

<b>a</b> sat last paper want call	<b>a</b> sat last paper want call	<b>e</b> bet be café pretty	<b>e</b> bet be café pretty	<b>i</b> pin hi ski	<b>i</b> pin hi ski
<b>o</b> hot son go do	<b>o</b> hot son go do	<b>u</b> cut put tuna truth	<b>u</b> cut put tuna truth	<b>y</b> my baby gym	<b>y</b> my baby gym
<b>p</b> pop	<b>p</b> pop	<b>b</b> bib	<b>b</b> bib	<b>t</b> tot nature	<b>t</b> tot nature
<b>d</b> did	<b>d</b> did	<b>c</b> cat cell cello	<b>c</b> cat cell cello	<b>k</b> kid	<b>k</b> kid
<b>ck</b> rock	<b>g</b> got gel	<b>g</b> got gel	<b>th</b> thin this thyme	<b>f</b> fat of	<b>f</b> fat of
<b>ff</b> off	<b>v</b> van	<b>ve</b> have	<b>s</b> sit has treasure	<b>s</b> sit has treasure	<b>ss</b> kiss dessert

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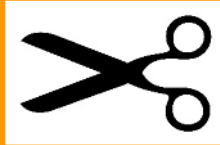
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# Spelfabet Moveable Alphabet Instructions

## You need:

- Colour A4 printer, white A4 paper (if you don't have a colour printer, print at school or a stationery shop).
- Laminator and four A4 laminating pouches.
- A roll of magnetic tape, if you'll be putting the alphabet on a magnetic surface like a magnetic whiteboard or fridge *OR*
- About 2.5 metres of about 1cm wide adhesive hook velcro, or you can cut up wider velcro/velcro dots, if you'll be using the alphabet on a surface that is velcro-compatible, like a noticeboard. If you want a portable system, get a 70 X 50cm piece of black velcro-compatible fabric.
- Scissors (use an old pair if cutting up adhesive velcro, as it gums scissors up).

Magnetic tape and adhesive velcro are both available from stationery shops, or you can get velcro and velcro-compatible fabric from fabric shops - ask for notice-board fabric (sometimes called Tempo Loop fabric).

## Assembly

- Print out the moveable alphabet in colour on plain A4 paper, single sided.
- If there is a spelling missing that matters to your student(s), create it using the blank box on the last page e.g. if working with a student called 'John', make an orange 'oh' spelling; if working with students with Vietnamese names like 'Minh' and 'Danh', make a red 'nh' spelling, and add "Danh" (pronounced "Yang") in small letters to the bottom of the "d" spellings.
- Laminate the printouts. You will only need the first two pages for Levels 1-2, so if in a hurry, save the last two pages for later.
- Cut the spellings up.
- Cut out the rectangles with the little pictures of scissors on them on the spellings a...e, e...e, i...e, o...e, u...e and y...e, so that these six pieces have rectangular holes in their centres.
- Stick about a square centimetre of magnetic tape or velcro on the back of each piece. Put two pieces of magnetic tape or velcro on the spellings with the holes in the middle, and the other larger pieces, one at each end.
- Store the spellings on your whiteboard, metal cupboard or filing cabinet, fridge, notice-board or piece of fabric in an order that makes sense to you e.g. in colour groups organised by alphabetical order.
- If using velcro, you may like to print a second alphabet, laminate it, store it in a folder with a zip, and use adhesive eye velcro to attach the cut-up pieces to it. Students can then easily pack it up for you in a consistent way.

## Colour-coding:

This alphabet's colour-coding is like a traffic light:

- **Green** means 'go' - spellings used at word beginnings/before a vowel.
- **Orange** means 'caution' - these are vowel spellings, and are the trickiest thing about English spelling. Every word/syllable has an orange spelling, except words like 'rhythm' and 'prism', where "m" alone spells the last syllable.
- **Red** means 'stop' - spellings used at the end of a syllable/word.
- **Yellow** spellings can be used at word/syllable beginnings or endings i.e. on either side of the orange spelling (vowel).

## How to use: building and changing words

Always say SOUNDS, not letter names. Make a simple word with the moveable alphabet, and then ask your learner to make it into a different word:

1. Start off with just single-letter yellow, green and orange spellings and gradually add the red ones with three little triangles on them. At first, just change the first sounds of words e.g. bag-tag-dag or top-pop-cop or judge-budge-fudge.
2. Change last sounds e.g. bat-bad-bag, tip-tin-tick.
3. Change middle sounds: bat-but-bet or tip-top-tap.
4. Change first, middle and/or last sounds e.g. bat-bag-bug-but-gut-got.
5. Add consonant blends, which will sometimes mean making words shorter and then longer e.g. blank-blink-brink-rink-sink-stink-slink-link-wink-win-twin-twig-wig-swig-swing-sting-string-spring-sprung.
6. Try other vowel spellings, noting that there are usually several ways to spell each sound e.g. bay-day-hay-lay-may-ray-say-way-pay-pain-gain-rain-chain-lain-lane-lake-make-bake-cake-fake-lake-rake-sake-take-wake-shake. Next-change the last consonant: shape-shade-shame-shale-sale-sail-pail-bail-nail-sail-fail-hail and so on.

Finally, you can play a game using all the spellings your learner(s) know. Take turns to change a word into another word by changing one spelling only. Keep lists of words created, with players being eliminated if they can't make a new word, until you have a winner.

Stick to making and changing one-syllable words (only one orange piece at a time) using this moveable alphabet, as there are many extra spellings needed to successfully build long words. You'll still need a few additional spellings, (e.g. if the word "phlegm" comes up, you'll need 'gm') which you can make using post-it notes.