

[hɛlp! ɛliən sɪmbəlz hæv ɪnvədəd maɪ mjuzɪk!!!]

(Help! Alien Symbols Have Invaded My Music!)

'Bare Bones' Information on the International Phonetic Alphabet

(Including previously released material - improved for clarity, better notes and graphics, *and* anything that needed to be corrected has been corrected!!)

Basic IPA - the International Phonetic Alphabet

(Summarized in One Page!)

Vowels

I: I U U:
leave hit put too

ɛ ə ɜː ɔː
bet about word caught

æ ʌ ɑː ɒ

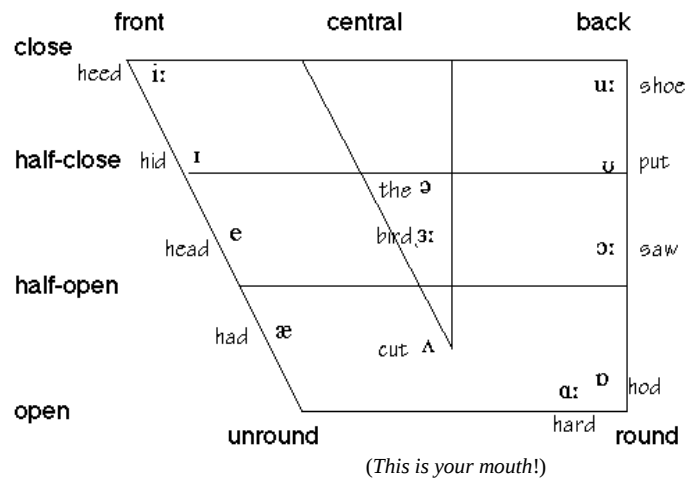
hat cut part dot

Iə eɪ ʊə ɔɪ əʊ eə aɪ aʊ
 fear say poor* toy no lair pie cow

Consonants

p b t d tʃ dʒ k g f v θ ð
 pit bit tea day church jog cat get few vet think the
 s z ʃ ʒ m n ŋ h l r w j
 seven zoo shoe beige men new bring hi let red west yellow

Sounds of the Vowels



The symbols above are only the most basic ones for IPA. See tables that follow for further information and B.R.A. symbol preferences.

IPA VOWEL SOUNDS

<u>IPA Symbol</u> <u>As used</u> <u>by B.R.A.</u>	<u>You may</u> <u>also see</u> <u>this as</u>	<u>Phonetic Symbols</u> <u>I learned</u> <u>this sound as</u>	<u>Misc. dictionaries/</u> <u>systems/you may</u> <u>have learned as</u>	<u>Examples</u>	<u>Notes</u>
a	ɑ/ɑ:	à	A/a/a:/ă	This is the ‘ pure a ’ sound as in pasta, calm, <u>aha</u> !, Chicago, pâté, psalm, alma mater, ‘say <u>ah</u> ’!; <i>Fr. égal</i> (equal)	The words <i>father</i> , <i>car</i> , or <i>arm</i> are often given as examples of this sound. However, most people actually pronounce <i>father</i> like <i>bother</i> . This is a bright sound. (Note this pronunciation of <i>Chicago</i> doesn’t apply if you live there!~)
ɑ (Script a)	ɒ	ǒ (‘short’ o)	A/a/A./ă/Q/o/Q	Top, got, bother, promise, farm, cart, bottle, garage, camouflage, binoculars, doll, <u>aaahh</u> !; <i>Fr. âme</i> (soul). (In parts of Utah County, St. George and South St. Louis, many words with ‘or’ are actually pronounced this way: e.g. ‘In Spanish <i>Fark</i> they say <i>form</i> like <i>farm</i> !!!’)	Your lips will be more rounded for this sound; it is also placed more forward in the mouth. (This is generally a more deep, open ‘ah’ than above.) Note: variations between a and ɑ are often regional. In fact, some basic IPA charts do not even list these as separate sounds. (See note at left as an example of regions of the country where ɑ replaces the o of ‘or’.)
ʌ		ǔ (‘short’ u)	u/o/^/V/v	<u>U</u> p, <u>r</u> un, <u>o</u> f, <u>l</u> ove, <u>c</u> ome, <u>pu</u> tt, <u>w</u> onder, <u>en</u> ough, <u>sl</u> ough	This “uh” sound is used in <i>stressed</i> syllables.
ɔ	ɔ:	ô	ó/ă/O/o:	Moth, frost, law, awe, <u>taut</u> , <u>all</u> , <u>fault</u> , <u>bought</u> , <u>cough</u> , <u>caught</u> , <u>autumn</u> , <u>haul</u> , <u>Taurus</u>	Sometimes our American English ‘awe’ is a bit too bright to reflect this sound accurately. Try thinking a very ‘ <i>British</i> ’ open o ’!
o		ō (‘long’ o)	o	This is the ‘ pure o ’ sound as in hope, home, cold, both, phone, omit, bone, token, pillow, <u>doe</u> close, <u>pole</u> , <u>soap</u> , <u>goat</u> , <u>taupe</u>	<u>No</u> diphthong to this sound, please!
ʊ		ö	u:/û/u/U/u	<u>L</u> ook, <u>g</u> ood, <u>pu</u> t, <u>pu</u> ll, <u>B</u> utch	
u	u:	ū	ü/u:	This is the ‘ pure u ’ sound as in soon, too, boot, goose, shoe, lose youth, through, tofu, toothbrush rule, salute, blue, fruit, sleuth, deuce, shrewd; <i>Ger. gut</i> (good)	Ditto re no diphthong!
ɪ	ɪ	ĩ (‘short’ i)	i/I	Sit, his, bid, kin, gift, rinse, since, active, bridge, spinach, gyp, gym	Y acting as a vowel in a syllable, as between two consonants, is usually this sound.
i	i:	ē (‘long’ e)	ī/i:	This is the ‘ pure i ’ sound as in be, he, sea, easy, baby, lovely, sleep, fleece, deed, creation, beat, deal, mean, carefree, seize, suite, piano, valley, piece, grieve	Note: Double vowels in these examples are <i>not</i> pronounced as diphthongs; all vowels are single sounds.

