NewEng Vowel Diacritics and Example Words

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# Vowel diacritics

## Summary table

|  | **bare a** | **macron** | **breve** | **tittle** | **ring** | **chevron** | **caron** | **diaeresis** | **r** | **l** | **y** | **w** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **a** | **ā** | **ă** | **ȧ** | **å** | **â** | **ǎ** | **ä** | **ar** | **al** | **ay** | **aw** |
|  | **unchecked** | **Magic E** | **/ɛ/ or /ɵ/** | **/ɪ/** | **tighten** | **/ɑ-ʌ/** | **shield** | **long** | **/V\*ɹ/** | **/V\*ɫ/** | **/V\*j/** | **/Vw/** |
| a | a /a/ | ā /ɛj/ | ă /ɛː/ | ȧ /ɪ/ | å /oː/ | â /ɑː/ | ǎ /a/ | - | ar, âr /ɑɹ/ | ål, al /o:ɫ/ | ăy /ɛj/ | aw /aw/ |
| æ | æ /e/ | ǣ /ɪj/ | - | æ̇ /ɪ/ | æ̊ = œ | - | - | - | aer, ær /eɹ/ | - | - | - |
| e | e /ɛ/ | ē /ɪj/ | ĕ /ɛː/ | ė /ɪ/ | e̊ /ɔ/ | ê /ɑ/ | ě /ɛ/ | ë /ɪj/ | er /ɜɹ/ | - | ey /ɛj/ | - |
| i | i /ɪ/ | ī /ɑj/ | ĭ - ? | i̇̇ - alt for ï /ɪj/? | i̊ = œ | î - alt for ī | ǐ /ɪ/ | ï /ɪj/ | ir /ɜɹ/ | - | - | - |
| o | o /ɔ/ | ō /ɜʉ/ | ŏ /ɵ/ | ȯ /ɪ/ | o̊ /oː/ | ô /ʌ/ | ǒ /ɔ/ | ö /ɵʉ/ | or /oɹ/ | ōl /ɔɫ~ɜʉ/ | oy /oj/ | ōw /ɜʉ/ |
| œ | œ /ɪ/ | œ̄ /ɪj/ | - | œ̇ /ɪ/ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| u | u /ʌ/ | ū /jɵʉ/ | ŭ /ɵ/ | u̇ /ɪ/ | - | û /ɛ/ | ǔ /ʌ/ | ü /ɵʉ/ | ur /ɜɹ/ | - | uy /ɑj/ | - |
| ȣ | ȣ /ɵ/ | ȣ̄ /ɜʉ/ | ȣ̆ = ȣ | - | ȣ̊ /oː/ | ȣ̂ /ʌ/ | - | ȣ̈ /ɵʉ/ | ȣr /ɜɹ/ | ȣ̄l /ɔɫ~ɜʉ/ | - | - |
| w | w /w/ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | wr /wɹ/ | wl /wɫ/ | - | - |
| ꝏ | ꝏ /ɵ/ | ꝏ̄ /ɵʉ/ | ꝏ̆ = ꝏ | - | - | ꝏ̂ /ʌ/ | - | ꝏ̈ = ꝏ̄ | ꝏr /ɵɹ/ | ꝏl /ɵʉɫ/ | - | - |
| y | y /ɪ/ | ȳ /ɑj/ | - | ẏ /ɪ/ | - | - | y̌ /ɪ/ | ÿ /ɪj/ | yr /ɜɹ/ | - | - | - |

**OU and OW**

/aʉ/ ou → ⟨aŭ⟩ and ow → ⟨aw⟩

flour → flaŭr

how → haw

flower → flawer

**EA series**

Reduce EA to E, otherwise:

read /ɪj/ → rēàd

bread /ɛ/ → breàd

break /ɛj/ → breȧk

**OA series**

Reduce OA to O, otherwise:

boat /ɜʉ/ → bōàt

broad /ɛ/ → bro̊àd / bro̊d

board /ɛj/ → boàrd / bord

**OO series**

Reduce OO to Ꝏ, and mark:

