Vietnamese Consonant Pronunciation Table

## 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 /pʰ/ in the past.

**Bold** are the phones I use.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Labial | Alveolar | Palatal | Velar |
| Aspirated | Ph | Th | Tr | Kh |
|  | / **ɸ** ~ f / | / th ~ **th** ~ tʰ / | / ʈ ~ **ʈ͡ʂ** / | / **x** ~ kʰ ~ kh / |
| Unvoiced | P | T | Ch | K & C |
|  | / p / | / t / | / **c** ~ t͡ɕ / | / k & -kp / |
| Voiced | B | Đ | - | G |
|  | / ɓ / | / ɗ / | - | / ɣ / |
| Fricative | V | D | R | Gi |
|  | / **v** ~ j / | / ʝ ~ ʑ ~ **z** / | / r ~ **ɹ** ~ ʝ ~ ʑ ~ z / | / j ~ **ʝ** ~ ʑ ~ z / |
| Sibilant | - | X | S | H |
|  | - | / **s** ~ ʂ / | / **ʂ** ~ s / | / h / |
| Glide | - | L | Y | Qu |
|  | - | / l / | / j / | / kw ~ w ~ **kw** / |
| Nasal | M | N | Nh | Ng |
|  | / m / | / n / | / ɲ / | / ŋ & -ŋm / |

# Sequences to practise

## Position sets:

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

## 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