e	ā/â/é	â/e	This is the ‘ pure e ’ sound as in <u>a</u> orta, cha <u>o</u> tic, pur <u>é</u> , f <u>a</u> ble, f <u>a</u> ce, m <u>a</u> te, f <u>a</u> de, c <u>a</u> pe; Canadian ‘ <u>eh</u> ?’	In upper Midwest regions (e.g. Wisconsin, Minnesota etc.), words such as <i>day</i> , <i>hey</i> , <i>faith</i> and the like are pronounced with this ‘long a’ sound that has <i>absolutely no</i> diphthong to it!
ε (Greek Epsilon)	ě (‘short’ e)	e/E	L <u>e</u> t, g <u>e</u> t, b <u>e</u> d, p <u>e</u> t, d <u>e</u> ss, m <u>e</u> rry, r <u>e</u> st, <u>e</u> levator, d <u>e</u> bt, f <u>e</u> d <u>e</u> ral, s <u>a</u> id, th <u>re</u> at, m <u>ea</u> nt, h <u>ea</u> lth, k <u>et</u> tle	
æ	a	ă (‘short’ a)	a/&/ɪ/@	Cat, gl <u>a</u> d, sn <u>a</u> p, th <u>a</u> t, p <u>a</u> ch, w <u>a</u> x r <u>a</u> p, b <u>a</u> th, b <u>a</u> d, m <u>a</u> p, t <u>a</u> xi, t <u>a</u> ckle
ɜ (Greek Epsilon reversed)	ɜ:/ə	ê (ɪ/û)	ɜ/e:/er	H <u>e</u> r, l <u>ea</u> rn, b <u>ir</u> d, s <u>ir</u> , <u>u</u> rn, h <u>ea</u> rd f <u>ur</u> ther, t <u>ur</u> nip, m <u>er</u> ge, b <u>ut</u> ter, <u>ea</u> rn moth <u>er</u> , sp <u>i</u> der, c <u>er</u> tificate, w <u>or</u> d
ə (Schwa)	&	@/..	The, eleph <u>a</u> nt, banan <u>a</u> , sof <u>a</u> , deb <u>a</u> te, lem <u>o</u> n, ab <u>o</u> ut, tab <u>l</u> e, it <u>e</u> m, gallo <u>p</u> , circ <u>u</u> s, lift <u>e</u> d f <u>e</u> d <u>e</u> ral, nerv <u>o</u> us; Fr. l<u>e</u> (the)	This sound is sometimes referred to as an <i>accented schwa</i> , as opposed to the <i>unaccented schwa</i> (below). This is a neutral vowel form. SLCA caveat: There is no such thing as the word ‘thuh’ in singing!! (For myself - I was relieved to find that Webster’s Dictionary <i>still</i> uses ‘&’ as its symbol for this neutral vowel. I <i>knew</i> I had learned it somewhere!)
ɣ (Think Greek Upsilon for both these ü sounds)	ü	ūē*/û/y	ü !!; Fr. s<u>û</u>r (on), r<u>ue</u> (street); Ger. H<u>ü</u>hn (hen), f<u>ü</u>hlen (to feel); über (over); ‘ German Latin ’ Kyrie (Lord) !!	Pronounce this sound by puckering your lips (<i>all</i> the way forward) and saying the IPA sounds ɪ + u . Specifically, your lips are shaped for the u (oo) sound, while your mouth (inside) is shaped for the ɪ (ē) sound. Note that both the IPA ɪ and u are closed vowel sounds. See ‘Kyrie’ movements of the Bach B Minor Mass (performed by SLCA May 2011.)
Y	ue	Y	Ger. H<u>ü</u>lle (a wrap), f<u>ü</u>llen (to fill), h<u>ü</u>bsch (pretty)	This sound is made with more rounded lips. Despite the base English letters being ‘u’ and ‘e’, this sound is actually a combination of the IPA symbols ɪ + u ! You will be saying u (oo) with your lips while saying ɪ (i) with your mouth (inside). You will find that this sound is then produced slightly further back from your teeth. Note that here both the ɪ and u are open vowel sounds.
ø	ö	œ/Q	Fr. f<u>eu</u> (fire), d<u>eu</u>x (two); Ger. H<u>ö</u>h ’ (short for <i>die H<u>ö</u>he</i> - height; we sang this in a Schütz piece, using this word to mean Heaven), H<u>ö</u>hle (a hollow or den)	This sound is produced with forward lips, while saying the IPA sounds o + e . In this case you say the pure o (ō) with your lips while saying the pure e (ā/â) with your mouth. Darker than below, these are closed vowels.
œ	œ	œ/q	Fr. f<u>leur</u> (flower), p<u>eu</u>ple (people); neuf (nine), bo<u>eu</u>f (beef); Ger. G<u>ö</u>tte (Godmother), H<u>ö</u>lle (hell!)	Pronounce this sound with the lips more open and mouth more rounded, while saying the IPA sounds ɔ + e . For this sound, therefore, you say the open sound ɔ (ô) with your lips, and the open sound e (ě) with your mouth. This is an overall open vowel sound, more or less like an open schwa variant.

