

Phonetic Spelling Instructions

Although the pronunciation of many names is obvious, some require special attention. If your name is one that is pronounced in a special way, please use the key below to advise us how your name should be pronounced.

Indicate either the *phonetic spelling* of your name OR a *familiar word that rhymes* with your name.

- Syllables are separated by dashes
- Stressed syllables are capitalized

For example:

Raul Gonzalez: rah-OOL gon-SAH-les

Ngoc Nguyen: nahk nuhWEN or sounds like “knock” “WIN”

Sophia Lamagna: so-FEE-uh sounds like “lasagna”

PHONETIC SPELLING KEY:

Consonants

Respelling symbol(s)	Example
b	<i>but, web</i>
ch	<i>church, nature</i>
d	<i>do, odd</i>
dh	<i>this, breathe, father</i>
f	<i>fool, enough, leaf</i>
g	<i>go, beg</i>
h	<i>ham, ahead</i>
j	<i>gin, joy, edge</i>
k	<i>cat, kiss, queen, skin, thick</i>
kh	<i>loch</i>
l	<i>left, bell</i>
m	<i>man, ham</i>
n	<i>no, tin</i>
ng	<i>ring, singer, sink</i>
ng-g	<i>finger</i>
p	<i>pen, spin, tip</i>
py	<i>pupil</i>
r	<i>run, very</i>
s or ss	<i>see, city, pass</i>
sh	<i>she, sure, emotion, leash</i>
t	<i>two, sting, bet</i>
th	<i>thing, teeth</i>
v	<i>voice, have</i>
w	<i>we</i>
wh	<i>what</i>
y	<i>yes</i>
z	<i>zoo, rose</i>
zh	<i>pleasure, vision, beige</i>

Other

Respelling symbol(s)	Example
UR	<i>further</i>
AIR	<i>hair, bare</i>
EER	<i>beer, hear</i>
OOR	<i>poor</i>
OR	<i>door, for</i>
AR	<i>car</i>
IKE	<i>bike</i>
INE	<i>line</i>
ITE	<i>light, bite</i>
ICE	<i>dice</i>
AL	<i>pal</i>
ALL	<i>ball</i>
AIL	<i>pail</i>
ULL	<i>hull</i>
OOL	<i>tool</i>
OAL	<i>coal</i>
EEL or EAL	<i>deal</i>
ILL	<i>pill</i>
ILE	<i>style, pile</i>

Vowels

Respelling symbol(s)	Example
a	<i>trap, cat</i>
ah or aa	<i>palm, pot</i>
air	<i>square</i>
ar	<i>start</i>
arr	<i>marry</i>
aw	<i>thought, saw</i>
ay, ai	<i>face, ape</i>
er	<i>letter, Peter</i>
e, eh	<i>dress, met</i>
ee	<i>fleece, tree</i>
eer	<i>near</i>
err	<i>merry</i>
ew	<i>ewe, dew</i>
eye	<i>item</i>
i or ih (Use ih at end of syllable, esp. if I yields a real word, e.g. "hi", "ski")	<i>kit, bit</i>
irr	<i>mirror</i>
o	<i>lot</i>
oh or oe	<i>goat, toe, go</i>
oo	<i>food, boot, shoe</i>
oor	<i>cure</i> or <i>Europe</i>
ohr	<i>force</i> or <i>wore</i>
or or awr	<i>north</i> or <i>war</i>
orr	<i>orange</i>
ou	<i>out</i>
ow	<i>mouth</i>
oy	<i>choice, toy</i>
u	<i>strut</i>
uu	<i>foot, put</i>
uh	<i>mother, comma</i>
ur	<i>nurse</i>
urr	<i>hurry</i>
ye	<i>price</i>