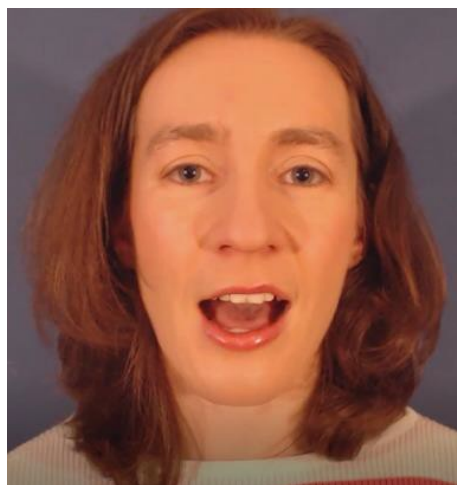


## Lesson 3: NOT / NOTE

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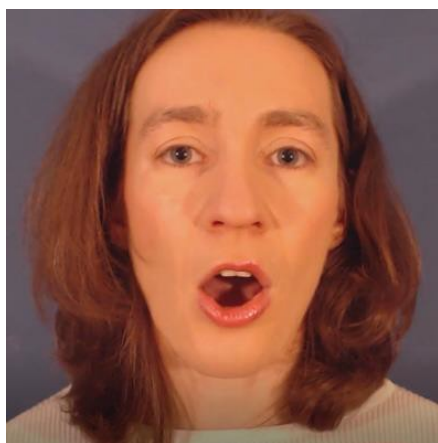
Today we're going to work on two new vowel sounds: the /ɒ/ sound in **not** and the /əʊ/ sound in **note**.

The sound in **not** is very simple – just open your mouth and say **AHH**:



***AHHH - NOT***

The sound in **note** is another diphthong – remember, that means your mouth moves as you say it. Your mouth starts semi-open, and then your lips come together.



***OHHH - NOTE***

These two sounds are pretty different – and it's not so difficult to distinguish them. The problems and confusion come from the fact that both of them are spelled with the letter "o" – so when you're reading a word in English, it's hard to know which way to pronounce it.

Common words like NOT:

- ☐ hot
- ☐ box
- ☐ stop
- ☐ option
- ☐ object
- ☐ occupy
- ☐ common
- ☐ possible
- ☐ respond

As you can see, this sound is often spelled with the letter O. But there are some words that have the **not** sound spelled with the letter A. These include:

- ☐ father
- ☐ want
- ☐ wash
- ☐ watch

As well as some words where the letter A is followed by R, like **car** and **bar** – but we'll focus on vowels with the R sound in a later lesson.

The sound in **note** can be spelled in various ways:

- ☐ go
- ☐ over
- ☐ phone
- ☐ snow
- ☐ owner
- ☐ grow

- ❑ **boat**
- ❑ **road**
- ❑ **goal**
- ❑ **soul**
- ❑ **although**

OK, let's do some practice. Listen to and repeat these pairs of words:

- ❑ got / goat
- ❑ on / own
- ❑ sock / soak
- want / won't
- ❑ hop / hope
- ❑ fox / folks
- ❑ rob / robe
- ❑ clock / cloak
- ❑ fond / phoned
- ❑ mop / mope
- ❑ polish / Polish

Here's a new exercise: you're going to see four words. Three of them have the same sound, and one of them has a different sound. You'll have 7 seconds to say the words yourself and identify the word with a different sound – then the answer will appear.

Here's an example: rock / stop / stole / pot

The different word is **stole**, because all the other words have the sound in **not**, but **stole** has the sound in **note**.

- ❑ honor / home / lock / forgot
- ❑ open / monster / oppportunity / closet
- ❑ frozen / know / shoulders / drop
- ❑ operate / soap / toes / notebook

*Answers at the end of this lesson.*

## Practice Sentences

Focus on NOT:

- ☐ The model got a lot of comments on her body.
- ☐ Bob paid top dollar for that clock.
- ☐ The doctor forgot to lock up the documents.
- It's not possible for Rob to go to the rock concert and the conference.

Focus on NOTE:

- I don't know if there's snow where we're going.
- ☐ The only hotel is on a road close to the ocean.
- My coach won't notice that I broke my toe.
- ☐ The soldier told me that the old yellow boat is slow.