General note for German pronunciation of vowels ö or ü: The umlaut is the equivalent of making these vowels become o + e or u + e, respectively. If the vowels as modified are followed by a double consonant, they are usually pronounced in the open form. If they are followed by a single consonant, or by two consonants which are pronounced as a single consonant (ex. 'hl'), they will usually be pronounced with the closed vowel form.

The following IPA symbols constitute the sounds of diphthongs or triphthongs!

aɪ	aɪ/aj/əi	ī (diphth.)	ai	<u>E</u> ye, fly, my, b <u>i</u> te, k <u>i</u> te, s <u>i</u> de, t <u>i</u> e, d <u>i</u> e, n <u>i</u> ght, fl <u>i</u> ght, b <u>u</u> y, l <u>i</u> ed, h <u>i</u> de, d <u>e</u> sign, viol <u>i</u> n, t <u>i</u> ghtrope, h <u>e</u> ist, g <u>e</u> yser, d <u>y</u> e, r <u>y</u> e, h <u>i</u> gh, b <u>i</u> le, m <u>i</u> le, ass <u>i</u> gn, ben <u>i</u> gn, k <u>i</u> nd, m <u>i</u> nd, a <u>i</u> sl <u>e</u> , c <u>y</u> cle	Most of our English 'long' vowels when pronounced alone are actually diphthongs (FYI: A diphthong [sometimes called a gliding vowel] refers to two adjacent vowels occurring within the same syllable. From the Greek – meaning 'two tones'.)
aʊ	ʌʊ	öŭ*	aʊ/AU/au/ow	H <u>o</u> w, n <u>o</u> w, l <u>o</u> ud, h <u>o</u> use, m <u>o</u> uth, p <u>o</u> ut, s <u>o</u> und, b <u>o</u> ugh, <u>o</u> wl, <u>o</u> uch, r <u>o</u> und, b <u>o</u> unce, b <u>ro</u> ws <u>e</u> , s <u>o</u> w (pig)	
ɔɪ	oi/oj	oi	oi/OI/oi	B <u>o</u> y, t <u>o</u> y, n <u>o</u> ise, p <u>o</u> int, ch <u>o</u> ice, j <u>o</u> in, <u>o</u> yster, r <u>o</u> yal, v <u>o</u> id, annoy	
ɔə	ʊə	ô (diphth.)		<u>O</u> re, f <u>o</u> ur, p <u>o</u> ur, s <u>o</u> ar, s <u>o</u> re	Not all IPA descriptions list or use this particular diphthong.
oʊ	əʊ/ʊɪ	ōū*	oʊ/Ou	N <u>o</u> , g <u>o</u> , b <u>l</u> ow, s <u>n</u> ow, m <u>o</u> st, l <u>o</u> w, d <u>o</u> ugh, th <u>o</u> ugh, f <u>a</u> ux, b <u>e</u> au, s <u>e</u> w, tabl <u>e</u> au, s <u>o</u> , s <u>o</u> w (seed)	
ʊə	eu	ōō (diphth.)	u..(')/U@	S <u>u</u> re, p <u>u</u> re, t <u>o</u> urist	
ɪə	ɪə/ɪəʳ	ē (diphth.)	i..(')	<u>E</u> ar, h <u>e</u> re, f <u>e</u> ar, w <u>e</u> 're, w <u>e</u> ird, p <u>i</u> er, b <u>e</u> ard	
ɪu	ju	ū (diphth.)	ju/i..	F <u>u</u> se, f <u>u</u> ry, p <u>u</u> re, p <u>u</u> pil, b <u>e</u> aut <u>i</u> ful, c <u>u</u> rable, d <u>u</u> ty, f <u>e</u> ud, <u>e</u> we	In some IPA systems, this sound is completely omitted; one simply writes it as ju in texts.
eɪ	ɛɪ	ā (diphth.)	ei	W <u>a</u> it, b <u>a</u> it, <u>e</u> ight, str <u>a</u> ight, l <u>a</u> ke, c <u>a</u> ke, r <u>a</u> in, l <u>a</u> ne, g <u>r</u> eat, st <u>e</u> ak, y <u>e</u> a!	Regional variation or convention determines whether or not this eɪ diphthong, or the eɪ given below, is used for a particular word. Some word examples could be completely interchanged depending on where you live, where you are from, or the IPA system used!
eə	ɛə/ɛɪ/euʳ	â (diphth.)	e..(')	<u>A</u> ir, b <u>e</u> ar, p <u>e</u> ar, s <u>q</u> uare, l <u>a</u> ir, th <u>e</u> re, c <u>a</u> re, m <u>a</u> re, aq <u>u</u> arium	
ɛɪ	eɪ	â/ā (diphth.)	ei	D <u>a</u> y, b <u>a</u> y, w <u>a</u> y, r <u>a</u> in, w <u>e</u> igh, h <u>e</u> y, th <u>e</u> y, h <u>a</u> y	Note: Although many IPA systems do list this particular mixed vowel sound as a diphthong, not all do; this includes that used by B.R.A.!! (On the other hand, if you were from 'the South' (drawl...), you might appreciate this!!!)
aɪə	aɪə			F <u>i</u> re, h <u>i</u> re, t <u>i</u> re, h <u>i</u> gh <u>e</u> r	
aʊə	aʊə			<u>O</u> ur, dev <u>o</u> ur, t <u>o</u> wer, p <u>o</u> wer	

[~] N

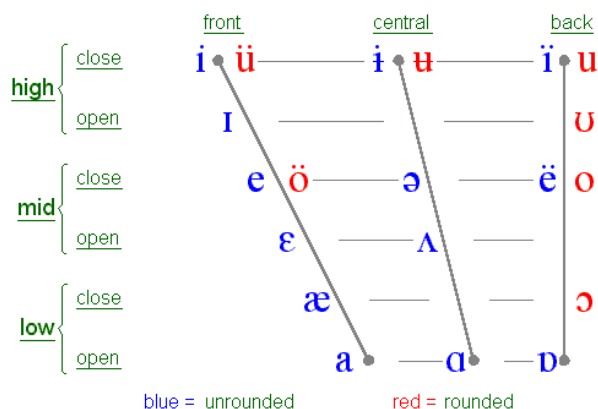
French: **ẽ** as in **vin** (wine); **ã** as in **enfant** (infant); **ā** as in **silence** (silence); **õ** as in **cochon** (pig); **ō** as in **bon** (good) or **garçon** (boy); **œ** as in **un** (one)

The tilde (~) either above (preferred), to the left, or to the right of any vowel nasalizes that vowel. Alternatively, you may see **N** as a superscript in any of the comparable positions.

