

The English Alphabet

The **English alphabet** is based on the Latin alphabet and consists of 26 letters: 5 vowels and 20 consonants, the letter *y* can represent both a consonant and a vowel;

- *copy* [kɒpi] - the letter *y* is read as [ɪ]
- *year* [jɪər] - the letter *y* is read as [j]

Twenty-six letters of the English language convey 44 sounds: 12 simple vowels, 8 diphthongs and 24 consonants. The same letter in different positions can represent different sounds, and the same sound can be represented by different letters. In this regard, [transcription](#) is used in English dictionaries.

The English Alphabet							
#	letter	name	pronunciation	#	letter	name	pronunciation
1	A a	<i>a</i>	[eɪ]	14	N n	<i>en</i>	[en]
2	B b	<i>bee</i>	[bi:]	15	O o	<i>o</i>	[ou]
3	C c	<i>cee</i>	[si:]	16	P p	<i>pee</i>	[pi:]
4	D d	<i>dee</i>	[di:]	17	Q q	<i>cue</i>	[kju:]
5	E e	<i>e</i>	[i:]	18	R r	<i>ar</i>	[ʌ]
6	F f	<i>ef</i>	[ef]	19	S s	<i>ess</i> ^(*)	[es]
7	G g	<i>gee</i>	[dʒi:]	20	T t	<i>tee</i>	[ti:]
8	H h	<i>aitch, haitch</i> ^(**)	[eɪtʃ], [heɪtʃ]	21	U u	<i>u</i>	[ju:]
9	I i	<i>i</i>	[aɪ]	22	V v	<i>vee</i>	[vi:]
10	J j	<i>jay</i>	[dʒeɪ]	23	W w	<i>double-u</i>	['dʌb(ə)l ju:]
11	K k	<i>kay</i>	[keɪ]	24	X x	<i>ex</i>	[eks]
12	L l	<i>el</i>	[el]	25	Y y	<i>wy</i>	[wɪ]
13	M m	<i>em</i>	[em]	26	Z z	<i>zed, zee</i> ^(***)	[zed], [zi:]

*1 As part of a compound word - *es*: "*es-hook*" (hook in the form of the letter "s"); "Wiktionary": [ess](#) см. "Alternative forms", date of the application [05.03.2016](#).

**1 Hiberno-English and sometimes Australian English.

***1 American English.

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Last update: **25.07.2022 10:10**

