

LIST OF YIDDISH LETTERS AND SOUNDS

PRINTED LETTER	WRITTEN LETTER	YIDDISH NAME	TRANSLITERATION OF SOUND	ENGLISH EQUIVALENT
א	א	Shtumer Alef	Silent, therefore not shown	silent
א	א	Pasekh Alef	a	no exact equivalent, close to A in Ma .
א	א	Komets Alef	o	no exact equivalent, close to O in For
ב	ב	Beyz	b	B
ב	ב	Veyz	v	V
ג	ג	Giml	g	G
ד	ד	Daled	d	D
ה	ה	Hey	h	H
ו	ו	Vov	u	OO as in Hoof
ו	ו	Melupm Vov	u	OO [used when ו appears next to ו. The dot distinguishes ו from ו.]
ו	ו	Tsvey Vovn	v	V
ז	ז	Vov Yud	oy	OY
ז	ז	Zayin	z	Z
ח	ח	Khes	kh	KH as in Khanukah

יידיש: אַלף-בית

ט	ט	Tes	t	T
י	י	Yud	i or y	EE or consonant Y
יְ	יְ	Khirek Yud	i	EE [used when stressed vowel precedes another vowel to show that יְ is in a different syllable.]
יִי	יִי	Tsvey Yudn	ey	AY as in Day
יֵי	יֵי	Pasekh Tsvey Yudn	ay	Y as in Sky
כּ	כּ	Kof	k	K
כַּח	כַּח	Khof	kh	KH as in Bach
כַּחְ	כַּחְ	Lange[r] Khof	kh	KH as in Bach only at the end of a word.
ל	ל	Lamed	l	L
מ	מ	Mem	m	M
מֵ	מֵ	Shlos-Mem	m	M, only at the end of a word.
נ	נ	Nun	n	N
נַחְ	נַחְ	Lange[r] Nun	n	N, only at the end of a word.
ס	ס	Samekh	s	S
ע	ע	Ayin	e	short E as in Bed
פ	פ	Pey	p	P