*** Note:** In the tables above, two adjacent vowels with individual phonetic marks (e.g. **ōū** or **õũ**) means that I could not find a font capable of placing the single mark over both vowels!! (E.g. there should be a single '—' over the 'ou' for the long **ou** diphthong.)

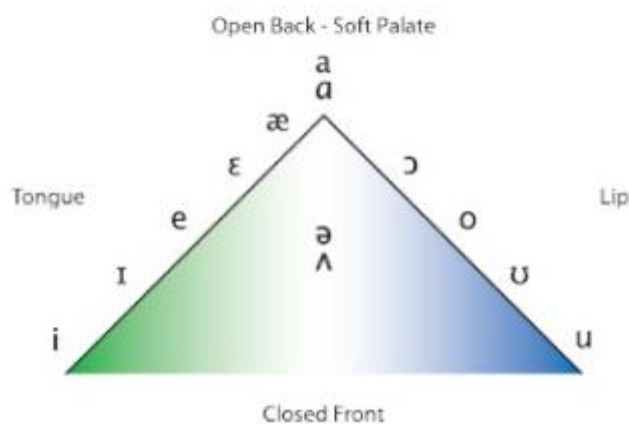
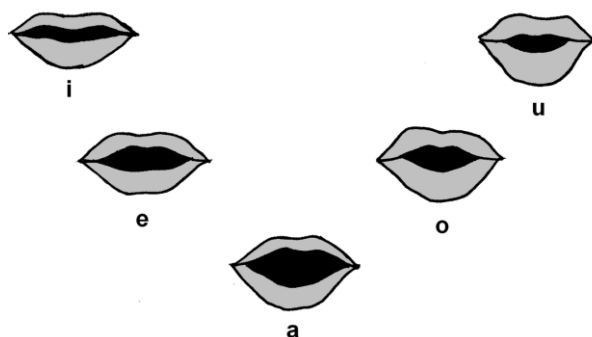
This vowel stuff will drive you crazy!!!!

Below are some of the best things I have found that actually let you understand what you are trying to do. (Yes, I know this is 'overkill'; however, with so many of us and so many different learning styles, something from all this should resonate with you!)

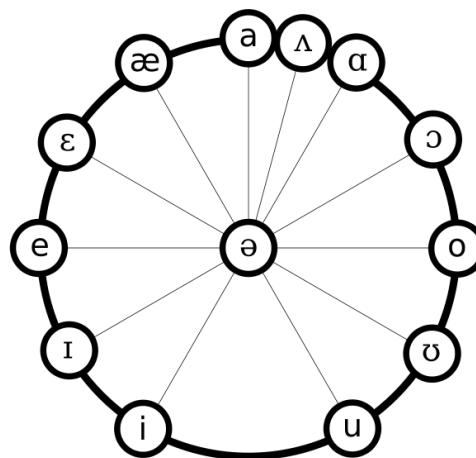


(Note: Left axis is tongue position; top is position within the mouth)
ssa-edu.blogspot.com

Vowel Chart



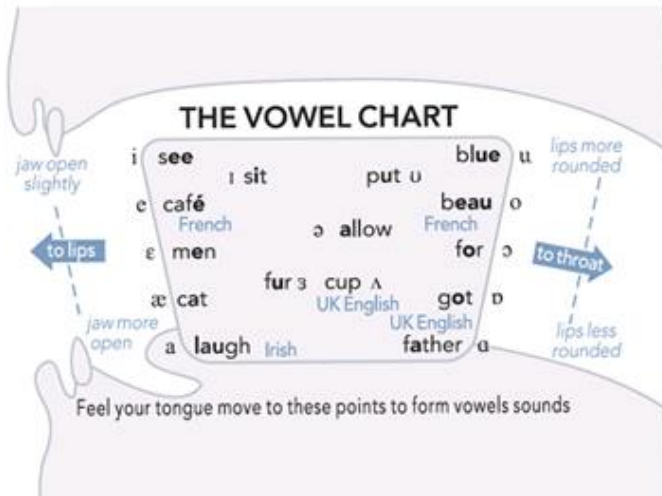
This chart shows the different IPA vowels on a spectrum, based upon the **placement** of the vowel: on the **lip** vs. **tongue**, and **closed front** vs. **open back**.
zazzle.com



IPA maps vowels according to the position of the tongue. In the **Kinesthetic Vowel Wheel** above, the vertical axis maps **vowel height**. (Vowels pronounced with the tongue lowered are at the bottom; those with the tongue raised are at the top.) Similarly, the horizontal axis reflects **vowel backness** (e.g. tongue forward or back in the mouth). Above, vowels with the tongue more forward in the mouth are to the left; more back, to the right.
Wikipedia.com

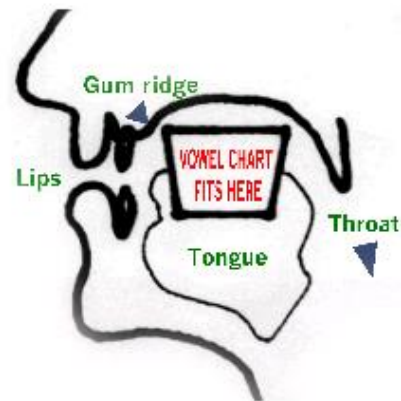
Below are a few more that really helped make things clearer.

