as in "meaʒure."
  - Example Word: جبل (Jabal)
  - Meaning: "Mountain"
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## ح (Ḥā')

- Pronunciation: A deep /h/ sound, as in Arabic "Ḥajj." Like 'h,' but articulated while constricting the muscles in the throat used for swallowing.
- Example Word: حصان (Ḥiṣan)
- Meaning: "Horse"



## خ (Khā')

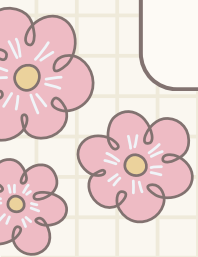
- Pronunciation: /x/ as in the German "Bach."
  - Example Word: خبز (Khubz)
  - Meaning: "Bread"
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## د (Dāl)

- Pronunciation: /d/ as in "dog."
  - Example Word: درع (Dir‘)
  - Meaning: "Shield"
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## ذ (Dhāl)

- Pronunciation: /ð/ as in "this."
- Example Word: ذباب (Dhubāba)
- Meaning: "Flies" (insects)



## ر (Rā')

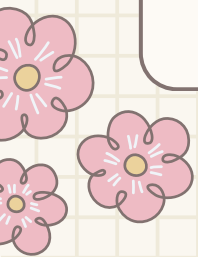
- Pronunciation: Rolled /r/, as in Spanish "perro."
  - Example Word: رمح (Rumḥ)
  - Meaning: "Spear"
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## ز (Zāy)

- Pronunciation: /z/ as in "zoo."
  - Example Word: زيتون (Zaytūn)
  - Meaning: "Olive"
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## س (Sīn)

- Pronunciation: /s/ as in "sun."
- Example Word: سيف (Sayf)
- Meaning: "Sword"

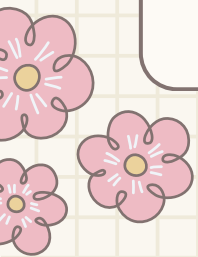


## ش (Shīn)

- Pronunciation: /ʃ/ as in "she."
  - Example Word: شوك (Shawk)
  - Meaning: "Thorn"
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## ص (Ṣād)

- Pronunciation: Emphatic /s/, produced deep in the throat. Like 's' articulated with a raised and tensed tongue.
- Example Word: صاروخ (Ṣārūkh)
- Meaning: "Rocket"

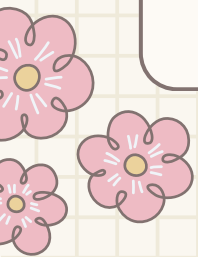


## ض (Ḍād)

- Pronunciation: Emphatic /d/, produced deep in the throat. Like 'd' articulated with a raised and tensed tongue.
  - Example Word: ضفيرة (Ḍafīra)
  - Meaning: "Braid"
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## ط (Ṭā')

- Pronunciation: Emphatic /t/, produced deep in the throat. Like 't' articulated with a raised and tensed tongue.
- Example Word: طريق (Ṭarīq)
- Meaning: "Road"

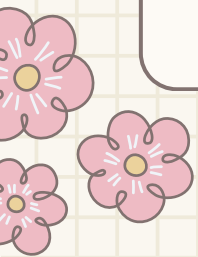


## ظ (Ẓā')

- Pronunciation: Emphatic /ḏ/, produced deep in the throat, quite similar to "the." Touch the tip of the tongue at the edge of the upper front teeth and say (ẓ).
  - Example Word: ظفر (Ẓufr)
  - Meaning: "Nail" (Fingernail)
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## ع ('Ayn)

- Symbol: (ع)
- Pronunciation: A unique Arabic sound articulated by pressing the muscles in the throat used for swallowing, like a "strangling" sound.
- Example Word: عسل ('Asal)
- Meaning: "Honey"

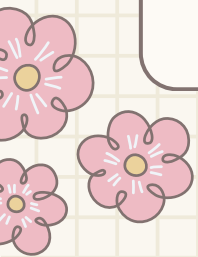


## غ (Ghayn)

- Pronunciation: /ɣ/ "gh" with your front part of the throat, like a "gargling" sound, as in the French "r" in "Paris."
  - Example Word: غيوم (Ghuyūm)
  - Meaning: "Clouds"
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## ف (Fā')

- Pronunciation: /f/ as in "fan."
- Example Word: فسيلة (Fasīla)
- Meaning: "Sapling" (young plant)

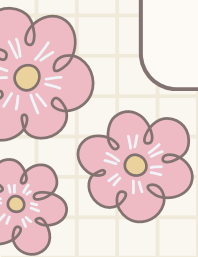


## ق (Qāf)

- Pronunciation: Like 'k,' but articulated by clicking the back of the tongue against the very back of the mouth, where the uvula is, as when imitating the 'caw caw' sound of a crow.
  - Example Word: قلعة (Qal'a)
  - Meaning: "Castle"
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## ك (Kāf)

- Pronunciation: /k/ as in "kite."
- Example Word: كتاب (Kitāb)
- Meaning: "Book"



## ل (Lām)

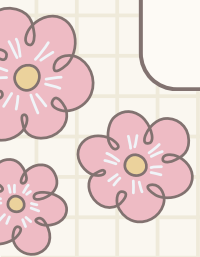
- Pronunciation: /l/ as in "lamp."
  - Example Word: لسان (Lisān)
  - Meaning: "Tongue"
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## م (Mīm)

- Pronunciation: /m/ as in "moon."
  - Example Word: مفتاح (Miftāḥ)
  - Meaning: "Key"
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## ن (Nūn)

- Pronunciation: /n/ as in "nose."
- Example Word: نجوم (Nujūm)
- Meaning: "Stars"



## ه (Hā')

- Pronunciation: Soft /h/ as in "hat."
  - Example Word: هلال (Hilāl)
  - Meaning: "Crescent"
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## و (Wāw)

- Pronunciation: /w/ as in "water."
  - Example Word: وُضوء (Wuḍū')
  - Meaning: "Ablution" (ritual washing before prayer)
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## ي (Yā')

- Pronunciation: /j/ as in "yes."
- Example Word: يد (Yad)
- Meaning: "Hand"