good /ɵ/ → gꝏd

food /ɵʉ/ → fꝏ̄d

floor /ɵɚ/ → flꝏr

blood /ʌ/ → blꝏ̂d

**Respellings:**

## Example vocabulary table

|  | **bare a** | **macron** | **breve** | **tittle** | **ring** | **chevron** | **caron** | **diaeresis** | **r** | **l** | **y** | **w** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **a** | **ā** | **ă** | **ȧ** | **å** | **â** | **ǎ** | **ä** | **ar** | **al** | **ay** | **aw** |
|  | **unchecked** | **Magic E** | **/ɛ/ or /ɵ/** | **/ɪ/** | **tighten** | **/ɑ-ʌ/** | **shield** | **long** | **/V\*ɹ/** | **/V\*ɫ/** | **/V\*j/** | **/Vw/** |
| a | a /a/  cat | ā /ɛj/  face - fāç | ă /ɛː/  vary - văry | ȧ /ɪ/  ravage - rávȧǧ | å /oː/  fall - fål | â /ɑː/  staff - stâf  laugh - lâȝ̌ | ǎ /a/  carry - cǎry | - | ar, âr /ɑɹ/  star - stâr | ål, al /o:ɫ/  fall - fål | ăy /ɛj/  day - dăy | aw /aw/  how - haw |
| æ | æ /e/  æsthetic | ǣ /ɪj/  aether - ǣþer | - | æ̇ /ɪ/  ? | æ̊ = œ | - | - | - | aer, ær /eɹ/  Earth - Ærþ | - | - | - |
| e | e /ɛ/  bed | ē /ɪj/  heed - hēd | ĕ /ɛː/  there | ė /ɪ/  exam | e̊ /ɔ/  genre | ê /ɑ/  eye | ě /ɛ/  ferry | ë /ɪj/  Zoë | er /ɜɹ/  internal | - | ey /ɛj/  hey | - |
| i | i /ɪ/  hit | ī /ɑj/  mine | ĭ  ? | i̇̇ İ̇  alt for ï /ɪj/ ? | i̊ = œ  ? | î - alt for ī cos it can look like a t | ǐ /ɪ/  mirror | ï /ɪj/  ravine | ir /ɜɹ/  fir | - | - | - |
| o | o /ɔ/  hot | ō /ɜʉ/  bone | ŏ /ɵ/  today | ȯ /ɪ/  women | o̊ /oː/  broad | ô /ʌ/  done | ǒ /ɔ/  borrow | ö /ɵʉ/  do | or /oɹ/  more | ōl /ɔɫ~ɜʉ/  cold | oy /oj/  boy | ōw /ɜʉ/  blow |
| œ | œ /ɪ/  œcónomy | œ̄ /ɪj/  œ̄cosystem | - | œ̇ /ɪ/  œ̇cónomy | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| u | u /ʌ/  under | ū /jɵʉ/  ūnion | ŭ /ɵ/  pŭt | u̇ /ɪ/  bu̇zy | - | û /ɛ/  bûry | ǔ /ʌ/  hǔrry | ü /ɵʉ/  sue - sü | ur /ɜɹ/  burn | - | uy /ɑj/  buy | - |
| ȣ | ȣ /ɵ/  could - cȣld | ȣ̄ /ɜʉ/  dough - dȣ̄ȝ | ȣ̆ = ȣ /ɵ/  ? | - | ȣ̊ /oː/  bought - bȣ̊ȝt | ȣ̂ /ʌ/  double -dȣ̂ble | - | ȣ̈ /ɵʉ/  you - yȣ̈ | ȣr /ɜɹ/  jȣ́rny | ȣ̄l /ɔɫ~ɜʉ/  mȣ̄ld | - | - |
| w | w /w/  low, new | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | wr /wɹ/  write | wl /wɫ/  bowl | - | - |
| ꝏ | ꝏ /ɵ/  gꝏd | ꝏ̄ /ɵʉ/  fꝏ̄d | ꝏ̆ = ꝏ /ɵ/  ? | - | - | ꝏ̂ /ʌ/  blꝏ̂d | - | ꝏ̈ = ꝏ̄  ? | ꝏr /ɵɹ/  pꝏr | ꝏl /ɵʉɫ/  fꝏl, pꝏl | - | - |
| y | y /ɪ/  ? | ȳ /ɑj/  my | - | ẏ /ɪ/ | - | - | y̌ /ɪ/ | ÿ /ɪj/  happÿ | yr /ɜɹ/  myrrh | - | - | - |

