


Arabic Alphabet






Name	Transcription	Pronunciation	Final	Medial	Initial	Independent
alif	ā	fair	ا	ا	ا	ا
bā'	b	big	ب	ب	ب	ب
tā'	t	tell	ت	ت	ت	ت
thā'	th	think	ث	ث	ث	ث
jīm	j	pleasure	ج	ج	ج	ج
hā	h	hotel	ح	ح	ح	ح
khā'	kh	Scottish loch	خ	خ	خ	خ
dāl	d	dead	د	د	د	د
dhāl	dh	then	ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ
rā'	r	rolled r	ر	ر	ر	ر
za'	z	zoo	ز	ز	ز	ز
sīn	s	sew	س	س	س	س
shīn	sh	show	ش	ش	ش	ش
ṣād	ṣ	***	ص	ص	ص	ص
ḍād	ḍ	***	ض	ض	ض	ض
ṭā'	ṭ	***	ط	ط	ط	ط
ẓā'	ẓ	***	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ
'ayn	'	***	ع	ع	ع	ع
ghayn	gh	***	غ	غ	غ	غ
fā'	f	fake	ف	ف	ف	ف
qāf	q	***	ق	ق	ق	ق
kāf	k	kitten	ك	ك	ك	ك
lām	l	love	ل	ل	ل	ل
mīm	m	mark	م	م	م	م
nūn	n	never	ن	ن	ن	ن
hā'	h	happy	ه	ه	ه	ه
wāw	w/ū	west, boot	و	و	و	و
yā'	y/ī	yell, freeze	ي	ي	ي	ي
lām-alif	lā	lah	لا	لا	لا	لا

*** There is no equivalent in English.

Arabic Vowels and Diphthongs

The squares indicate where the consonant before a vowel is placed

For example:  *ba*

Short Vowels	Transliteration	Pronunciation	Diphthong	Transliteration	Pronunciation
	a	pat		aw	pow
	u	put		ay	pie
	i	pit			