

Symbols for Transcribing English Vowels + Sample Words

Vowel	Sample Word	Vowel	Sample Word	Vowel	Sample Word
i:	beat/ seat/ keep	u:	boot/ suit/ food	eɪ	bait/ late/ face
ɪ	bit/ sit/ kit	ʊ	put/ look/ cook	aɪ	bite/ nice/ why
e	bet/ set/ kept	ɔ:	horse/ lord/ cord	ɔɪ	boy/ toy/ coin
ɜ:	burn/ learn/ purse	ɒ	pot/ mock/ top	əʊ	home/ dome/ foam
æ	bat/ sat/ cat	ʌ	but/ mug/ luck	aʊ	house/ how/ cow
ɑ:	bar/ card/ hard	ə	about/ a lot/ awake		

*All vowels are voiced.

Short Vowels	Long Vowels	Diphthongs
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Voicing in Consonants + Sample Words

Voiceless

p	pink – carpet - keep
t	toy – betrayal - feet
k	keep – recap - book
f	fate – refrain - loaf
θ	thick – rethink - breath
s	sweet – consider - kiss
ʃ	sheep – dishes - fish
tʃ	cheap – kitchen - which
h	happy – rehabilitation

Voiced

b	ball – carbon – herb
d	dog – builder - cold
g	good – finger – mug
v	velvet – ultraviolet - love
ð	that – feather - breathe
z	zest – xenon – zenith
ʒ	genre – measure - rouge
dʒ	jump – bludgeon – judge
j	yellow – tuition - yummy
w	wash – await - cow
r	red – corn – teacher
l	luck – parallel – social
m	make – caramel – loom
n	nut – honey - bun
ŋ	sing – singer – tongue