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blood /ʌ/ → blꝏ̂d

**Respellings:**

## Respellings

* Sometimes a silent vowel cannot be removed because it would increase ambiguity. In these instances, silence it using the grave: **à**.
* ou and ow as /aʉ/ are now ⟨aŭ⟩ word-mid and ⟨aw⟩ word-mid & word-final (based on original spelling)
  + flour /aʉ/ → flaŭr haŭr aŭr faŭnd saŭnd araŭnd raŭnd baŭnd abaŭnd abaŭt flaŭt haŭse maŭse spaŭse jaŭst *(ŭ can be reduced to u)*
  + how /aʉ/ → haw naw brawn caw baw raw saw
  + flower /aʉ/ → flawer tawer pawer shawer
* ea series:
  + if ea cannot be reduced to a simpler vowel due to spelling ambiguity, diacritique as follows:
  + read /ɪj/ → rēàd strēàk lēàk bēàk pēàk wēàk plēàd frēàk
  + bread /ɛ/ → breàd reàd leàd steàd insteàd treàd
  + break /ɛj/ → breȧk steȧk
  + *ea* as a weird vowel may originate from ae, æ. NewEng may re-adopt this old spelling, as it looks more interesting and seems more sensible.
* oa series:
  + boat /əw/ → bōàt mōàt glōàt flōàt tōàd rōàd cōàl lōàm
  + broad /o:/ → bro̊àd / bro̊d / bråd
  + board /oɹ/ → boàrd / bord / bård
* oo series:
  + good /ɵ/ → gꝏd / gꝏ̆d foot look took rook
  + food /ɵʉ/ → fꝏ̄d spook boot room doom loom
  + floor /ɵɚ/ → flꝏr / flꝏ̆r poor moor
  + blood /ʌ/ → blꝏ̂d flood

# Detailed information

Bare vowels, unmarked, all bear the default vowel, that is the unchecked “short” vowel. (/ɵ/ is oo not u.)

## Acute

The acute diacritic á is used to indicate stress. If there is no stressed vowel marked, there is a hierarchy of which diacritics are stressed.

1. Acute. This is *always* stressed.
2. If there is only one vowel marked with any diacritic, that vowel is stressed.
3. Macron - Magic E - these are usually stressed syllables. Some words have more than one.
4. Ring, chevron, caron, diaeresis - these tend to be stressed syllables.
5. Breve - these are usually relaxed, collapsed syllables.
6. Tittle - these are nearly always relaxed, collapsed syllables.
7. Unmarked vowels - never stressed except for single-syllable words and word roots in simple words with simple suffixes.

## Macron

The macron diacritic is used for the “long vowels” as they are known, spelled by appending a letter E after the consonant after the vowel, often called “Magic E”. This is one of the weirdest spelling rules in English, and it gets broken all the time. In many dialects of modern English, these exist almost entirely as diphthongs, but in some dialects they are still elongated monophthongs, apparently closer to how they used to be pronounced.

The use of this diacritic necessitates the removal of the Magic E, which has several knock-on effects due to the E’s ability to modify several other letters.

|  | **ŏ** | **ŭ** | **ȣ̆** | **ꝏ̆** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | today | put | could | good |
|  | tomorrow |  | should | foot |
|  | to (weak) |  | would | whoops |

## Breve

The breve looks like a tiny U, so that is its primary function: the breve reduces back-mouth vowels to the /ɵ/ sound, as in *put* and *today*. It can also be used for ou → ȣ and oo → ꝏ if clarity is desired.

The letter A mimics the letter E in -ay and -ai, so the breve has been co-opted for the /ɛ/ sound in these sequences: *păin*, *dăy*. The A also does this in -air, -are, -airy and -ary sequences, so the breve is used again: *făir, făr (fare), făiry, prėcăriȣs, vocabulăry*.

|  | **ai** | **ay** | **are** | **ary** | **air** | **airy** | **aire** | **ayer** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **ăi** | **ăy** | **ăr** | **ăry** | **ăir** | **ăiry** | **ăire** | **ăyr** |
|  | făil | făy | făre | míšionăry | făir | făiry |  | prăyr (not prăyer) |
|  | păin | păy | păre | Măry | lăir | lăiry | milionăire |  |
|  | Spăin | spăy | spăre | wăry | stăir |  | quesťionăire |  |
|  |  | dăy | dăr | văry | lăir | dăiry |  |  |
|  | чăin |  | ʃăre |  | чăir | hăiry |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **ere** | **ear** | **eir** |
|  | **ĕr** | **ĕàr** | **ĕir** |
|  | ƕĕr | wĕàr | ðĕir |
|  | ðĕr | bĕàr | h̀ĕir |
|  | wĕ́rwŏlf | pĕàr |  |
|  |  | tĕàr |  |