***Answers to "Which word is different?" – home, open, drop, operate***

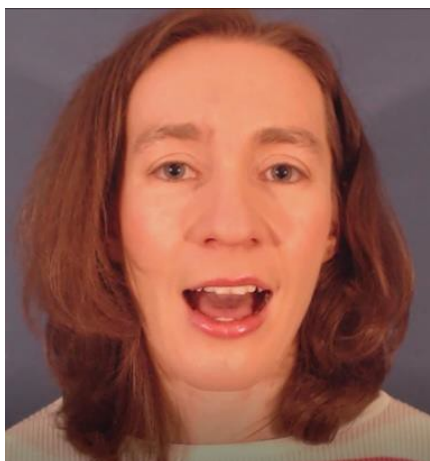
## Lesson 4: LOW / LAW

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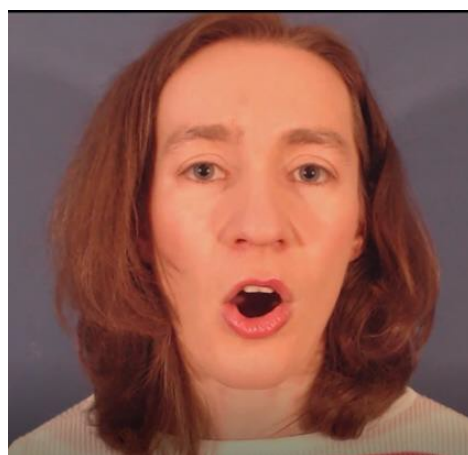
Welcome to Lesson 4 of the American English Pronunciation Course!

Today we're going to continue working with the /əʊ/ sound in **note** and **low**, and compare it to the /ɔ:/ sound in **law**.

To make the **aw** sound in **law**, a good exercise is to start with the "AHH" sound that we learned in the last lesson, and make your mouth more round. Watch me alternate these two sounds:

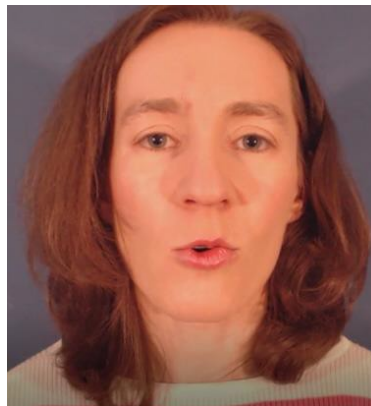
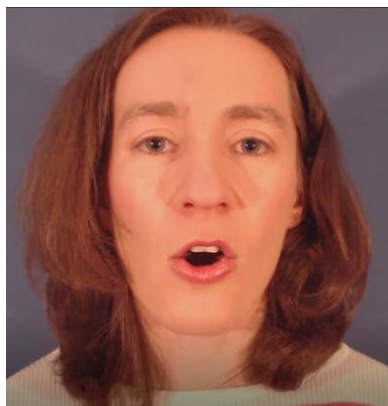


**AH**



**AW**

Remember that to make the sound in **low**, start with your mouth a little bit open, and bring your lips together as you pronounce it.



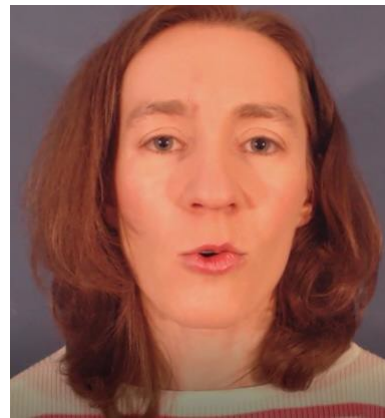
**OH**

Let's practice all three sounds – **ah** / **aw** / **ow**.

So to make the difference between **law** and **low**, remember that at the end of **law** your mouth stays open; and at the end of **low** your mouth is almost closed. Watch me, listen, and repeat.



**End of LAW**



**End of LOW**

Common words like LAW:

- ❑ **saw**
- ❑ **flaw**
- ❑ **boss**
- ❑ **talk**
- ❑ **sauce**
- ❑ **off**
- ❑ **cost**
- ❑ **audio**
- ❑ **caught**
- ❑ **taught**
- ❑ **bought**
- ❑ **thought**

As you can see, there are many different spellings for this sound.

Let's practice some more words with the sound in **low**:

- ❑ **ago**

- ❑ radio
- ❑ potato
- ❑ show
- ❑ bowl
- don't
- ❑ coat
- ❑ poetry
- ❑ follow

Ready to practice? Try to make the difference between these pairs of words:

- ❑ bald / bold
- ❑ flaw / flow
- ❑ cost / coast
- ❑ pause / pose
- ❑ saw / so
- ❑ bought / boat
- ❑ hall / hole
- ❑ vault / volt
- ❑ caught / coat
- ❑ lawn / loan
- ❑ chalk / choke

Good job! Now let's do the "Which word has a different sound?" exercise.

Again, you're going to see four words on the screen. You need to say them and identify the word with a different sound. After 7 seconds, I will say the words and the answer will appear.

- ❑ autumn / only / soft / pause
- ❑ ball / walk / dog / coach
- ❑ both / window / how / whole
- ❑ told / hotel / shoes / rose

*Answers at the end of this lesson.*

## Practice Sentences

Focus on LOW:

- ☐ I suppose most poets are lonely.
- I'm throwing away most of the bowls that I own.
- My co-workers don't focus on the goals.
- ☐ The remote control is next to the phone.

Focus on LAW:

- ☐ The coffee at the office is always awful.
- ☐ I thought you taught your daughter to draw.
- ☐ My boss paused awkwardly while talking to the audience.
- ☐ They caught the guy who called the author a fraud and ran off.

*Answers to "Which word is different?" - only, coach, how, shoes*