

Vietnamese Consonant Pronunciation Table

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar
Aspirated	Ph	Th	Tr	Kh
	/ ɸ ~ f /	/ ^h t ~ th ~ t ^h /	/ t ~ ts̺ /	/ x ~ k ^h ~ ^k h /
Unvoiced	P	T	Ch	K & C
	/ p /	/ t /	/ c ~ t͡ɕ /	/ k & -kp /
Voiced	B	Đ	-	G
	/ b /	/ d /	-	/ ɣ /
Fricative	V	D	R	Gi
	/ v ~ j /	/ ɟ ~ ʝ ~ z /	/ r ~ ɻ ~ j ~ ʝ ~ z /	/ j ~ ɟ ~ ʝ ~ z /
Sibilant	-	X	S	H
	-	/ s ~ ɕ /	/ ɕ ~ s /	/ h /
Glide	-	L	Y	Qu
	-	/ l /	/ j /	/ k ^w ~ w ~ ^k w /
Nasal	M	N	Nh	Ng
	/ m /	/ n /	/ ɲ /	/ ŋ & -ŋm /

Notes

Rhotics ⟨Tr⟩ and ⟨R⟩ can be pronounced with or without lip-pursing.

⟨D⟩ used to be akin to /ð/, hence its letter and its drift to proximal /z~j/.

Some phoneme sets are asymmetrical. This is likely due to pronunciation drift. This can be seen more clearly by paying attention to “non-standard” accents. Southern ⟨ph⟩ and ⟨v⟩ are more bilabial (/ɸ/, /β/) than labiodental, and ⟨ph⟩ may have been /p^h/ in the past.

Bold are the phones I use.

Sequences to practise

Sound class sets:

- Aspirated set: Ph Th Tr Kh
- Unvoiced set: P T Ch K/C
- Voiced set: B Đ - G
- Fricative set: V D R Gi
- Sibilant set: - X S H
- Glide set: - L Y Qu
- Nasal set: M N Nh Ng

Position sets:

- Labial set: Ph P B V - - M
/f/ /p/ /b/ /v/ - - /m/
- Alveolar set: Th T Đ D X L N
/th/ /t/ /d/ /z/ /s/ /l/ /n/
- Palatal set: Tr Ch - R S Y Nh
/ts̺/ /c/ - /ɻ/ /ɕ/ /j/ /ɲ/
- Nasal set: Kh K/C G Gi H Qu Ng
/x/ /k,-kp/ /ɣ/ /ɟ/ /h/ /^kw/ /ŋ,-ŋm/