The letter E before R for /ɛ/ has the caron diacritic as a shield, but this is always a short /ɛ/ such as in very *věry* and merry *měry*. There are instances when E before R is actually long, or has a rhotic/schwa end-point, as in there, where, bear, pear, tear. In this case, the breve is used over the E: **ĕ** (akin to the breve over the A: **ă**): *ðĕr, ƕĕr, bĕàr, pĕàr, tĕàr*.

|  | **ȧ** | **æ̇** | **ė** | **ȯ** | **œ̇** | **u̇** | **ẏ** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | mánȧǧ | æ̇þěric | ėxam | wȯ́mėn | œ̇cónomy | bu̇zy | ? |
|  | rávȧǧ |  | ėẍáctly |  |  |  |  |
|  | bágȧǧ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | cábȧǧ |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Tittle

The tittle is perhaps the only consistent diacritic: it reduces its vowel to the /ɪ/ sound, the unchecked i of “it” /ɪt/.

## Ring

The ring essentially tightens the lips.

Å, O̊ and Ȣ̊ are more common, used for /oː/. E̊ is rare, used for /ɔ/ in only a few French words like *genre* and *envelope*.

* Å tends to come from a darkening at the back of the mouth, such as in the graphs *au* and *augh*, and in *al* and *all*.
* O̊ comes from the graph *oa*, that seems to be the only one.
* Ȣ̊ comes from graphs *ou*, *ough*, *our*. (Note that *our/ȣr* is often /ɜː/ɜ˞/ when stressed and /ə/ɚ/ when unstressed.)

|  | **/oː/** | | | | | | |  | **/ɔ/** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **au** | **augh** | **al** | **all** | **oa** | **ough** | **our** |  | **e** |
|  | **å** | **åȝ** | **ål** | **åll** | **o̊à** | **ȣ̊ȝ** | **ȣ̊r** |  | **e̊** |
|  | audio → ǻdiō | taught → tåȝt | also → ǻlsō | call → cål | broad → bro̊àd | ought → ȣ̊ȝt | four → fȣ̊r |  | genre → g̃e̊nre |
|  | auto → ǻtō | caught → cåȝt | although → ålðȣ̄ȝ | fall → fål |  | fought → fȣ̊ȝt |  |  | envelope |
|  | aural → åral | fraught → fråȝt |  | tall → tål |  | bought → bȣ̊ȝt |  |  |  |
|  | aura → åra |  |  | ball → bål |  | brought→brȣ̊ȝt |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | wall → wål |  | wrought→wrȣ̊ȝt |  |  |  |

## Chevron

The chevron is technically called a circumflex, but I’ve chosen to call it a chevron, in parity with its inverse, the caron.

|  | **/ɑː~a/** |  | **/ɑ/** |  | **/ʌ/** | | |  | **/ɛ/** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **a → â** |  | **e → ê** |  | **o → ô** | **ou → ȣ̂** | **oo → ꝏ̂** |  | **u → û** |
|  | staff |  | eye |  | done | double | blood |  | bury |
|  | father |  | height |  | love | trouble | flood |  |  |
|  | rather |  |  |  | above |  |  |  |  |
|  | lather |  |  |  | come |  |  |  |  |

The chevron does the opposite to the ring in that it stretches the mouth wider.

* Front-mouth vowels move to /ʌ/, back-mouth move to /ɑ/.
* U moves to /ɛ/, for the only word I can find, *bury*.

U as /ʌ/ before R uses the caron shield diacritic, ǔ, such as in burrow, furrow, hurry, Murray, curry, etc.

## Caron

The caron is used as a “shield” diacriticː that is, it protects the value of a vowel from being altered by a proceeding letter. This may be used to protect against both vowels and consonants, but due to the structure of English, it will most regularly be used to shield against the letter R. Usage against W is permitted, but W-digraphs have been removed from NewEng orthography so it is not necessary -- however, writers may use the caron if they wish to remind the readers that the vowel is *not* modified by the proceeding W. This usage will naturally fade over time anyway, because it won’t have a real function, so once people are comfortable with parsing vowel-W sequences correctly, the caron over a vowel before a W will lose its meaning.

There may be instances in which usage is recommended, such as portmanteaus, suffixes and suffixes which alter the root’s pronunciation.