Figure A

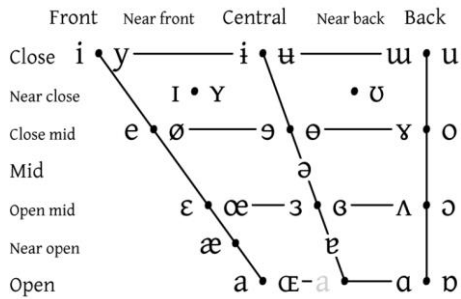


thedialectcoach.com
(I love this one!)

Figure B



VOWELS



Vowels at right & left of bullets are rounded & unrounded.
(Above is what you usually see in “official” IPA charts.)

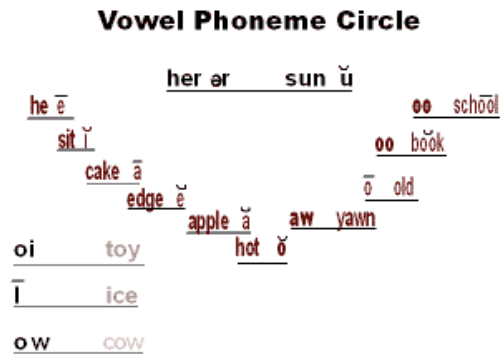
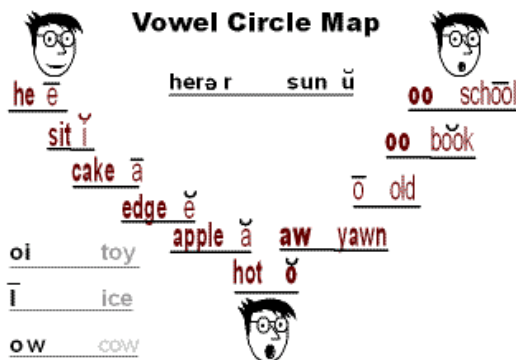
realfuture.org

	Front	Center	Back
High	i (beet)		u (boot) U (book)
	ɪ (bit)		o (bode)
	e (baby)	ə (sofa)	
Middle	ɛ (bet)		ɔ (bought)
	æ (bat)	ʌ (but)	
Low			a (palm)

(This little “condensed” version is helpful!)

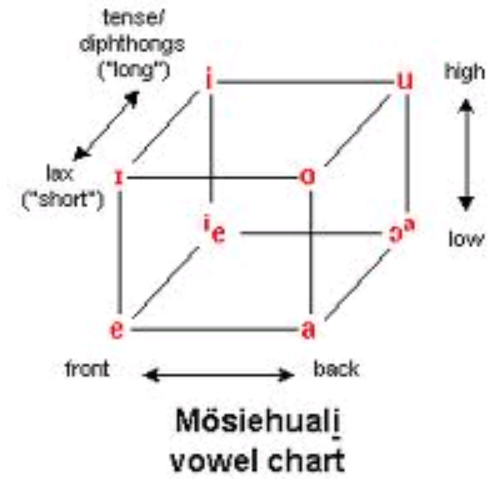
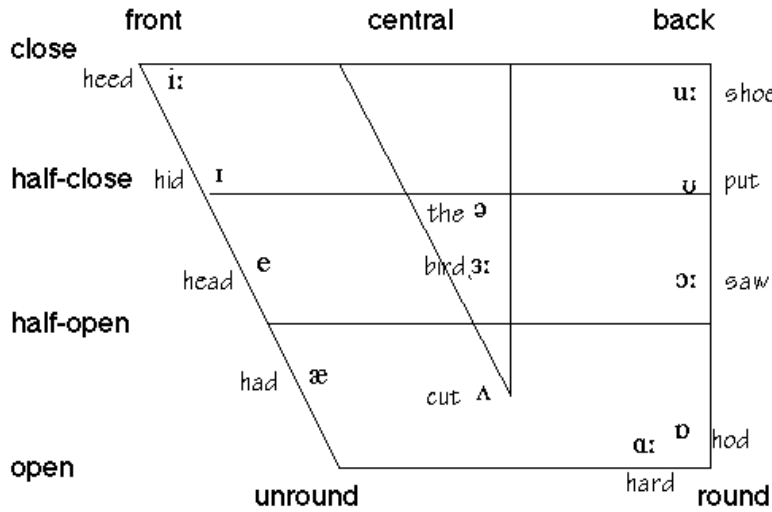
(Note that ‘high/middle/low’ & ‘close(d)/middle/open’ are equivalent.)

www.rohan.sdsu.edu



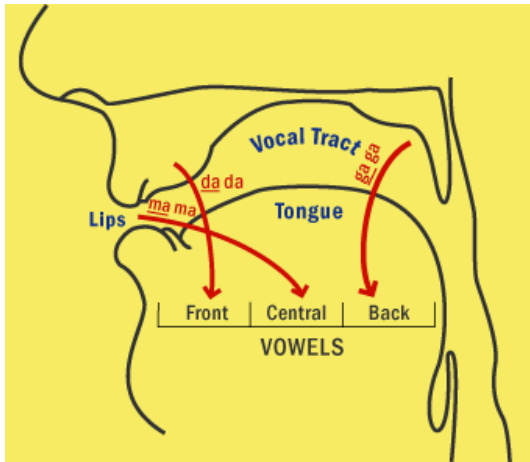
elearnedesign.org

I think these might be even better!