One example is *know* and *knowledge*:

know /nəw/ → k̀nōw

knowledge /ˈnɔ.lɪʤ/ → k̀nǒ́ẁliǧ → κ̀nǒ́ẁlij (future orthography may replace k with κ and ǧ with j)

In this word, usage of the caron is recommended because omission of the macron may seem like a mistake: addition of the caron indicates that it was intentional and thus that the written pronunciation of k̀nǒ́ẁliǧ is correct.

|  | **arr** | **err** | **irr** | **orr** | **urr** | **yr** | **yrr** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **ǎr** | **ěr** | **ǐr** | **ǒr** | **ǔr** | **y̌r** | **y̌r** |
|  | barry | berry |  | borrow | burrow |  |  |
|  | marry | merry | mirror | Morris |  |  |  |
|  | parry | Perry |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | tarry | Terry |  |  |  | syrup | tyrrany |
|  | carry | Kerry |  |  |  | syringe |  |
|  | Larry |  |  |  |  |  |  |

In handwriting and in font design, it is important that the caron is very pointy, so as to clearly distinguish it from the breve: ă vs ǎ.

The English vowel “system” is so atrocious that, unfortunately, both diacritics must be used (at this time, anyway).

## Diaeresis

|  | **ë** | **ï** | **ÿ** | **ö** | **ȣ̈** | **?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Zoe | machine | happy | do | you |  |
|  |  | ravine | copy | to | youth |  |
|  |  | magazine | multiply | canoe | couth |  |
|  |  | saline |  | shoe | uncouth |  |
|  |  | caffeine |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The diaeresis doesn’t have much use, but there are a few instances in which a long form of a vowel is required without the other baggage that goes with it.

For the /ɵʉ/ sound: you, shoe, canoe, to (strong), do.

For the /ɪj/ sound: the -ine suffix - magazine, etc.

Letter E as /ɪj/ can probably be written with ē always, but ë exists just in case.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **IPA** | **NewEng** |
| verb | multipl**y** | /ˈmʌɫ.tʰɪ.pʰl**ɑj**/ | múltipl**ȳ** |
| adverb | multipl**y** | /ˈmʌɫ.tʰɪ.pʰl**ɪj**/ | múltipl**ÿ** |

Letter Y as /ɪj/ in the suffix position is uncertain because it may be pronounced as a short /i/ instead of long /iː/. M marking it is pretty redundant, although there are instances in which disambiguation is useful, such as when the zero-marked vowel is likely to be assumed to be a mistake. Consider ***multiply***:

## Glides

What’s the deal with R, Y and W anyway?

Basically, vowels in English must either be “checked” -- followed by a consonant -- or elongated in some way.

There are three ways that a “long” vowel can end: /ɹ/ or /w/ or /j/.

From my explorations so far, it seems that all vowels follow the pattern of this system, regardless of whether an accent uses these actual sounds to terminate the vowels or not.

* Non-rhotic accents mutate the R-paired vowels slightly, and elongate them.
* Non-palatal-diphthong accents squash the palatal diphthongs slightly, and elongate them. (This may have been the original pronunciation.)
* Non-labial-diphthong accents widen the labial diphthongs somewhat, and elongate them.

### Vowel + R

| **current** | **NewEng** | **rhotic** | **non-rho** | **1** | **2** | **3** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ar | **ar, âr** | /ɑɹ/ | /ɑː/ | star, stâr |  |  |
| ear | **eàr, ær** | /ɜɹ/ | /ɜː/ | leàrn, lærn  Eàrþ, Ærþ |  |  |
| er | **er** | /ɜɹ/ | /ɜː/ | internal |  |  |
| ere | **er, ĕr, ēr** | /ɜɹ, ɛɹ, ɪjɹ/ | /ɜː, ɛə, ɪjə/ | were → wer | there → ðĕr | here → hēr |
| eir | **ĕir** | /ɛɹ/ | /ɛə/ | heir → hĕir |  |  |
| ir | **ir** | /ɜɹ/ | /ɜː/ | fir |  |  |
| or | **or** | /oɹ/ | /oː/ | for |  |  |
| ore | **or** | /oɹ/ | /oː/ | more → mor |  |  |
| ur | **ur** | /ɜɹ/ | /ɜː/ | fur |  |  |
| ure | **ūr, ŭr?** | /jɵɹ/ | /jɵː/ | cure → cūr  fury → fūry |  |  |
| our | **ȣ́r, ȣ̊r, ȣr** | /ɜɹ, oɹ, ɚ/ | /ɜː, oː, ə/ | journal → jȣ́rnal | four → fȣ̊r | colour → côlȣr |
| oor | **ꝏr** | /oɹ/ | /oː/ | moor |  |  |
| yr ? | **yr** |  |  |  |  |  |
| yre | **ȳr** | /ɑjɚ/ | /ɑjə/ | tyre → tȳr |  |  |

R and W are the craziest letters in the English alphabet. W’s chaotic magic has been nixed from NewEng so we only have R to contend with. Luckily, R is a lot more regimented than W, calm enough that we can charter it with reasonable sensibility.

* *This does not include R-shielded vowels (caron).*
* *This is not an exhaustive list: some graphs have an array of vowels grouped with R, and most are handled by their diacritics.*

| **current** | **aw /oː/** | **ow /aʉ/** | **ew /jɵʉ/** | **ow /ɜʉ/** |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NewEng** | **åw** | **aw** | **ūw** ??? | **ōw** |  |
|  | awful → åwfŭl | how → haw | hue → hūw ??? |  |  |
|  | awesome→ åwsŏm |  | view → vūw | flow → flōw |  |
|  | fawn → fåwn | fowl → fawl | few → fūw |  |  |
|  |  | plow → plaw | blue → blūw ??? | blow → blōw |  |
|  | pawn → påwn |  | pew → pūw |  |  |
|  |  | bow → baw | imbue → imbūw ??? | bow → bōw |  |
|  | brawn → bråwn | brow.n → braw.n | brew → brūw |  |  |
|  | caw → cåw | cow → caw | queue → qūw |  |  |
|  | claw → clåw | crowd → crawd | crew → crūw | crow → crōw |  |
|  | law → låw | allow → aláw | lieu → lūw |  |  |
|  | raw → råw | row → raw |  | row → rōw |  |
|  |  |  | grew → grūw | grow → grōw |  |
|  | gnaw → g̀nåw | now → naw | new → nūw | know → k̀nōw |  |

### Vowel + W

No special changes with appending a W.

However, current English has A WHOLE HOST OF CRAZY THINGS WITH W so actually unstitching the W effects has a LOT of ramifications. The respellings reach far and wide. (This also includes W + vowel, but that will be in a dedicated section.)

### Vowel + Y

No special changes with appending a Y.

The weird ones of current English are modified in NewEng by keeping the same spelling and adding a diacritic to the vowel.

|  | **ay → ăy** | **ey** | **ey** | **oy** | **uy** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | hay | hey | key | coy |  |
|  | lay | ley |  | toy |  |
|  | pay |  |  | boy | buy |
|  | may |  |  |  |  |
|  | ray |  |  | Roy |  |
|  | tray |  |  | Troy |  |
|  | Jay |  |  | joy |  |
|  | day |  |  | buoy |  |

### Vowel + L

The darkening of vowels by the phone L only has a noticeable effect on the vowels A and O. This is probably because they are quite wide, so the darkening drags the tongue through a longer path, resulting in excessive time spent in an additional position. These additional positions lay within the phonology of English, thus, listeners perceive different phonemes and will probably even develop their own speech model to use these phonemes here.

High-mouth vowels /ij ɪ e ɵ u/ and wide-mouth wide-lip vowels /æ ʌ/ are not noticeably affected by L darkening (known as pre-L backing).

Thus, this is not an actual aspect of the pronunciation model, but it IS a phenomenologically real aspect and should be considered when teaching learners both pronunciation and listening skills. As this phenomenon is present in a wide array of dialects and accents, it is sensible to record it in the orthography. Indeed, distinctions like these are exactly the kind of thing that eventually leads to new phonemic distinction and an enriching of the phonology of a language.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **/oːɫ/** | |  | **/ɔʉɫ/** | | | | |
|  | **al** | **all** |  | **ol** | **ole** | **oal** | **oul** | **owl** |
|  | **ål** | **ål** |  | **ol** | **ole** | **ōàl** | **ȣl** | **owl** |
|  | also | all |  | old |  |  | boulder | bowl |
|  | although | fall |  | fold | dole | foal | shoulder |  |
|  | always | call |  | cold |  | coal |  |  |
|  |  | ball |  | roll | role |  |  |  |
|  |  | tall |  | toll | tole |  |  |  |
|  |  | wall |  | mold | mole |  | mould |  |