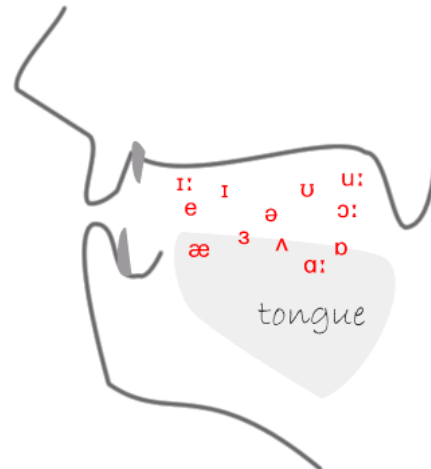


The Trouble With English www3.ntu.edu.sg
(This is from Singapore -- the word examples are great!)

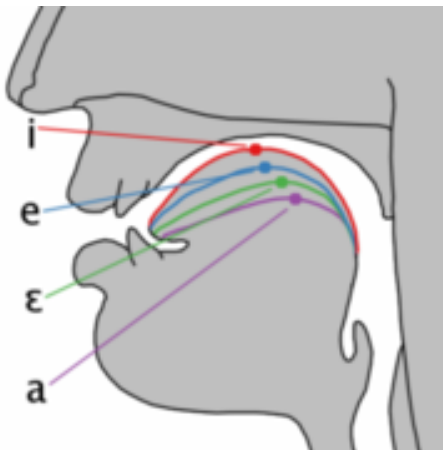
sil.org



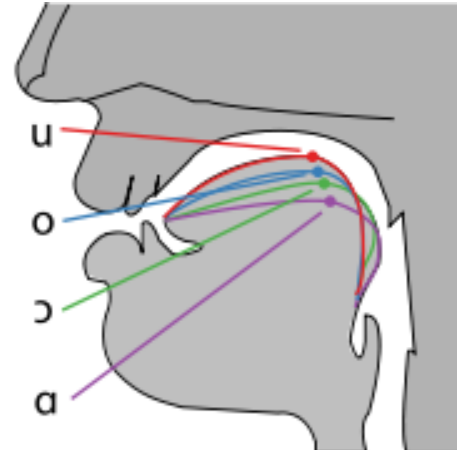
Mouth Maps - servingenglish.pbworks.com



teflworldwiki.com



Highest tongue positions of cardinal front vowels



Highest tongue positions of cardinal back vowels

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
High-Mid	I		ʊ
Mid	e	ɜ ɝ ə ɜ̃	o
Low-Mid	ɛ	ʌ	ɔ
Low	æ	a	ɑ

Diphthongs: aɪ aʊ eɪ ɔɪ oʊ

r-colored vowels: ɪ ɛ ɔ ʊ ɑ

CSD 232 - Descriptive Phonetics msu.edu

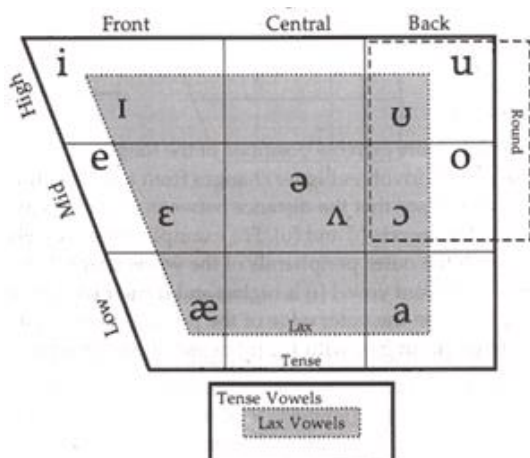


The Color Vowel Chart

© Taylor & Thompson
1999, 2005

(aɪ) i I e ɛ æ ɜ/ə ʌ ɑ u ʊ ɔ aʊ ɔɪ

(Colored symbols added 😊. This chart may be my very favorite!!!
esltechnologygreenhouse.blogspot.com



Sounds of Standard American English
ic.arizona.edu

	In unstressed syllable	In syllable with primary stress	
mid front	e	eɪ	"locate" [l oʊ k e t]
mid back	o	oʊ	"location" [l o k eɪ f ə n]
"uh"	ə	ʌ	"above" [ə b ʌ v]
"er"	ɜ	ɜ̃	"burger" [b ɜ̃ g ɜ̃]

From Vowels and Stress msu.edu

	b_d	IPA		b_d	IPA
1	bead	i:	9	bode	oʊ
2	bid	ɪ	10	bood	u:
3	bayed	eɪ	11	bud	ʌ
4	bed	ɛ	12	bird	ɜ̃:
5	bad	æ	13	bide	aɪ
6	bod(y)	ɑ:	14	bowed	aʊ
7	bawd	ɔ:	15	Boyd	ɔɪ
8	budd(hist)	ʊ			

Vowel Chart - American English
academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu

Vowels

ɪ	pɪt	ɔ:	born
e	pɛt	u:	boon
æ	pæt	aɪ	bɪte
ʊ	pɒt	eɪ	bɛɪt
ʌ	bʊt	ɔɪ	bɔɪ
u	bʊk	əʊ	tʊe
ə	mʌðə	aʊ	haʊs
i:	bi:n	ʊə	pʊə
ɜ:	bɜ:n	ɪə	ɛə
ɑ:	bɑ:n	eə	aɪə

From A Beginner's Guide to Phonetics by
Jean Peccei jcarreras.homestead.com

IPA CONSONANT SOUNDS

<u>IPA Symbol</u> <u>As used</u> <u>by B.R.A.</u>	<u>You may</u> <u>also see</u>	<u>Phonetic Symbols</u> <u>I learned</u> <u>this sound as</u>	<u>Misc. dictionaries/</u> <u>systems/you may</u> <u>have learned as</u>	<u>Examples</u>	<u>Notes</u>
b		b		<u>B</u> aby, <u>b</u> at, <u>w</u> eb, <u>r</u> ib, <u>r</u> ubber	
d		d	ɖ	<u>D</u> o, <u>d</u> id, <u>a</u> dd, <u>d</u> raw, <u>d</u> uet <u>l</u> augh, <u>e</u> lephant, <u>p</u> hone	
h		h (wh)		<u>H</u> im, <u>h</u> ome, <u>a</u> head, <u>w</u> hole, <u>w</u> hom	
k		k ('hard' c or ch) (ck/q)		<u>K</u> id, <u>s</u> kin, <u>c</u> at, <u>c</u> ook, <u>q</u> uick, <u>a</u> che bal <u>c</u> ony, <u>c</u> ottage, <u>c</u> urious, <u>c</u> lever	
l*	l/ɫ	l		<u>L</u> ift, <u>b</u> ell, <u>l</u> ily, <u>a</u> larm, <u>p</u> ool, <u>p</u> ull, <u>l</u> ap, <u>g</u> lad, <u>c</u> ycle	*Symbol revision by BRA Sept. 2016!
m		m (mb)		<u>M</u> an, <u>h</u> am, <u>d</u> im, <u>l</u> amp, <u>m</u> urmur, am <u>a</u> zing, lam <u>b</u> , thumb	
n		n (gn/kn/wn)		<u>N</u> o, <u>i</u> n, cotton, <u>o</u> wn, <u>g</u> nat, <u>g</u> naw,, <u>k</u> now, <u>n</u> ight, <u>k</u> night	
p		p		<u>P</u> en, <u>t</u> ip, <u>s</u> pin, <u>p</u> epper, <u>p</u> otato, <u>p</u> ark, <u>p</u> anda, <u>p</u> eer	
r	ɹ	r (rh/wr)	r\	<u>R</u> ed, <u>r</u> un, <u>v</u> ery, <u>c</u> ar, <u>r</u> hyme, <u>w</u> rap	
s		s ('soft' c)		<u>S</u> ee, <u>s</u> ource, <u>l</u> ess, <u>p</u> ass, <u>c</u> ity, <u>p</u> age <u>r</u> ace, <u>c</u> enter, <u>c</u> yst, <u>c</u> ent, <u>c</u> ease	
t		t ('hard' th)		<u>T</u> ie, <u>t</u> op, <u>h</u> ot, <u>s</u> tng, <u>w</u> ater, <u>a</u> ttack, <u>t</u> hyme	
v		v		<u>V</u> oice, <u>g</u> ive, <u>h</u> ave, <u>v</u> ivid, <u>v</u> iolin	
w		w		<u>W</u> e, <u>w</u> ish, <u>a</u> way, <u>w</u> aterfall, <u>w</u> in	Some systems call this a 'semi-vowel' because you are actually beginning the sound with a very short u (oo).
z		z (some s/x)	ʒ	<u>Z</u> oo, <u>z</u> one, <u>c</u> razy, <u>j</u> azz, <u>z</u> ipper <u>r</u> aise, <u>r</u> ose, <u>h</u> as, <u>X</u> erox, <u>X</u> avier, <u>x</u> ylophone; <u>Ger.</u> 's'.	

These IPA symbols are standard English consonants but which are used for very specific or different sounds

g	g ('hard') (gh/gu)		Go, get, girl, ago, big, greeting, glass, gear, girth, giddy, Ghana, ghost, ghastly, guinea pig, Guinness	
j	y (some j)		Yes, yet, yard, young, hallelujah	Also sometimes called a 'semi-vowel'.
x	k (Guttural 'hard' ch)	ch	Bach, lo <u>ch</u> ; Ger. Bu <u>ch</u> (book)	This sound is made at the <i>back</i> of the palate.
hw	wh	W	Where, whale, whisper, why	
ks	x (ks/cc)	ks	Box, fix, sixty, kicks, tricks, vaccine	
ts	ts		Itsy-bitsy, tsetse fly; Ger. 'z'; 'German Latin' crucifixus!!	

These IPA symbols are just ones that you will need to learn!!

ʃ	sh	š/S	She, shy, ship, leash, mission, machine, delicious, donation, emotion, musician, patient, special, sure; Ger. Stein (stone)	Used for 'ci' or 'ti' before most vowels or for the 'soft ch' sound. German: used for 's' at the beginning of a word when followed by another consonant.
tʃ	ch	č/tS (t + sh)	Chair, teach, chin, nature, ancient watch	Some individuals may pronounce words such as 'ancient' with only the ʃ ('sh') sound.
ʒ	zh	ž/Z	Azure, vision, fusion, measure, treasure, beige, adagio, rouge	
dʒ	j (or 'soft' g)	dZ (d + zh)	Joy, job, jet, jump, George, gem, genius, giant, gymnasium, gentle, edge, bridge, judge	
ð (Delta with a slash)	th	D/TH	This, these, father, either, lather bathe, breathe	
θ (Greek Theta)	th	ɒ/T	Thick, thin, ether, teeth	
ɲ	ñ (ny)	n;/J	Onion, union, canyon, spaniel; Sp. señorita (miss, young lady); Lat. magna (great/magnificent – traditional pronunciation)	
ŋ	ng	N/N	Ring, singer, hung, ink, think	
ç (C with cedille)	h	h/C (h[y])	Human, humid; Ger. ich (I)	This is a <i>light</i> guttural 'h' sound made with rounded, forward lips; the sound is produced with the tongue <i>just</i> behind the teeth.

ɥ (Turned H)		As in Fr. <u>h</u>uit (eight), <u>h</u>uitre (oyster) <u>n</u>uit (night), <i>puissant</i>e (powerful)	Semi-vowel where a w sound is pronounced with a longer u (oo) sound preceding it.
β (Greek Beta)		B As in Sp. <i>caballo</i> (horse)	A soft b/v sound.
γ (Greek Gamma)		G As in Sp. <i>agua</i> (water)	A softer g sound than the regular ‘hard g’.
δ (Greek Delta)		D As in Sp. <i>todo</i> (all) or <i>Navidad</i> (Christmas); ‘Ger. Latin’ <i>Deus</i> (God)	A soft ‘d’ sound - in between d and ð. If you say these two sounds, you will find that <i>this</i> ‘d’ is literally in between the two; it is articulated right behind your teeth. (See Bach Mass in B Minor, ‘Credo’ – movement 2!)
λ (Greek Lambda)	ll (ly)	L As in Sp. <i>calle</i> (street), <i>llamar</i> (to call), or <i>llorar</i> (to weep, cry); It. <i>gli</i> (the [plural form])	Soft double ‘l’ sound that can either sound like a flipped ‘ly’ (as in Spanish) or (as in Italian) an ‘l’ sound made with a flat, wide tongue that feels as if it is stuck behind your teeth!
ɭ* (Script L)		Russian “l”; as if you are swallowing your tongue while you say it!	*BRA revision of symbol Sept. 2016! You will just need to hear & learn it!
ʔ	ʌ	Re-elect; Latin: <i>Et ʔ in terra pax</i> (And on earth peace)	Glottal stop/stroke – this is not technically a consonant sound but is somewhere in between a ‘voiced’ space and an ‘unvoiced’ <i>uh</i>!! It is used to separate vowel sounds and/or for clarity or emphasis of a vowel sound at the beginning of a word.

Please Note: The above IPA symbols, along with those in the Vowels chart, represent just a tiny fraction of all the IPA symbols that exist! There are many additional specific symbols, along with their own ‘diacritical marks’ **and** an absolutely dizzying array of other modifying marks!!! (There are at least four different symbols for various pronunciations of the letter **r**, for example.....) If you’re a glutton for punishment, ask me about an available annotated bibliography I have made!

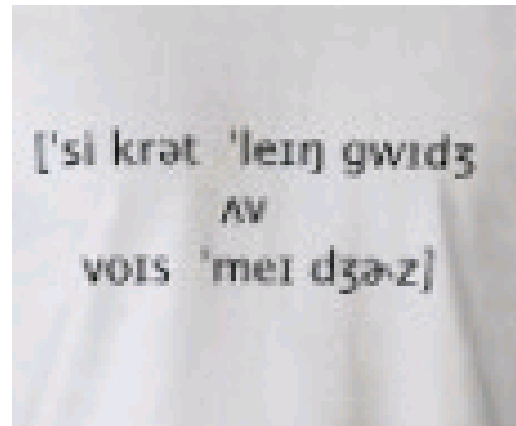
Happy pronouncing!

Libby Hirsh March 2011

Below is just some stuff for fun!!!



These are T-shirt logos from “The IPA Store” (really!!):



[dɪdʒə get ðəm ?]

(‘Did you’ need me to spell it out for you?) (Secret language of voice majors) !!!!
 (‘Did you’ get them?)



IPA Eye Chart!

Here's hoping this has been a jump-start to being able to read (maybe even write?) IPA. As an experiment, try going back & reading the transliteration below the text in Eric Whitacre's "Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening" (SLCA February 2011). You'll be able to see that *all* the sounds are exactly laid out. I promise – when you start to get it, it's a kick!

This is from a teaching site from the University of Kansas (Hooray! One of my alma maters!):

ði intənæsjənəl fənɛtɪk ælfəbɛt the International Phonetic Alphabet

In the meantime, whenever you may feel frustrated trying to learn IPA, just remember: *It could be a lot worse!....*
The one thing I've learned for sure while studying IPA: How on earth do people ever learn English????

From ielanguages.com Linguistics 101

I take it you already **know** of **tough** and **bough** and **cough** and **dough**?
Some may stumble, but not **you**, on **hiccough**, **thorough**, **slough**, and **through**?
So now you are ready, perhaps, to learn of less familiar traps?
Beware of **heard**, a dreadful **word**, that looks like **beard**, but sounds like **bird**.
And **dead**, it's **said** like **bed**, not **bead**; for goodness' sake, don't call it **deed**!
Watch out for **meat** and **great** and **threat**. (They rhyme with **suite** and **straight** and **debt**.)
A **moth** is not a moth in **mother**, nor **both** in **bother**, **broth** in **brother**.
And **here** is not a match for **there**, nor **dear** and **fear**, for **bear** and **pear**.
And then there's **dose** and **rose** and **lose** - just look them up - and **goose** and **choose**
And **do** and **go**, then **thwart** and **cart**, come, come! I've hardly made a start.
A dreadful language? Why, man alive! I learned to talk it when I was five.
And yet to write it; the more I've tried, it's still not learned at fifty-five.

- Author Unknown

Notes

1. If you would like a pocket-sized IPA card, go to <http://www.joelnothman.com/projects/ipa-card/> to download.
2. Visit sil.org/IPA for a free download of **IPA Help 2.1**. Creates a desktop program that allows you to access IPA symbols, visuals of all sound placements, word lists, & related information directly. In addition, you can hear the *sound* for a given symbol. (Actual direct link: http://www.sil.org/computing/ipahelp/ipahelp_download.html)
Very useful!!!